# STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

IN RE:

APPLICATION OF SBA TOWERS III (SBA)
AND NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC
(AT&T) FOR A CERTIFICATE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND
PUBLIC NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION,
MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF A
TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER FACILITY
IN THE TOWN OF NORTH STONINGTON

DOCKET NO. 420



### PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF DAVID VIVIAN

### 1.Q. Mr. Vivian, please summarize your current role in AT&T and relationship with SBA.

A. I am a consultant for SAI, a company hired by AT&T to acquire wireless telecommunications sites. My current responsibilities include identifying and selecting sites for AT&T in the areas where AT&T has gaps in coverage. I handle lease negotiations, siting issues and coordinate the various technical professional services to secure sites for AT&T to improve and enhance its service. My resume, on file with the Council as part of this Docket, provides my qualifications and experience.

AT&T and SBA are joint applicants and as such I have been involved with the site search process on behalf of AT&T coordinating with and supporting SBA in the site search process. In that capacity I have visited the area and the candidate sites, reviewed with SBA the development of the candidate sites and am familiar with the site search history.

#### 2.Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

The purpose of my testimony is to provide additional information relating to the Application of SBA and AT&T to the Connecticut Siting Council for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the proposed facility in North Stonington. Specifically, I am providing information regarding the site search performed by AT&T and SBA and background information related to the identification of alternative sites. Attached is a revised Site Search Summary which includes the alternate candidates in the Application as well as other parcels reviewed during the site Applicants' searches.

- 3.Q. Please describe the Applicants' search for a site and the selection of the proposed candidate sites.
- A. AT&T identified in 2009 a site search area, or an area where the installation of a wireless facility would address an identified coverage need, along Route 201 in the northern North Stonington area. After analysis of the area in conjunction with AT&T's RF Engineers, it was

determined that no existing sites would provide adequate coverage to the area where service is needed. AT&T then commenced a search for sites that might host a new tower facility.

When searching for appropriate locations for the siting of a new tower facility, the search area is reviewed to consider existing land uses and generally look for large parcels of land that offer natural screening to mitigate any visual impact from a tower facility. Potential siting candidates are limited in this area as it is characterized by challenging topography and State Forest Land.

During AT&T's own independent site search it was discovered that SBA was conducting its own search in the area. The site at 49 Mountain Avenue was identified by SBA as a potential available candidate and, in coordination with AT&T's radio frequency engineers, was determined to meet AT&T's technical requirements for providing service in this area of the Town.

# 4.Q. <u>Please describe the Applicants' consultation with the Town of North Stonington prior to the Application filing.</u>

The consultation with the Town of North Stonington started with the submission of a Technical Report to the First Selectman on October 8, 2010. An information session was coordinated with the First Selectman and took place on November 22, 2010. Representatives of SBA and AT&T reviewed the information provided in the Technical Report, answered questions and received comments from the public.

As a result of that meeting, and at the suggestion of the First Selectman's office, the Applicants agreed to review alternate locations. Specific information was provided regarding the site at 23/25 Northwest Corner Road. Subsequently, SBA also identified the site at 350B Cossaduck Hill Road. AT&T's radio frequency engineers confirmed the technical feasibility of the site and with SBA together agreed to move forward with an application including these two alternate candidates.

#### Site Search Summary – Revised

Analysis of the communications towers located within 4 miles of the search area indicated that none of these towers would provide adequate coverage to the area targeted for service by the proposed North Stonington Facility. There are no existing or approved structures within the search area adequate to meet the coverage requirements of the proposed Facility.

SBA and AT&T investigated several locations where the construction of a new tower might be feasible. The description of the individual sites investigated is set forth below. Where applicable, the reason for eliminating the property is also included. Following these descriptions is a map indicating the location of all sites investigated.

1. Address: 49 Mountain Avenue

Parcel ID: 45-0832

Owner: Tucker Village LLC

Zoning District: R80

Lot Size: Approximately 2.24 Acres

This property is the primary candidate site.

2. Address: 207 Coal Pit Hill Road (off Cossaduck) (Camp Wightman)

Parcel ID: 46-3527

Owner: American Baptist Churches of CT

Zoning District: R80

Lot Size: Approximately 202.57 Acres

This property was pursued by SBA; however both AT&T and Verizon indicated that this site does not provide adequate coverage for the search area for either of those carriers.

3. Address: Wyassup Road

Parcel ID: 70-6609

Owner: State of CT, Pachaug State Forest

Zoning District: EXP Forest

Lot Size: Approximately 1319.51 Acres

This parcel is Connecticut State Forest land and is not available for lease.

4. Address: 53 Legend Wood Road

Parcel ID: 45-9552

Owner: Tucker Village LLC

Zoning District: R80

Lot Size: Approximately 7.7 Acres

Landowner not interested in leasing this parcel. In addition, parcel terrain not conducive to a cell site

5. Address: 51 Legend Wood Road

Parcel ID: 45-9551

Owner: Tucker Village LLC

Zoning District: R80

Lot Size: Approx. 4.44 acres

Landowner not interested in leasing this parcel. Parcel is currently being developed for housing.

6. Address: 49 Legend Wood Road

Parcel ID: 45-9550

Owner: Tucker Village LLC

Zoning District: R80

Lot Size: Approx. 4.29 acres

Landowner not interested in leasing this parcel. Parcel is currently being developed for housing.

7. Address: 54 Billings Lake Road

Parcel ID: 45-7189 Owner: Munroe Zoning District: R80

Lot Size: Approx. 3.72 acres

Landowner initially interested, but decided not to lease due to concerns about visual impacts to their proposed residence.

8. Address: 59 Billings Lake Road

Parcel ID: 35-3787 Owner: Lacava Zoning District: R80

Lot Size: Approx. 3.1 acres

Previous Landowner (via the Estate of LaChapelle) was interested, but there were reportedly deed restrictions with respect to commercial development and neighborhood opposition. The property was subsequently sold in February, 2011.

9. Address: 42 Button Road (Bison Brook Farm)

Parcel ID: 44-6155

Owner: Bison Brook Farms, Inc.

Zoning District: R80

Lot Size: Approx. 118 acres

Rejected by AT&T's radio frequency engineers (left large gap to the north).

10. Address: Northwest Corner Road

Parcel ID: 56-4718 Owner: Williams Zoning District: R80

Lot Size: Approx. 123.39 acres

Rejected by AT&T's radio frequency engineers (left large gap to the north).

11. Address: 2461 Glasgo Road, Griswold

Parcel ID: 99-160-13 Owner: Johnson Zoning District: R80

Lot Size: Approx. 85.3 acres

Rejected as coverage would be redundant with other facilities.

12. Address 23/25 Northwest Corner Road

Parcel IDs: 56-3697 / 56-2831

Owner: Bergs

Zoning District: R80 Lot Sizes: 13.23/86.2

This is an alternate candidate site.

13 Address 350B Cossaduck Hill Road

Parcel ID: 57-6637 Owner: Buehler Zoning District: R80

Lot size 11.66

This is an alternate candidate site.

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this day, a copy of the foregoing was sent electronically and by overnight delivery to the Connecticut Siting Council.

Dated: September 19, 2011

Daniel M. Laub

Hollis Redding, SBA cc:

Michele Briggs, AT&T David Vivian, SAI Dan Goulet, C Squared

Carlo Centore, Centek

Michael Libertine, VHB Dean Gustafson, VHB

Christopher B. Fisher, Esq.