

TOWN OF WATERTOWN

CONNECTICUT

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To: Attorney Paul Jessell, Town Attorney

From: Charles E. Berger Jr., Town Engineer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles E. Berger Jr.", is written over the printed name.

Date: October 26, 2011

Subject: Proposed Cell Tower, 655 Bassett Road

I have completed a brief review of the information submitted to you in a letter dated October 19, 2011 from Lucia Chiocchio. The information consisted of Responses to Siting Council's Interrogatories dated September 20, 2011, an October 3, 2011 letter to Mr. Eric McPhee of the State Department of Public Health from Lucia Chiocchio, an Application For Certificate Of Environmental Compatibility And Public Need dated August 8, 2011 and the Bulk Filing in Docket No. 442 dated August 2011.

My review and the comments that follow focus on the engineering issues associated with the proposed development of the site. The following comments are provided for consideration:

1. The application proposes to utilize a portion (1,759 feet) of the unimproved dirt road section of Linkfield Road to access the proposed site. Linkfield Road is listed as an unimproved Dirt Road from Bassett Road northerly to Wigwam Reservoir in the Town of Watertown's Ordinance for Improvements to Paper Streets, Unimproved Roads and Private Streets. The application should address the need for any improvements to the unimproved dirt road section of Linkfield Road.
2. The application proposes to construct 750 feet of a new access road from the unimproved dirt road section of Linkfield Road to the tower site. The new access road is proposed to be 12 feet wide and constructed of gravel. As shown on Drawing Number Z5, Grading Plan, prepared by Infinity Engineering dated last revised 7/28/11 the proposed grades of the access drive exceed 15% and approach 22% to 25% in several areas. The Town of Watertown Zoning regulations a maximum driveway grade of 15% for residential structures (Section 63.8.2) and 7% for non residential uses (Section 63.8.3). Conformance with the Town's

regulations and the stability of gravel road sections at the proposed steep grades should be addressed in the application

3. Section 5 of the Bulk Filing contains a Technical Report. Section 4 of the Technical Report contains an Environmental Assessment Statement. Section A, Water Flow and Quantity within Section I. Physical Impact states: "Best Management Practices and engineered drainage features to control storm water and erosion during and after construction will be implemented". The application does not contain any drainage information or detailed sediment and erosion control measures. A detailed drainage report should be provided for all proposed roadway and access drive improvements.
4. The August 9, 2011 letter to the State Public Health Department contains a letter dated August 9, 2011 to Dan Shriver of North Atlantic Towers from Infinity Engineering discussing that the proposed construction will follow an approved soil erosion and sedimentation control plan designed in accordance with the 2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control. A detailed Sediment and Erosion Control Plan in accordance with the 2002 Connecticut Erosion and Sediment Guidelines has not been provided in the application. The development of the detailed plan should include inviting the Town of Watertown to the preconstruction meeting and providing copies of all erosion and sediment control inspection reports.
5. Limits of disturbance should be shown on the plans. The tree inventory as contained in a March 3, 2010 letter to Roger Laperna of North American Towers from Infinity Engineering indicates a possible width of disturbance of 30 feet for grading of the proposed access road. The total potential area of disturbance should be provided. There is no discussion in the application of compliance with the State DEEP Stormwater Construction Activity general permit.
6. Any trees to be removed with the Town right of way for the unimproved section of Linkfield Road must be coordinated with the Tree Warden.
7. It is noted that question and answer number 25 of the September 20, 2011 responses to Siting Council's Interrogatories indicate that all utilities to the site will be underground from Bassett Road.
8. The application materials do not indicate that the applicant has coordinated the proposed activities with the Town of Watertown's emergency services personnel regarding access to the site, proposed road grade and proposed road width.

If you have any questions or need additional information please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Cc: R. Cavanaugh