

State Historic Preservation Office

DECD
State of Connecticut
Department of Economic and
Community Development

December 23, 2011

Ms. Deborah M. Osterhoudt Infinify Engineering and Survey 11 Hebert Drive Latham, NY 12110

Subject:

REVISED COMMENTS

Proposed Wireless Telecommunications Facility

655 Bassett Road Watertown, CT

Infinify Project No. 226-015

Dear Ms. Osterhoudt:

In a letter dated March 25, 2010, the State Historic Preservation Office issued a comment letter for the proposed tower and associated compound located at 655 Bassett Road, Watertown, CT. Our letter stated the "proposed undertaking will have <u>no effect</u> on historic, architectural, or archaeological resources listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places."

It has recently been brought to our attention that a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Roderick Bryan House is located at 867 Linkfield Road, is located within the Area of Potential Effect. The potential effect of the proposed telecommunications facility on this historic resource was not taken into consideration during our previous review.

During a field visit, our staff identified a National Register of Historic Places eligible Historic District which includes the residence, outbuildings and surrounding property at 655 Bassett Road. The Linkfield-Bassett Historic District is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as an intact rural historic district consisting of Federal and Greek Revival style residences and vernacular farmsteads. These farmsteads include residences, barns, and associated out buildings as well as stone walls, meadows and pastures. The resources that comprise this Historic District are as follows:

| 533 Linkfield Road | 936 Linkfield Road |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 603 Linkfield Road | 405 Bassett Road |
| 706 Linkfield Road | 655 Bassett Road |
| 858 Linkfield Road | 842 Bassett Road |
| 867 Linkfield Road | |

One Constitution Plaza, Second Floor, Hartford, Connecticut 06103

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

An Equal Opportunity Lender

Based on our field visit, the information originally provided to our office, and the Application for Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the State of Connecticut, Connecticut Siting Council, it is the opinion of this office that the proposed telecommunications facility will have an <u>adverse effect</u> on historic, architectural, or archaeological resources listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

This office appreciates the opportunity to have reviewed and commented on this undertaking. This comment is provided in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act and supersedes all previous correspondence regarding the proposed undertaking.

For further information please contact Laura L. Mancuso, Environmental Review Coordinator, at (860) 256-2757 or laura.mancuso@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

David Bahlman

State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Robert Stein, Chairman, Connecticut Siting Council

Bob and Cathee Alex, 435 Bassett Road, Watertown, CT