## STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

In Re:

APPLICATION OF NORTH ATLANTIC TOWERS, LLC 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 AT ROUTE 198 IN THE TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

to serve notice. When was the abutter list compiled?

DOCKET NO. 423

December 20, 2011

# APPLICANTS NORTH ATLANTIC TOWERS, LLC and NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC ("AT&T") RESPONSES TO SITING COUNCIL INTERROGATORIES SET I

## Q1. Were return receipts received for each abutting landowner identified behind Tab 10 of the application? If not, list the abutters that did not receive notice and describe any additional efforts

- A1. All but one of the certified mail receipts was returned. A receipt was not returned from Kevin Reagan and Thomas Harvey at 350 Route 198. Another notice was sent to Kevin Reagan and Thomas Harvey via first class mail.
  - The abutters list was originally compiled July of 2010 and then updated in July of 2011.
- Q2. When did NAT initiate a site search in this area of Woodstock? When did AT&T initiate a site search in this area?
- A2. North Atlantic Towers (NAT) began its search in December 2009 based upon its overall knowledge and understanding of existing wireless carriers networks.
  - AT&T initiated its search for a site to fill its coverage gap in February of 2010.
- Q3. Did NAT's site search begin as a result of contact by AT&T for the potential new site?
- A3. NAT's search was a result of industry knowledge that a coverage gap exists in this area of Woodstock for many carriers, including AT&T.
  - AT&T was independently searching for a site in this area of Woodstock when it was contacted by NAT. AT&T then agreed to pursue this project jointly with NAT.
- Q4. With what adjacent sites would the proposed tower hand off signals? Include addresses of these sites.
- A4. The table below includes the hand-off sites for the proposed facility.

	Antenna Height			Structure	Lat	Distance to Proposed Facility	
Site	(feet)	Town	Address	Type	Long	(miles)	Direction
			107 Stickney Hill	Lattice	41.9854		
CT1048	113	Union	Rd		-72.1922	6.49	NW
				Monopole	41.8902		
CT1050	154	Pomfret	82 Tyrone Road		-71.9556	7.33	ENE
			36 Janowski Rd	Lattice	41.9522		
CT1058	140	Ashford	(Ference Rd)		-72.1955	5.89	WNW
,			353 Pumpkin Hill	Guyed	41.848		
CT1068	225	Ashford	Rđ		-72.1214	6,63	SSW
			215 Coatney Hill	Monopole	41.962		
CT1246	150	Woodstock	Rd	1	-72.018	3.64	ENE
				Monopole	41.8703		
CT1247	130	Pomfret	62 Babbitt Hill Rd	_	-71.9883	6.79	$\mathbf{SE}$
				Guyed	41.8713		
CT1262	150	Eastford	38 Old Rt 44		-72.0657	4.78	S
		Stafford	1050 Buckley	Lattice	41.9991		
CT5453	120	Springs	Highway		-72.1522	5.48	NW
				Monopole	41.8788		
CT5702	167	Ashford	Ashford		-72.1305	4.88	SSW
			,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Monopole	41.9394		
SR2067	147	Woodstock	Route 198		-72.0821	N/A	N/A

- Q5. What is the demand on the system in the area of the proposed site?
- A5. The proposed facility is needed to provide coverage to an area that currently has no service. Therefore, no data exist on the wireless demand for this area.
- Q6. How much capacity is needed in the area of the proposed site?
- A.6. It is anticipated that the proposed facility will not operate at full capacity, consistent with the capacity of surrounding sites. It should be noted that the proposed facility is needed to provide coverage and not need to off load or address capacity in this area of Woodstock.
- Q7. Are certain frequencies assigned to different AT&T services? Are certain frequencies assigned to voice?
- A7. All services GSM (2G voice and data) and UMTS (3G voice and data) are provided on both 850 and 1900 MHz frequencies.
- Q8. What frequency bands does AT&T use in the Woodstock area?
- A8. AT&T utilizes its following frequency bands in the Woodstock area:

#### Cellular

B-Band (KNKN759)

#### **PCS**

D-Block (KNLG498)

E-Block (KNLG499)

A3 block (WPSL626)

AT&T owns, but is not currently using the following frequency: 700 MHz
Lower C (710-716 MHz, 740-746 MHz) (WPWV377)

- Q9. Is the proposed site required for a specific AT&T service?
- A9. The proposed facility is required for AT&T to provide service to an area that currently has no service. Therefore, the proposed facility is required for AT&T serve the public need in the current coverage gap, including voice and data services.
- Q10. What signal strength is required to transmit voice/text? Streaming data? Downloading? Provide a plot showing what is available in the area for each of these from nearby existing sites and from the proposed site.
- A10. The proposed facility is designed for -74 dBm for in-building coverage and -82 dBm for invehicle coverage to provide reliable service for both voice and data services. Therefore, the propagation plots provided in Attachments 1, 2, and 3 of the Radio Frequency Analysis Report included as Attachment 1 to the Applicants' Application show the available service in the area. As demonstrated in the Radio Frequency Analysis Report, there is currently no reliable voice or data service in this area of Woodstock.
- Q11. Explain the demand on the cellular system from the use of wireless devices (including but not limited to phones and wireless tablets) for downloading or streaming data.
- A11. Providing wireless service of any kind requires getting signal to customers at sufficient strength to provide reliable service, whether the service provided to customers is voice or data. Meeting increased demand by the public requires more sites or more radio spectrum at the existing sites. Demand for data service comes from AT&T's customers and therefore the proposed facility directly serves the clearly expressed public need.

As service moves away from the original AT&T GSM (2G) voice service through UMTS (3G) and toward an eventual goal of voice over LTE (VoLTE or 4G), all the voice and data services will converge into one digital data stream and the lines separating the different kinds of service will disappear.

However, as previously stated, there is currently no reliable voice or data service in the current coverage gap in this area of Woodstock and the need for the proposed site is driven by coverage, not capacity.

- Q12. Are there weak points in the network for downloading and/or streaming data in the area of the proposed site?
- A12. There is a significant and persistent coverage gap for all AT&T voice and data services in the area of the proposed site.
- Q13. How long would AT&T's proposed back-up generator operate in a power outage with the facility at full capacity? How would the generator be refueled?
- A13. AT&T's proposed back-up generator will operate for approximately 6 days. The generator is refueled on an as-needed basis.

- Q14. Population statistics are listed in Table 2 behind Tab 1 of the application. What are the population numbers based on? Is it the number of AT&T customers living within the coverage footprint of the proposed site?
- A14. Population statistics presented in report behind Tab 1 of the Applicants' Application are based on data from 2000 United States Census, not the number of AT&T customers living within the coverage footprint of the proposed site.

The following table contains updated results based on the recently released 2010 United States Census data.

Proposed Site - Population Captured (2010 Census)	Proposed Incremental Population Captured at 147 AGL	Proposed Incremental Population Captured at 97' AGL	Proposed Incremental Population Lost at 97' AGL
-74 dBm (In-Building)	779	629	19.3%
-82 dBm (In -Vehicle)	806	545	32.4%

- Q15. Please provide the sites that are part of the Site Search Summary map behind Tab 2 of the application on the 3D Terrain basemap included as Attachment 4 behind Tab 1 of the application.
- A15. Included in Attachment 1 is the 3D Terrain Map with the sites from the Site Search Summary shown.
- Q16. What is the distance and direction of the nearest residence to the proposed tower location? What is the address and owner of that residence?
- A16. The closest residence to the proposed tower location is approximately 2,000' to the east. The address of this property is 382 Route 198 and is owned by Robert & John Wrobel.
- Q17. How far is the residence located at 530 Route 198 from the nearest area of proposed construction related to development of the proposed facility?
- A17. The residence located at 530 Route 198 is located approximately 100' north of the new portion of the proposed access drive. The proposed monopole will be located approximately 3,400' south of this residence.
- Q18. Are any man-made structures currently located on the host property?
- A18. There are no man-made structures currently located on the host property (Map 5789/Block 37/Lot 24).
- Q19. How was the path of the access road determined?
- A19. To minimize clearing and grading, the access drive was designed based on the existing trail located on the host property.
- Q20. Could a shorter access road be built if the host property were accessed from a parcel farther south along Route 198?

- A20. The straight line distance from the proposed monopole location to the intersection of Routes 198 and 171 south of the proposed facility is approximately 2,250°. It should be noted that the elevation along this straight line distance from the proposed facility south to the intersection of Routes 198 and 171 would result in an access drive with a steeper grade than the proposed access drive. In addition, the Applicants have an easement for access over the parcel located to the north at 530 Route 198 and do not have access to the proposed facility location from the south.
- Q21. Does the proposed host property have any access along a public roadway?
- A21. No the host property does not have access along a public roadway.
- Q22. Please estimate the number of trees with diameters of six inches or greater that would be removed for construction of the proposed facility.
- A22. Approximately 466 tress with diameters of six inches or greater that would be removed for construction of the proposed facility.
- Q23. Would the proposed utilities be placed overhead for the length of the access road?
- A23. Yes. As indicated on Sheet Z4A of the drawings included behind Tab 3 of the Applicants' Application, utilities will be placed overhead for the length of the access drive.
- Q24. Please describe the existing trail shown along the proposed access road. Is it a maintained trail? What is the length and width of the trail?
- A24. The existing trail shown along the proposed access drive is approximately 8' to 10' in width. It is currently not maintained and is characterized by grass cover in some areas and visible vehicular pathways in other areas.
- Q25. How many carriers would a 110-foot tower at the proposed site support?
- A25. A 110-foot tower can be designed to accommodate additional wireless carriers' facilities. As demonstrated in the Applicants' Application, AT&T's minimum height at the proposed facility is 110' AGL. The proposed height of the facility is 150' AGL to accommodate co-location. The minimum acceptable height for carriers other than AT&T would need to be determined by those other carriers.
- Q26. On the Tower Elevation drawing behind Tab 3 of the application, are the antenna platforms shown with 10-foot spacing from centerline to centerline?
- A26. Yes. On the Tower Elevation drawing Z6 behind Tab 3 of the Applicants' Application, the distance between the antenna centerlines is 10'.
- Q27. What is the approximate amount of cut and fill that would be necessary for the construction of the proposed project?
- A27. This facility was designed to balance cut and fill such that the soils cut will be used for fill on the site. The approximate net amount of earth movement is 4000 cubic yards of material.
- Q28. Would blasting be required for the development of the proposed facility?
- A28. Blasting is not anticipated. Rock removal via a hammer drill will likely be required for the access drive. All rock will be kept on site.
- Q29. Would the proposed facility be within an Important Bird Area as identified by the Audubon Society?

A29. The proposed facility will not be located within an Important Bird Area as identified by the Audubon Society. The nearest Important Bird Area is identified as the Bafflin Sanctuary Complex located in Pomfret, approximately 8.4 miles south of the proposed site as shown on the Map of Important Bird Areas included in Attachment 2.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this day, an original and copies of the foregoing were sent by electronic mail and overnight mail to the Connecticut Siting Council.

Dated: December 20, 2011

Lucia Chiocchio

cc: Allan D. Walker, First Selectman, Town of Woodstock

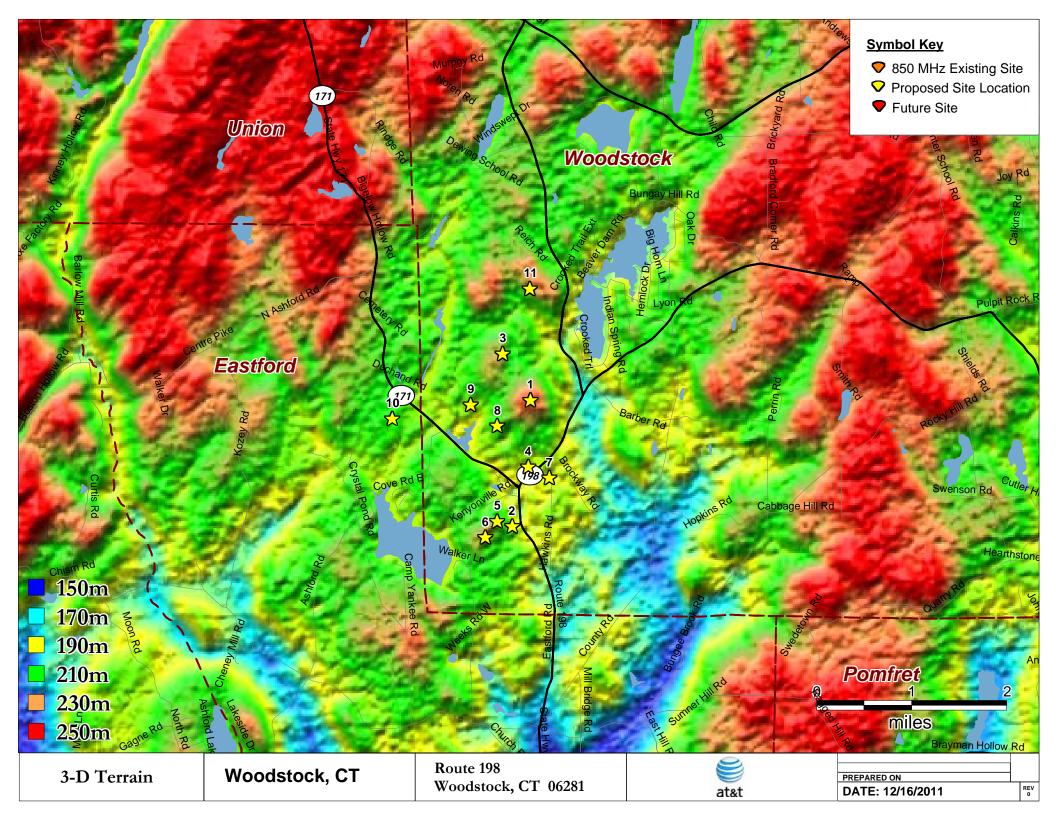
Mr. Jeffrey A. Gordon, M.D., Chairman, Town of Woodstock Telecommunications Task Force

John Stevens, North Atlantic Towers, LLC

Michele Briggs, AT&T

Randy Howse, North Atlantic Towers John Favreau, Infinigy Engineering

### ATTACHMENT 1



### ATTACHMENT 2



11 Herbert Drive Latham, New York 12110

#### MAP OF IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS

Map Source: National Audubon Society-Important Bird Areas in the U.S. http://iba.audubon.org/iba/viewState.do?state=US-CT

CLIENT NAME:

North Atlantic Towers, LLC

SITE LOCATION:

Route 198

Woodstock, CT

PROJECT NAME:

NAT – Woodstock / CT1182

**PROJECT No.:** 226-064

