ALL-POINTS TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION, P.C.

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

To: Message Center Management, Inc.
40 Woodland Street
Hartford CT 06105

From: All-Points Technology Corp., P.C.
Michael Libertine
Director of Siting & Permitting

Re: Connecticut Siting Council Docket 425
Responses to Town of Redding's First Set of Interrogatories
4 Dittmar Road, Redding, Connecticut

Date: March 19, 2012

This technical memorandum is provided in response to Interrogatories submitted by the Town of Redding on March 2, 2012 in association with Connecticut Siting Council Docket 425. The information in this letter specifically addresses:

- Interrogatory MCM-3 – The Town requested that Message Center Management ("MCM") confirm that the proposed monopine would be the same model as the existing facility in Windsor, Connecticut, which an example MCM brought to the attention of abutting property owners. The Town also requested confirmation that the proposed monopine would be installed by the same company as the Windsor tower.

- Interrogatory MCM-10a – The Town requested that MCM provide a detailed description of the proposed screening plan along the abutting property lines.

All-Points Technology Corporation, P.C. ("APT") is pleased to provide the following information in response to the Town's inquiries.

Evaluation of Windsor and Valmont Stealth Trees

At the request of MCM, APT conducted site reconnaissance at three existing facility locations on March 15, 2012, including: a 110-foot tall monopine at 1170 Matianuck Avenue in Windsor, Connecticut which upon information and belief is understood to have been designed by Engineered Endeavors, Inc. or "EEI" but has not been confirmed); a 130-foot tall monopine on Mowrey Road in Jamaica, Vermont designed by Valmont and their vendor Larson Camouflage, LLC ("Larson").; and finally, a 125-foot tall monopole at 63 Huyck Road in New York designed by Valmont and Larson. The purpose was to evaluate three existing monopines for comparative analysis as to the aesthetic characteristics of the pole, branches and artificial tree bark or "skin" treatments.

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The three monopines are all effective in their stealth application, particularly because of their locations among other pines. They also are similar in appearance from a distance, despite the fact that the Vermont facility does not include any skin or "bark" cladding treatment (it is a monopole painted brown). Branching densities were fairly consistent, although the Vermont monopine appeared to have the thickest coverage of "evergreen" branches/needles. According to personnel at Larson Camouflage, the branching density of the Jamaica, Vermont monopine is 2.5 branches per foot; the Rensselaerville, New York monopine's density is 2.3 branches per foot. The branching density of the Windsor, Connecticut monopine is not known, but of the three facilities visited it appeared to be the least dense.

The cladding treatments of the Windsor, Connecticut and Rensselaerville, New York monopines are designed to mimic a natural, mature coniferous tree bark. Both facilities do this more than adequately, and do not differ dramatically in appearance, particularly when viewed at distances from 50 feet away and beyond. Upon close inspection, the Windsor, Connecticut monopine's "bark" was found to have a more defined texture and color contrast (between brown and black) than that on the Rensselaerville, New York facility; however, this distinction is not readily apparent unless the observer is very close to the monopole (i.e., either within or immediately adjacent to the compound). Note that the Windsor, Connecticut bark extends from the ground up to the lowest branches and then transitions to brown-paint; the New York facility appeared to have the tree bark extend from the ground to the top of the monopole.

At each of the facility locations, distances of 122 and 216 feet were measured from the monopine and the views evaluated and photographed to provide a relative comparison of potential views from the nearest property line and home, respectively, at the Dittmar Road site. At distances of approximately 120 feet and beyond, the untreated (brown-painted monopole) in Vermont began to take on a similar look as that of the two facilities treated with the artificial tree bark. At distances exceeding 200 feet, there was no distinct difference in the appearance of the painted monopole versus the two containing the artificial bark. The attached photographs provide comparisons of the existing facilities.

With respect to antenna concealment, the Vermont monopine provided the most stealthing, as the majority of the antennas and mounting hardware were treated with a "pine needles" covering. At the Connecticut and New York facilities, the antennas were nestled within branches, but no additional stealth options (painting or treatment similar to the Vermont site) were implemented. The branching density observed at the New York facility appeared to conceal the antennas fairly well. In Windsor, Connecticut the effect was not as successful, as the antennas are clearly visible at the top of the monopine.

It is our opinion that the aesthetics of the monopines designed by these two manufacturers are comparable and do not vary significantly; either would work more than adequately at the Dittmar Road site. Although we do not believe bark cladding is necessary at this site, should it be used, we would recommend that it extend from only the lower portion of the pole (beginning at the top of fence height) up to the first set of branches.

Description of the Proposed Screening Plan

The proposed design, a monopine, will substantially minimize any perceived visual effect the replacement facility might have on neighboring properties and represents a significant aesthetic improvement over the existing tower. The majority of view lines from neighboring properties to the existing tower and compound are at least partially obscured by woody vegetation, primarily deciduous mast and understory to the north, east and west. Views from the south are further interrupted by stands of evergreen trees located on the property.

The intent of any landscaping incorporated would be to screen the ground equipment shed and compound fencing. A dense planting of upright evergreens surrounding the compound, as proposed, would provide a sufficient barrier to effectively screen the compound while blending in naturally with the environs (the property has a significant amount of evergreen trees planted throughout). MCM may elect to use either deer-resistant varieties of evergreens or install protective fencing around the planted trees for a period of time to assist establishment of the specimens and discourage browsing. Similarly, a short row of evergreens is proposed along the north side of the access drive near the property's boundary with 8 Dittmar Road which would serve to screen any potential views of the compound from this neighboring parcel. In both areas proposed for landscaping, we suggest choosing evergreen varieties that mature at heights of 10 to 15 feet tall and maintain their lower branches.

ATTACHMENTS

Message Center Management
Connecticut Siting Council Docket 425
Responses to Town Interrogatories

View of Existing Monopines

Jamaica, VT

Rensselaerville, NY

Windsor, CT

Message Center Management
Connecticut Siting Council Docket 425
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View of Artificial Bark and Paint Treatments

Jamaica, VT

Rensselaerville, NY

Windsor, CT

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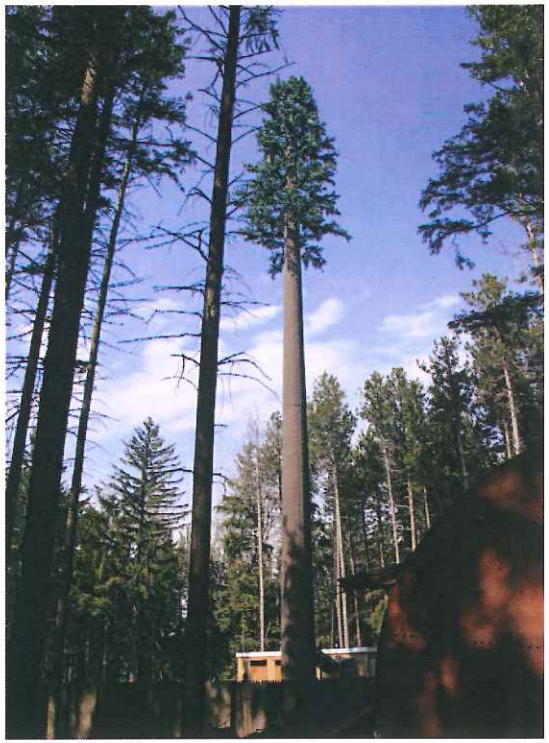
View from a Distance of 122'

Jamaica, VT



Rensselaerville, NY

Windsor, CT

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View from a Distance of 216'

Jamaica, VT

Rensselaerville, NY

Windsor, CT