ORIGINAL

STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

•

North Atlantic Towers, LLC and New Cingular Wireless PCS LLC Application for a Certificate

Wireless PCS, LLC Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need

for a Telecommunications Facility Located at

171 Short Beach Road, Branford or 82 Short

Road, East Haven, Connecticut.

DOCKET NO. 427

DUCKET NO. 427

JULY 9, 2012

NOTICE OF INTERVENTION AND FILING OF VERIFIED PLEADING

Pursuant to Section 22a-19 of the Connecticut General Statutes ("CEPA"), Niki Whitehead hereby intervenes as a party in the above-captioned proceedings. In support of this notice Niki Whitehead represents that:

- 1. Niki Whitehead is an environmental advocate and the founder of the Farm River Protective Association, an organization whose purpose and goal is to preserve the environmental integrity of the Farm River, its shoreline, marshes and watershed. The proposed East Haven cell tower site is located within the coastal boundary adjacent to the Farm River estuary, in close proximity to the extensive natural systems that both protect the estuary and afford critical habitat for wildlife, including migratory birds.
- 2. Niki Whitehead played a significant role in the acquisition and protection of the properties now known as the Farm River State Park. The Farm River State Park is just a short distance from the proposed East Haven cell tower site, separated only by a sliver of privately owned open space. The Farm River State Park provides exceptional opportunities for public recreation and, more significantly, embodies the vision of educating the public in the preservation of natural places in a town with a reputation for intensive development not conservation.
- 3. Niki Whitehead is a founder of the East Haven Land Trust and secured a perpetual conservation easement in favor of the Land Trust over portions of the Farm River State Park.
- 4. The proposed cell tower at the East Haven location poses a lethal threat from accidental strikes to the migratory birds that depend on the Farm River estuary,

including the protected lands of the Farm River State Park, for the narrow southern tip of a flyway that extends all the way into northern New England and Canada. The risk is magnified by the sheer number of birds that traverse this area, night and day, and by the inclusion of endangered and threatened species in their midst.

- 5. The proposed cell tower at the East Haven location will unreasonably impair the visual quality of the environment in and about Riverside, the Farm River Estuary and Long Island Sound. The negative impact goes beyond the public views and vistas of the Farm River estuary and protected lands. It strikes at the heart of the model of environmental sensitivity and conservation that the Farm River State Park embodies in an otherwise pro-development town.
- 6. Feasible and prudent alternatives exist which are capable of reducing bird mortality and scenic degradation while still providing adequate coverage for wireless telecommunications. Alternatives could include, but are not limited to, alternative locations, reductions in size and height, and the use of alternative technologies.
- 7. The application involves conduct which has, or which is reasonably likely to have, the effect of unreasonably polluting, impairing or destroying the public trust in the air, water or other natural resources of the State of Connecticut and the Town of East Haven.
- 8. Section 22a-19 (a) of the Connecticut General Statutes states in relevant part, that any person, partnership, association, organization, or other legal entity may intervene as a party as of right in any administrative, licensing, or other proceeding upon the filing of a verified pleading which asserts that the proceeding:

involves conduct which has, or which is reasonably likely to have, the effect of unreasonably polluting, impairing or destroying the public trust in the air, water or other natural resources of the state. WHEREFORE, Niki Whitehead intervenes in this proceeding on the filing of the Verified Notice of Intervention.

NIKI WHITEHEAD

By: Niki Whitehead

9 Hilton Avenue

East Haven, Connecticut 06512

STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

North Atlantic Towers, LLC and New Cingular
Wireless PCS, LLC Application for a Certificate
of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need
for a Telecommunications Facility Located at
171 Short Beach Road, Branford or 82 Short
Road, East Haven, Connecticut.

DOCKET NO. 427

: JULY 9, 2012

VERIFICATION OF NOTICE OF INTERVENTION

I, Niki Whitehead, being duly sworn, depose and say that I have read the foregoing Notice of Intervention and that the allegations contained therein are true to the best of my knowledge.

Niki Whitehead

Sworn and Subscribed before me

this <u>/0</u> day of <u>JULY</u>, 2012.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

My Commission Expires November 30, 2015



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950 E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov www.ct.gov/csc

July 12, 2012

Niki Whitehead 9 Hilton Avenue East Haven, CT 06512

RE: **DOCKET NO. 427** – North Atlantic Towers, LLC and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at one of two sites: 171 Short Beach Road, Branford, or 82 Short Beach Road, East Haven, Connecticut.

Dear Ms. Whitehead:

We are in receipt of your letter of July 9, 2012, requesting CEPA intervention status under C.G.S. § 22a-19 in Docket No. 427.

Your request will be placed on the next meeting agenda, a copy of which will be sent to you. Your attendance is welcome, but is not required. You will be notified of the Council's determination immediately thereafter.

Copies of the application are available at the Branford and East Haven Town Halls. All documents filed to date are available at the Council's office or on our website.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Linda Roberts
Executive Director

LR/cm

c: Parties and Intervenors

