STATE OF CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

North Atlantic Towers, LLC and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC Application : DOCKET #427 for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for a Telecommunications Facility Located : at 171 Short Beach Road or 82 Short Beach Road East Haven or Branford, Connecticut.

: September 4, 2012

TOWN OF BRANFORD RESPONSES TO RICHARD MORELAND PRE-HEARING QUESTIONS SET ONE

The Town of Branford hereby provides the following responses to the Intervenor's questions:

 Please provide details of the Town's involvement in locating the site proposed at Short Beach Road in East Haven? Also please include when and how the idea came up to seek a site at the East Haven location first came up?

ANSWER:

The Town has a wireless infrastructure committee which for years has been actively searching for locations which are suitable to meet the legitimate needs of wireless providers with the least impact to the community. That committee hired professionals such as those at Isotrope, LLC to assist in locating and evaluating the sites. During discussions with the carriers in 2010 a review of GIS mapping of the Branford area, the committee noticed that the firehouse in East Haven might provide a suitable location with the added benefit of providing revenue to an emergency services facility and suggested the site to AT&T. The precise date of this revelation is unknown.

2. Are you aware of any Branford residents opposing cell towers in Branford for financial reasons such as fear that their property values will be negatively affected?

ANSWER:

Yes. While the Town is unaware of any Branford residents intervening in Council proceedings on the grounds of property value loss, there are residents concerned that the proposal at Short Beach Road will negatively impact their property values. Similar concerns have been raised with other proposed facilities.

The primary concern of the Town of Branford in these proceedings is that the proposed Branford facility, being larger than the proposed East Haven facility, will have a greater visual impact to more private and public properties such as beaches, residences and views from roads, trails and the general community. Therefore, according to the objective data, the East Haven location will have less impact to fewer people.

That concern is demonstrated by the data submitted in the Verizon responses to Council interrogatories.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Town of Branford,

By_____ Keith R. Ainsworth, Esq. Evans Feldman & Ainsworth, L.L.C. #101240 261 Bradley Street P.O. Box 1694 New Haven, CT 06507-1694 (203)772-4900 (203)782-1356 fax krainsworth@snet.net

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true copy of the foregoing was deposited in the United States mail, first-class, postage pre-paid this 4th day of September, 2012 and addressed to:

Ms. Linda Roberts, Executive Director, Connecticut Siting Council, 10 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 (1 orig, 15 copies, plus 1 electronic) (US Mail/electronic).

North Atlantic Tower/New Cingular, LLC c/o Lucia Ciocchio, Esq., Christopher Fisher, Esq., Cuddy & Feder, LLP, 445 Hamilton Avenue, 14th floor, White Plains, NY 10601 (203) 761-1300, (914) 761-5372 fax <u>cfisher@cuddyfeder.com</u> <u>lchiocchio@cuddyfeder.com</u> (electronic and US Mail)

Sarah Pierson, Intervenor, 63 Hilton Avenue, East Haven, CT 06512 <u>sarahpierson@att.net</u> (us mail) (20) 215-6635

Niki Whitehead, 9 Hilton Avenue, East Haven, CT 06512

Richard Moreland, 8 Hilton Avenue, East Haven, CT 06512

James Edward Berardi, 90 Short Beach Road, East Haven, CT 06512

Cellco/Verizon c/o Kenneth Baldwin, Esq, Robinson & Cole, LLP, 280 Trumbull Street, Hartford, CT 06103-3597 <u>kbaldwin@rc.com</u> (860) 275-8345 (us mail)

Keith R. Ainsworth, Esq.