

Attachment 7

State of Connecticut

RICHARD BLUMENTHAL
ATTORNEY GENERAL



Hartford

December 8, 2009

Teri Shea
Area Manager, Litigation
310 Orange Street – 8th Floor
New Haven, CT 06510

Dear Ms. Shea:

I was disappointed to learn of AT&T's efforts to construct a cellular telephone tower in Roxbury CT.

The proposed tower is poorly sited in a residential neighborhood and could adversely affect the health of the surrounding community. This site is unacceptable because a tower already exists in Roxbury that allows AT&T to provide cellular telephone service to its customers. In light of these significant, I ask that AT&T reconsider its decision.

If AT&T decides to make an application to the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council") to construct this tower, I will vigorously oppose it. I will ask the Council to review these important issues and follow its statutory mandate to consider alternative sites that would limit any impact on the citizens of Roxbury and Connecticut and the health of the surrounding community.

Please let me know your position within 10 days.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,



RICHARD BLUMENTHAL

RB/pas

c: Honorable Barbara Henry
First Selectman



AT&T Services, Inc.
310 Orange Street
New Haven, Connecticut 06510
Phone (203) 771-0821
Facsimile (203) 771-6577

Edward J. Fitzgerald
General Attorney

December 18, 2009

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal
Attorney General
State of Connecticut
55 Elm Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Re: Proposed AT&T Cellular Tower Facility
Town of Roxbury

Dear Attorney General Blumenthal:

I am in receipt of your letter, dated December 8, 2009, to Teri Shea of my office concerning a proposed cellular tower facility in the Town of Roxbury, Connecticut ("Town").

AT&T has identified a need to improve service to the public in and around the Town of Roxbury. One such area is along State Route 67 and the surrounding community in the southeastern portion of Roxbury. Indeed, AT&T has been in the process of identifying an appropriate location for a cellular tower facility in that portion of Town for the past year. As you note, there is one existing cellular tower in the Town which was built a decade ago and provides some service to Roxbury but simply can not serve this part of the community due to topography and the overall distance from the intended service area. As such, a new facility is required in this part of Roxbury for AT&T to serve the community.

As you know, the search for an appropriate location for a tower facility is not a simple process. Any proposed location must first be made available by a property owner and then meet the technical, engineering, environmental and community needs for the service. Thereafter, a rigorous process of public review is involved that includes consultation with a municipality. Since the inception of AT&T's search for a tower site in Roxbury, AT&T has communicated with Town officials in an effort to find an appropriate tower location.

In August of this year, the enclosed technical report (Tab A, enclosed) was shared with the Town pursuant to Section 16-50l of the General Statutes and several discussions and public meetings have occurred with Town officials, boards and commissions to discuss the tower site as proposed by AT&T. Of note, included in the technical report is information on the proposed site's compliance with FCC standards regarding radiofrequency power densities. In response to the report, the Town generally indicated a preference to locate any tower on its property, but no Town property has been identified

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suitable for the tower. Additionally, in response to potential use of any tower for emergency communications, the enclosed letter, dated September 21, 2009, was provided to the Town wherein AT&T has offered rent free space as a courtesy in order to support municipal emergency communication antennas (See Tab B, enclosed). Also, AT&T extended the statutory 60 day consultation process through the end of this year in order to exchange additional information, conduct publicly noticed visual tests and otherwise allow for discussion on possible alternative sites including the numerous alternatives previously studied by AT&T. Copies of additional information provided to the Town in writing are included in Tab C.

As your letter to Ms. Shea accurately indicates, no AT&T application to the Connecticut Siting Council. ("Council") has been filed at this point in time. Prior to any such application to the Council, AT&T will finalize its evaluation of alternatives for the site based on the technical needs, environmental conditions, topography and the willingness of a property owner to allow a tower with reasonable terms and conditions for such use. In this regard, Town of Roxbury officials have asked AT&T to evaluate a handful of additional properties which is already underway and will be completed and shared with the Town prior to any Council application filing. AT&T will also consider any Town recommendations and comments on the project which the Town has indicated will be provided by the end of January. In this situation, as with others, AT&T may submit alternative sites in one application to the Council for its consideration if alternatives to the proposed tower site are viable and the community in fact recommends such alternatives.

Given all of the above, the earliest time at which AT&T might file an application with the Council would be February of 2010. I trust this letter is responsive to your concerns. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Edward J. Fitzgerald

Enclosures

cc: Honorable Barbara Henry – First Selectwoman of Roxbury
Thomas Buckley – AT&T