STATE OF CONNECTICUT

SITING COUNCIL

MESSAGE CENTER MANAGEMENT, INC.

JUNE 6, 2013

AND NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC

(7:00 p.m.)

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, 465 HILLS STREET OR 56 HILLS STREET, EAST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

* DOCKET NO. 436

BEFORE: ROBIN STEIN, CHAIRMAN

BOARD MEMBERS: Larry Levesque, PURA Designee

Robert Hannon, DEEP Designee

Daniel P. Lynch, Jr. Edward S. Wilensky Philip T. Ashton James J. Murphy, Jr.

STAFF MEMBERS: Michael Perrone, Siting Analyst

Melanie Bachman, Staff Attorney

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE APPLICANT, MESSAGE CENTER MANAGEMENT, INC., AND NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC:

> CUDDY & FEDER LLP 445 Hamilton Avenue, 14th Floor White Plains, New York 10601 BY: CHRISTOPHER B. FISHER, ESQUIRE

1	Verbatim proceedings of a hearing
2	before the State of Connecticut Siting Council in the
3	matter of an application by Message Center Management,
4	Inc., and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, held at the
5	East Hartford Town Hall, 740 Main Street, East Hartford,
6	Connecticut, on June 6, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., at which time
7	the parties were represented as hereinbefore set forth .
8	
9	
10	
11	CHAIRMAN ROBIN STEIN: Good evening ladies
12	and gentlemen. I'd like to call to order this meeting
13	and hearing of the Connecticut Siting Council today,
14	Thursday, June 6, 2013, at approximately 7:05.
15	My name is Robin Stein and I'm the
16	Chairman of the Siting Council.
17	Other members of the Council present are
18	Senator Murphy, Vice Chairman; Mr. Hannon, the designee
19	from the Department of Energy and Environmental
20	Protection; Mr. Levesque, the designee from the Public
21	Utilities Regulatory Authority; Mr. Ashton; Mr. Wilensky;
22	and Mr. Lynch.
23	Members of the staff are Melanie Bachman,
24	Acting Executive Director and Staff Attorney; Michael

1 Perrone, Siting Analyst; Gail Gregoriades, the court 2 reporter; and Aaron DeMarest, the audio technician. This is a continuation of a hearing that 3 4 began at 3:00 p.m. this afternoon. Copies of the -- Mr. 5 Lynch please -- copies of the hearing program and the Council's Citizen Guide to Siting Council Procedures are 6 7 available for members of the public. 8 This hearing is held pursuant to the 9 provisions of Title 16 of the Connecticut General 10 Statutes and of the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act 11 upon an application from Message Center Management, Inc., 12 and New Cinqular Wireless PCS, LLC for a certificate of environmental compatibility and public need for the 13 construction, maintenance, and operation of a 14 telecommunications facility located at one or two -- one 15 16 of two possible sites; 465 Hill Street or 56 Hill Street 17 in East Hartford, Connecticut. This application was 18 received by the Council on February 14, 2013. 19 This application is also governed by the 20 Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, which is 21 administered by the Federal Communications Commission. 22 This act prohibits this Council from considering the health effects of radio frequency emissions on human 23 24 health and wildlife to the extent the emissions from

1	towers are within the federal acceptable safe limit
2	standard, which standard is also followed by the State
3	Department of Public Health.
4	The federal act also prohibits this
5	Council from discriminating between and amongst providers
6	of functionally equivalent services. This means that if
7	one carrier already provides service for an area, other
8	carriers have a right to compete and provide service for
9	the same area.
10	The Applicant published notice of the
11	filing of this application to the Council in the Journal
12	Inquirer on February 8, 2013 and February 11, 2013. The
13	Council's legal notice of the date and time of this
14	hearing was published in the Journal Inquirer on March
15	13, 2013.
16	Upon this Council's request, the Applicant
17	erected a sign at both proposed sites so as to inform the
18	public of the name of the applicant, the type of
19	facility, hearing date and location, and contact
20	information for the Council.
21	This afternoon members of the Council
22	staff and public personally conducted a field review of
23	both proposed sites in order to observe firsthand the
24	potential effects of the proposal.

1 The hearing tonight has been reserved for 2 the public to make short statements into the record. These public statements are not subject to questions from 3 4 the parties or the Council. And members of the public --5 (audio failure) -- and members of the public making statements may not ask questions of the parties or the 6 7 Council. These statements will become part of the record for the Council's consideration. 8 9 A sign-up sheet is available for those who 10 would like to participate. And the sign-up sheet for 11 those who haven't already signed up is to my right next 12 to the door there. We already have approximately 15 people who have signed up. 13 14 As a reminder to all, off-the-record communication with a member of the Council or a member of 15 16 the Council staff upon the merits of this application is 17 prohibited by law. And we did have two sign-up sheets, but 18 19 apparently a number of you signed up -- all signed up on 20 the same one, but that's -- (pause) -- I want to note for those who are here and for the benefit of your friends 21 22 and neighbors who are unable to join us for this public comment session, that you or they may send written 23 24 comments -- or written statements to the Council within

30 days of the date hereof. And such written statements

_	The back written beatements
2	will be given the same weight as if spoken at the
3	hearing.
4	We ask each person making a public
5	statement in these proceedings to confine his or her
6	statements to the subject matter before the Council and
7	to avoid unnecessary repetition so that we may hear all
8	of the concerns you and your neighbors may have.
9	Again be advised that we cannot directly
10	answer questions from the public. However, we will note
11	all the questions and they will become part of the
12	record.
13	In fairness to everyone who wishes to
14	speak, we're asking that your statements be limited to
15	three minutes. We have this stoplight system, which
16	given the number of people that have asked to speak,
17	we're going to hopefully use it, but hopefully and the
18	way it works is for the first two and a half minutes I
19	guess it stays green. And then you'll get a warning, a
20	yellow warning when your three-minute time has expired.
21	A verbatim transcript will be made of this
22	hearing and deposited at the East Hartford Town Clerk's
23	Office for the convenience of the public.
24	And before I call on those who have signed

1 up on the list to make statements, I'm going to ask the 2 Applicant to make a brief presentation to the public describing where the facility is proposed to be located, 3 4 why it's necessary, and the alternatives that were 5 investigated. And does your system work or not? MR. CHRISTOPHER B. FISHER: 6 7 Chairman. We are having a little difficulty as far as 8 the ability to do a power point presentation. So I'm 9 going to do a presentation. And with me Scott Chasse will use the boards to just orient the public for 10 purposes of the project. 11 12 This particular project started in 2010 by AT&T, which was looking for an area to build a facility 13 14 to provide service to the southeastern portion of East Hartford. At that time, AT&T leased a site at 56 Hill 15 Street. AT&T also at that time consulted with the Town 16 17 of East Hartford on the project. And there was a period of about six or seven months or more where we looked at 18 19 various town owned properties. For those in the public, 20 they may recall there was discussion as to whether or not there were alternatives at local schools or parks, like 21 22 Gorman Park as an example. The town decided ultimately 23 not to enter into a lease agreement with AT&T, so we

moved forward on private sites, one being, as I mentioned

- 1 56 Hill Street, and additionally a site at 465 Hill
- 2 Street.
- The Applicants are Message Center
- 4 Management. Message Center Management is a tower
- 5 infrastructure developer. They would work with AT&T in
- 6 order to build the facility. They would own and maintain
- 7 the facility. Additionally, AT&T would locate on either
- 8 one of the towers that's been proposed.
- 9 The need for the service would be both for
- 10 coverage and capacity reasons. Earlier today, the
- 11 Council asked a number of AT&T's witnesses some
- 12 questions. And there's materials on-line. And I can
- 13 turn it over to Mr. Chasse for -- or I could go through a
- 14 quick presentation if it -- if it loads -- but Mr.
- 15 Chasse, if you could just take the folks through the site
- 16 plan.
- 17 MR. SCOTT CHASSE: Site A is the property
- 18 that's -- excuse me -- 465 Hill Street. It's an existing
- 19 residential property that has a wetland system on the
- 20 mid-section. North on this page is up. The proposed
- 21 telecommunications facility is proposed in the center of
- the 11 plus acre site, located here.
- The proposed compound is a 63-by-75 foot
- 24 enclosed compound area that has a shadowbox fence around

1 the perimeter of it. The lease area in which it sits is 2 75-by-75. The proposed facility is approximately 74 feet -- nice -- (pause) -- approximately 74 east from the 3 4 western property boundary --5 COURT REPORTER: A microphone --MR. CHASSE: -- approximately 74 feet from 6 7 the western property boundary. Within the lease area, as I've indicated, 8 9 is the proposed compound. It will consist of a 63-by-75 10 enclosure with a shadowbox eight-foot high fence. Within 11 that will be AT&T's 12-by-20 prefabricated equipment 12 shelter. And in the center or a portion of the center of the proposed facility there will be a 117-foot monopine. 13 14 A monopine is a monopole that is -- it's 15 got branching on it that emulates a monopine -- excuse 16 me, a pine tree. The top of the steel structure is 110 17 feet above grade, and then there's a topper for the tree branches on top of that, that goes another seven feet. 18 19 So the total is 117 feet above grade. And the proposal 20 as it stands today is to have the tower designed to be accommodating a 20-foot extension, such that the overall 21 22 future potential height could be 130-foot of tower, plus the seven-foot topper, for a total of 137 feet above 23

24

grade.

1 Currently, AT&T has proposed to install 2 antennas that will be camouflaged within the subject monopine consistent with antennas and appurtenances on a 3 4 platform. The tower facility will also be designed to 5 accommodate additional carriers, two below, and the town's emergency services, fire department's microwave 6 7 dish and a whip antenna at 110 feet. 8 The utilities to the site are proposed to 9 originate from an existing SNET telephone pole that has 10 power services on it at the end of Eagle Court. Access 11 will be granted through the end of the cul-de-sac along 12 the western perimeter of the parcel, along this side line, and then into the facility. Some minor grading in 13 14 the area for stormwater control is proposed. And the proposed development includes the removal of 10 trees, 15 16 four of which are currently dead or very near death. 17 Site B is located at 56 Hill Street, which is a five plus acre parcel, and it's shown here on the 18 19 And on this particular plan north is up the page. 20 The existing site is serviced by a gravel and grass lined access-way or some of it's a goat path, that leads from 21 22 Hill Street down into the middle portion of the property. There is going to -- improvements that are proposed 23

include some minor grading. As you get passed the fence

1 here, there's an existing aboveground -- or excuse me --2 above grade utility pole that at this point utilities are proposed to emulate from Hill Street over -- overhead on 3 4 the existing pole run to this pole and then underground 5 and traverse to the proposed facility. This facility at 56 Hill, Site B, is a 50-6 7 by-50 compound that's situated within a 100-by-100 lease 8 area. The proposed tower configuration for this site is 9 exactly the same as the A site. And that being that it 10 is a monopine type of monopole and that it will be 110 11 feet tall to start with a 7-foot topper, for a total 12 height of 117 feet, with the design potential of going an additional 20 feet so that it will be 130 feet tall, with 13 14 the topper, bringing it again to 137 feet. That is what 15 is proposed at the moment. 16 AT&T is again co-locating with their 17 antenna array at a hundred feet above grade just like they were on the 465 Hill Street parcel. And the town 18 19 also has their municipal services shown at 110 feet above 20 grade. 21 Within this 50-by-50 compound, AT&T again 22 will have a 12-by-20 prefabricated equipment shelter. I

failed to mention but I will now as well with this site

that it also includes an equipment slab for a potential -

23

1 - or excuse me -- for the potential co-location of the 2 town's municipal equipment for servicing their antennas and their microwave dish. 3 4 AT&T also is proposing a 9-by-4 concrete 5 slab that will equip a generator for emergency backup 6 power. 7 MR. FISHER: And just a few more details, 8 Chairman, and then we'll turn it back to you. 9 This is in the public record, but for 10 those interested, a facility like this is regulated by 11 both the Federal Communications Commission and the 12 Department of Public Health. Here is an analysis that shows that the radio frequency energy associated with 13 14 the facility with both the fire department and AT&T fully 15 complies with all of those federal and state regulations. 16 Additionally, there are many more detailed 17 photographs that are on the Council's website that you 18 could go to if you want to take a look. We just selected 19 a few for an example. This is from Hill Street adjacent 20 to 414 Hill Street. This is a view of Site A, 465 Hill This is actually the 117-foot proposed monopine 21 22 structure here. Here's another shot from Eagle Court at 23 24 the end of the cul-de-sac where the access drive would be

- located, which is here. This is actually the facility
- itself. And you can see there's some evergreen trees in
- 3 the area.
- 4 These are some viewshed maps that are
- 5 shown in the record. Earlier today Mr. Libertine
- 6 testified that essentially views similar to what I just
- 7 showed you are limited pretty much to about a quarter-
- 8 mile around the site.
- 9 This is some selected views of the site at
- 10 56 Hill Street, which we call Site B. This is along Hill
- 11 Street. Again this is the monopine structure in that
- 12 particular location.
- 13 Here's another shot from Greenhurst Lane.
- 14 Here's the structure here. And again, this is a little
- more technical information, but it shows that the
- 16 viewshed is really limited to about a quarter-mile around
- the actual proposed facility. Thank you, Chairman.
- 18 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. I'd like to
- 19 start with the Vice Chairman of the Town Council, Mr.
- Horan.
- MR. WILLIAM HORAN: Mr. Chairman, if you
- 22 don't mind, I'd prefer to defer to the constituency that
- 23 --
- 24 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Okay, but -- but

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1	everybody if you're going to any comment has to
2	if you want it on the transcript, which we do, it has to
3	be from the microphone.
4	MR. HORAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Bill
5	Horan, 25 Rustic Lane, East Hartford, Vice Chairman of
6	the East Hartford Town Council. I'd prefer to reserve my
7	comments until after I've heard my constituency speak.
8	Having served 16 years on the Town Council, I think it
9	behooves me to listen to the opinions of the electors, if
10	I could? I think I signed up about 15th on that list.
11	If you'd prefer to have me where I signed up, that would
12	be fine, but I'd prefer
13	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Okay. It's up to you.
14	You can you can speak now or speak at the end or
15	MR. HORAN: I'll speak at the end
16	CHAIRMAN STEIN: or just listen like
17	MR. HORAN: thank you
18	CHAIRMAN STEIN: okay.
19	MR. HORAN: Thank you, sir.
20	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. Okay, we'll
21	go down the list. And I want to apologize in advance if
22	I mispronounce names and also there are a few that I'm
23	challenged to read, but will do my best. The first
24	speaker on the list is Eileen Cumer.

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1	MS. EILEEN COMER: Comer.
2	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Comer.
3	MS. COMER: Good evening. My name is
4	Eileen Comer, and I reside at 34 Romar Drive in East
5	Hartford.
6	The CSC has asked us to express our
7	concerns about having a cell tower in our backyard. And
8	based on information from the CSC report on Docket 436,
9	it appears that the 56 Hill Street location would be a
10	far more intrusive site, visible to more than twice as
11	many residents than the 465 Hill Street site. In
12	addition, there are twice as many residences at 56 Hill
13	Street within 1,000 feet of the structure.
14	In an article in the Reminder, in November
15	of 2012 our Mayor Marcia LeClerc indicated that the 465
16	Hill Street site would be a less intrusive location.
17	However, this is not up to our mayor but to the CSC. My
18	neighbors on Schaffer Drive would wake up each morning
19	looking at the very base of this structure. It's
20	unfortunate you didn't have a picture of the Schaffer
21	Drive view. One house in particular would see the tower
22	directly over their backyard fence. It would be located
23	only 156 feet from their property. There are no trees
24	there. At the 465 Hill Street location, the nearest

1	neighbor would be 244 feet away.
2	If a cell phone tower must be built in an
3	neighborhood in East Hartford, and nobody wants it in
4	their yard, it appears that 465 Hill Street would be more
5	appropriate based on the findings of the CSC as far as
6	intrusiveness is concerned. Thank you.
7	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. Nancy Peck.
8	MS. NANCY PECK: Good evening. My name is
9	Nancy Peck and I reside at 384 Oak Street, and that's in
10	the southeast portion of East Hartford. It's also
11	unaffectionally known as the dead zone as far as cell
12	service is concerned.
13	I appreciate the Applicants' concerns for
14	the Box Turtle, and it seems like they will be addressing
15	the Box Turtle needs.
16	Also, I appreciate the concerns for the
17	aesthetics of the tower that they will be putting up.
18	What was mentioned earlier was a tower that's off of I-91
19	in Windsor near Park Avenue. And it took me several
20	times before I even noticed that it was a cell tower
21	there. I don't know how long that thing has been there.
22	And if a cell tower similar to that is erected, I think
23	
	it would blend in wonderfully with the environment.

- 1 was I know there was some mention of bark earlier.
- 2 Trees generally do not look metallic, so I'd be for the
- 3 bark.
- 4 We have an issue in the south end of town
- 5 with reception. The public safety is one of my concerns
- 6 with the police now using cell phones and the fire
- department, they need the connection. It's been rather
- 8 weak in the area. I think Site A, which is 465 Hill
- 9 Street, would better serve the southeastern portion of
- 10 the town. And thank you very much for your time.
- 11 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. Carolyn
- 12 Rogers. And also would -- everybody, would you please
- when you come up, spell your last name so we make sure we
- 14 have it properly for the transcript. Thank you.
- 15 MR. OTIS ROGERS: Good afternoon. My Otis
- 16 and this is my wife Carolyn. We actually live right in
- the back, and I took a few pictures of the tower being
- 18 put up. It is right in my backyard. I feel that it
- 19 shouldn't be there because it causes health problems as I
- 20 did a lot of research on it and it's going to cause
- 21 cancer and everything else, brain tumors and everything.
- 22 I did a research, so I have some pictures here if you'd
- like to see them. I'm at 41 Schaffer Drive, which is
- 24 right in the backyard of -- my fence is right -- almost

- close to his -- to the area where he going to be putting up at.
- 3 CHAIRMAN STEIN: If -- if you want, I
- 4 guess the only way you can do it is you pass your cell
- 5 phone around. We do have also a letter in the record
- from both of you.
- 7 (pause)
- 8 CHAIRMAN STEIN: And I don't know, were
- 9 you planning to say anything additional or just --
- 10 A VOICE: No.
- 11 CHAIRMAN STEIN: No? Okay. And while
- 12 they're doing that -- I'm sorry, I can't read the last
- 13 name -- is there a Don -- Reid -- or something --
- MR. DONALD ROSS: Ross.
- 15 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Ross. I quess it's Ross.
- 16 Okay.
- MR. DONALD ROSS: Yes. My name is Don
- Ross, R-o-s-s. I live at 64 Wickham Drive. And I've
- 19 been there for almost 30 years. This is my wife Ann. I
- 20 didn't know she was with me.
- I was reading the morning paper, the East
- 22 Hartford Gazette and I see that the mayor was quoted as
- 23 saying it would have been intrusive to residential
- 24 properties regarding the 56 Hill Street location. And

1 I'm wondering why wouldn't that apply as well to the 2 Wickham Drive -- or the 465 Hill Street location. language of the minutes states that the Connecticut 3 4 Siting Council would not approve a residential 5 neighborhood location for cell tower placement. mayor said that putting a tower on 56 Hill Street would 6 7 be intrusive to residential properties. Well this is 8 even more so -- a more dense residential property area it 9 would seem to me. 10 It goes on to say a German 10-year study 11 done from 1994 to 2004 revealed that living within 400 12 meters, one-quarter mile of a cell tower increase the risks of developing cancer by 300 percent. An Israel 13 14 study done, it goes on to say, in 2004 indicated an 15 association between increased incidents of cancer in 16 living in proximity to a cell tower. Those living near 17 cell tower are 4.15 times more likely to develop cancer. 18 And it finishes by saying a Poland military study done in 19 1996, studied the cancer death for all career military 20 personnel, approximately 128,000 persons each year

occupant -- occupancy exposed to RF emissions were nearly twice as likely to develop brain tumors, 13.9 times more

between 1971 and -- that study revealed a persons

21

likely to develop chronic myeloid leukemia, 8.62 times

1 more likely to develop acute myeloblastic leukemia, and 2 5.82 times more likely to develop non-Hodgkin's lymphomas. And it just finishes by saying a 2008 Belgian 3 4 study revealed genetic damage, and an India study of 2009 5 revealed an increase in brain tumors due to the damage to the blood brain barriers. 6 7 A United States study done in 2010 reports 8 biological effects from exposures to electromagnetic 9 radiation from cell towers; the effects include genetic 10 growth and reproductive, increased and permeability of 11 the blood brain barrier, behavioral, molecular, cellular, 12 and metabolic, and increased cancer risks. And I don't think there's anything else 13 14 that I'd like to say, but I'd like to bring those to the 15 attention of everyone here. 16 MS. ANN ROSS: My name is Ann Ross, R-o-ss, and I reside at 64 Wickham Drive. 17 18 I'd like to say first of all the studies 19 that you have are really outdated. They go back to 1998. 20 You really should present more up to date information as far as the effects of cell towers and as it affects the 21 22 environment and as it affects people's health. 23 I have a report -- I was doing some

research on it and I have a report on cell tower

1 radiation that was presented to the Department of 2 Transportation in Delhi, India. India has had cell towers much longer than the U.S. has, and they've done a 3 4 lot more comprehensive studies. This is presented by 5 Professor Garishcumar (phonetic) in 2010, and it states that 30 -- it states that many, many -- up to 30 6 7 different doctors from Harvard claim that there's a lot 8 of serious damages from cell phone towers, that it's 9 really a cell phone -- it's really an emergency that we 10 have to address. It also talks about all the different 11 aspects of cell phone towers and the cancer that my 12 husband just mentioned, and how it affects children in women who are pregnant. 13 14 We do have two schools within the area. 15 That's going to affect our children. Let's think about 16 their future. How is this going to affect them five 17 years down the road. If you find out from the studies 18 that haven't been done yet that it's going to cause 19 drastic cancer, how are you going to feel about that? 20 It also talks about the environment and 21 how it's going to affect our birds, it's going to affect 22 the species that inhabit the area very very closely. And it's also going to affect the flowers, the trees, 23 24 everything. It's going to affect everything. And it's

1	also going to drive the property values down and people
2	are going to move out of the area, and that's going to
3	affect our taxes in East Hartford.
4	So I really want you to consider that, the
5	damage that this is going to do. I really think you
6	should place it somewhere else away from the residential
7	area as well as away from schools and children. Thank
8	you.
9	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you
10	(applause)
11	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Rebecca Parry.
12	MS. REBECCA PARRY: Good evening. My name
13	is Rebecca Parry. The last name is spelled P-a-r-r-y.
14	And I live at 53 Wickham Drive, East Hartford,
15	Connecticut. My property borders on Site A, 465 Hill
16	Street. And I am one of the landowners who will have a
17	year-round view of the proposed hideously ugly cell
18	tower.
19	I am here to oppose the approval of this
20	application. And I find it very interesting in all the
21	photos that you showed there's not one that was taken in
22	the winter or the fall with the leaves down. And it's
23	ugly as it is
24	(applause)

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1	MS. PARRY: I think that's extremely
2	I just find that to be one-sided. So that's I've read
3	the application thoroughly and the propaganda submitted
4	by the Applicants that's been made available on the
5	Siting Council's website. According to the Applicant's
6	contentions, the public need for the facility outweighs
7	any adverse environmental effects that result from
8	construction, operation, and maintenance of a tower,
9	ground equipment and maintenance road. I find that
10	statement to be ridiculous.
11	Let us be clear why we are here today.
12	The proposed installation is not about the need of the
13	public. It is about the greed of a corporation and the
14	desire to make money at the expense of ordinary working
15	citizens
16	(applause)
17	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Again you know
18	excuse me you know people you can clap all you want,
19	but that's going to take time away from both you and
20	other people.
21	MS. PARRY: You're taking but thank
22	you. Here we go. They would not have hired an expensive
23	law firm to push their agenda if they could not make
24	money. This is not helping anyone but their

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shareholders. 1 This is our neighborhood. The people who 2 sit behind me, we live here, we pay taxes. We're the ones who are going to see our property values plummet 3 4 because of this hideous eyesore. The National 5 Association of Realtors states that property values can decline up to 25 percent within the radius of a cell 6 7 tower installation. This area is a residential zone. Why are 8 9 we even here? Zoning laws were created to protect 10 neighborhoods from greedy developers and the 11 inconsiderate landowners who would cater to them. 12 term residential in general should be enough to safeguard residents from cell tower construction. This 117-foot 13 14 tower clearly violates the specifics in the East Hartford residential zoning laws that prohibit the construction of 15 16 structures in excess of 35 feet high within residential 17 zones. 18 They talked about the environmental impact 19 statement and I find it weak. I have a degree in 20 environmental engineering and I've read their environmental impact statement and I find it incomplete. 21 22 They've done an incomplete assessment on the wildlife, the deer, the fox, the rabbits, the birds, the bats, the 23 24 squirrels, etcetera. It needs to be more thorough.

years ago I bought this house I quality of the area. And you all there this afternoon. It's tower construction would severely quality of life in this letely change its nature. We, the re, will unfairly bear the brunt of agree with the Applicants. The effects far outweigh the minor ccasional cell phone call dropped by Hill Street (beeper going off)
there this afternoon. It's tower construction would severely quality of life in this letely change its nature. We, the re, will unfairly bear the brunt of agree with the Applicants. The effects far outweigh the minor ccasional cell phone call dropped by
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Hill Street (beeper going off)
eet in his BMW on the way to
you to reject this application and
orking class families deserve to be
e their residences turned into a
t zone. Thank you.
use)
AN STEIN: Janice May
E: Can I request that that squelch
the speaker right next to my ear
the speaker right next to my ear

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1	reduce it
2	A VOICE: Thank you
3	CHAIRMAN STEIN: but also also, in
4	order to avoid that if people could keep their remarks to
5	under three minutes, we wouldn't have that problem
6	A VOICE: Well I would appreciate it if I
7	don't have
8	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Okay
9	A VOICE: but thank you.
10	MS. JANICE MAY: Hi, good evening. My
11	name is Janice May, M-a-y. I'm here to speak about my
12	support actually for the tower being at 56 Hill Street
13	due to geography, practicality, and the safety of
14	actually our students.
15	I work as a teacher at East Hartford High
16	School. I'm a coach at East Hartford High School. I'm
17	the advisor for the Outdoors Club. And I run events with
18	kids after hours, late at night and weekends. And
19	continuously I have issues, and some of them serious
20	issues where I need to make contact with parents, with
21	the bus company, with rides home after hours or like on a
22	Saturday, and I have no cell phone reception. So the
23	safety of the kids sometimes is in jeopardy because, you
24	know, if it's after hours, I can't get in the building to

1 then get a land line to then make these calls. As an 2 athletic coach, we've had issues with the bus company that have forgotten our trips or, you know, whatever our 3 4 administrative problem has been, but to try to call the 5 bus company to then not be late for a contest, again I can't do because of the sketchy service with the high 6 7 school being kind of dropped down in that -- in that 8 hole. 9 So as far as dealing with the safety of 10 the kids and the contacts for things that we are doing as 11 educators outside of our normal workday, I would like the 12 consistency of knowing that I can use my cell phone after hours so that the kids are safe, their rides are there, 13 14 you know, they're getting picked up on time, or if things 15 do change, I have the confidence knowing that my cell 16 phone reception is going to be consistent. Thank you. 17 (pause - tape change) 18 CHAIRMAN STEIN: I'm not sure this is --19 Janice and Frank Mas --20 MS. JANICE MASTROPASQUA: Mastropasqua. 21 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. 22 MS. MASTROPASQUA: Good evening. My name is Janice Mastropasqua and this is my husband Frank. 23 live at 42 Hill Street. 24

1	If the residents of East Hartford had not
2	objected to a cell tower in Gorman Park last year where
3	the Town of East Hartford would have profited each month,
4	we would not be here tonight.
5	We're here in hopes that the Siting
6	Council will not choose 56 Hill Street. We live at 42
7	Hill Street, which is right next door to 56 Hill Street.
8	The property is pie shaped and surrounded by residential
9	homes, at least 16 of them being approximately 270 feet
10	or less to the proposed cell tower. Only and one is
11	153 feet from the cell tower. The back of this property
12	is all wetlands, and without a doubt has turtles too.
13	Everyone was concerned last year about the
14	children being affected if the tower was installed near a
15	school or a park. Why is no one concerned about the 16
16	families who also have children and would be living very
17	close to this proposed tower at 56 Hill Street?
18	This afternoon the fire department
19	strongly recommended a cell tower be installed as far
20	southeast as possible. AT&T already has a tower on
21	Forbes Street, which is only a half a mile from 56 Hill
22	Street. 465 is further southeast.
23	I do not envy any of the Siting Council
24	members in making this decision. I truly hope that you

1 will take into consideration when determining where this 2 proposed cell tower will be installed (1) the size of each parcel of land; (2) the proximity of many 3 4 residential homes; (3) the effects of the wetlands on 5 surrounding homes; and (4) the unknown long-term health concerns. Thank you for your time. 6 7 MR. FRANK MASTROPASQUA: Thank you very 8 much. 9 (applause) 10 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you. Jessica 11 Currier. 12 MS. JESSICA CURRIER: Hello. My name is Jessica Currier, C-u-r-r-i-e-r. I live at 73 Wickham 13 14 Drive. If the tower is placed at 465 Hill Street, it 15 will be directly behind my home. I am opposed to the 16 placement of a cell tower at 465 Hill Street. 17 I have collected just over a hundred 18 signatures since Sunday on the following petition, a 19 petition against the construction, maintenance, and 20 operation of a cell phone tower located at 465 Hill 21 Street. 22 The special state concerned species of the Eastern Box Turtle's active period will be greatly 23 24 affected. This species has been negatively impacted by

1 the loss of suitable habitat in the area. The area is a 2 part of a high traffic animal route noted by the deer crossing signs located by the property on Hill Street. 3 4 Here are two pictures of the deer crossing signs in front 5 of the property on 465 Hill Street. The construction, maintenance, and 6 7 operation of this cell phone tower will negatively affect the wildlife. I often find the Box Turtles in my 8 9 backyard. They definitely make their presence known. 10 They are on the State's list of endangered, threatened, 11 and special concern species. Letting the contractors be 12 aware of the Box Turtles presence is not a guarantee their species will be protected. That was -- that was 13 14 what was said earlier today by the gentleman who gave 15 their presentation about the Box Turtles. That isn't 16 good enough as far as I'm concerned. They are on this 17 list for a reason. Can't we just leave them and let them be in peace? What about the other wildlife like the 18 19 deer, the fox, and the Blue Herons? They're running out 20 of room of places to go. 21 On another note, I am a mother of a 22 vibrant three-year-old son. I am sickened by the thought of a cell tower being that close to my home. Located on 23 24 Map 63, my address is Lot 337, which is listed as the

1 closest off-site residence within 244 feet of the cell 2 phone tower. According to a German study that was done from '94 to 2004, it states that living within a quarter 3 4 mile of a cell tower increases the risk of developing 5 cancer by 300 percent. I have a three-year-old child. Another study that was done in Israel 6 7 revealed that living near a cell tower increased by 4.5 times the rate of cancer. In Scotland -- in Scotland 8 9 towers are not allowed near schools, homes, or hospitals. 10 In Switzerland, Austria, and Eastern Europe, countries 11 have strict protective standards for human exposure to radio frequency waves. 12 In the United States I feel that the 13 14 research is funded by the cell phone companies and so I 15 don't trust the research done in the United States. A 16 study done in the United States did report that --17 biological damage from RF radiation of cell towers, this 18 damage included infertility, abnormal cell growth, damage 19 to cellular DNA, childhood and adult leukemia, and 20 cancer. Again, I will be living 244 feet from this 21 tower. 22 Please think of my family's health and do not approve this placement at 465 Hill Street. 23 24 you.

1	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you.
2	(applause)
3	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Marcy Gionfriddo.
4	MS. MARCY GIONFRIDDO: Good evening. My
5	name is Marcy Gionfriddo, G-i-o-n-f-r-i-d-d-o. I live at
6	89 Wickham Drive, and my parents, Eugene and Ann Moran,
7	live at 74 Wickham Drive.
8	I am opposed to the cell tower being built
9	on property located at 465 Hill Street. The proposed
10	location of this tower is directly behind 81 Wickham
11	Drive, my next door neighbor.
12	Included in the minutes of the Historic
13	District Commission meeting of November 7, 2011, it
14	stated Mayor LeClerc reported meeting with AT&T, the town
15	has provided alternate sites, including Foran Park and
16	Gorman Park. A study will be developed at the Gorman
17	Park site as it is anticipated the Connecticut Siting
18	Council would not approve a residential neighborhood
19	location for cell tower placement. As we know, the
20	residents of the Gorman Park area were against a cell
21	tower being built there, so another location had to be
22	found. Unfortunately, someone picked my backyard.
23	I also read an article in the Reminder
24	discussing putting the cell tower in the rear property at

1 56 Hill Street where Mayor LeClerc said it was a very 2 open neighborhood, it would have been intrusive to residential properties. The language in the minutes that 3 4 the Connecticut Siting Council would not approve a 5 residential neighborhood location for cell tower placement and Mayor LeClerc said putting a tower at 56 6 7 Hill Street would be intrusive to residential properties, I am curious, isn't Wickham Drive a residential 8 9 neighborhood with residential properties? Why are we not 10 being given the same courtesies as other residential 11 properties. 12 A German study -- a 10-year study done from '94 to 2004 revealed that living within 400 meters, 13 14 a quarter of a mile of a cell tower increases the risk of 15 developing cancer by 300 percent. An Israel study done in 2004 indicated an association between increased 16 17 incidents of cancer and living in proximity to a cell 18 tower. Those living near a cell tower are 4.15 times 19 more likely to develop cancer. A Poland military study, 20 as my neighbor had said, also revealed that it is twice as likely to develop brain tumors, 13.9 more times likely 21 22 to develop chronic myeloid leukemia, 8.6 times more likely to develop acute myeloblastic leukemia, and 5.8 23 24 times more likely to develop non-Hodgkin's lymphomas. A

1 2008 Belgium study revealed genetic damage, and an India 2 study in 2009 revealed an increase of brain tumors due to the damage in the blood brain barrier, all from cell 3 4 towers. 5 A United States study done in 2010 reports biological effects from exposure to electromagnetic 6 7 radiation from cell towers. The effects include genetic growth and reproductive, increase in permeability of the 8 9 blood brain barrier, behavioral, molecular, cellular, and 10 metabolic, and increases in cancer risks. Do you see a 11 pattern? 12 The tower will be within feet of my house. I have my two children living in that house and I'm not 13 14 willing to gamble with their lives as to whether or not 15 they will get a form of cancer because of this cell 16 tower. Would you want to risk your children's lives? 17 There are Box Turtles that live in the 18 wetlands at 465 Hill Street. The Box Turtle was added to 19 the State's list of endangered, threatened, and special 20 concern species. Do we know these Box Turtles will be affected? There's deer that live out there. I've seen 21

14 of them at a time grazing out there. What will happen

to the deer? It's almost magical at Christmastime to see

these deer prancing around the street. Please, I beg

22

23

1	you, do not put this cell tower there.	
2	(applause)	
3	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Okay, thank you. I have	
4	Eugene Moran and also a Valerie. Are you	
5	MS. GIONFRIDDO: Eugene isn't talking. I	
6	put him down by accident.	
7	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Oh what about Valerie?	
8	A VOICE: (Indiscernible)	
9	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Okay.	
10	MS. VALERIE MORE: Good evening. My name	
11	is Valerie More. I live at 44 Greenbriar Road. I am	
12	very close to the 56 Hill Street property. It's a	
13	stone's throw away from me. Literally when I look out my	
14	front window, I will be looking at a cell tower.	
15	Even though it's disguised as a tree my	
16	husband has put these cell towers up for another company.	
17	I've driven by them. They don't look anything like a	
18	tree. You want it to be blending in with trees? Go to	
19	Pratt property, stick it over on Brewer off of their	
20	property, or go into another town more southeast, the	
21	corner of Manchester, Glastonbury and East Hartford, more	
22	into the area where there's not as many residents.	
23	My husband I have been living there for	

years. I've lived at this address my entire life, 41

- 1 years. I want to raise my grandchildren here. My father
- 2 just passed away three years ago from non-Hodgkin's
- 3 lymphoma. Do I want to increase my family's chances?
- 4 No. And why do I want to pay taxes to do that.
- I recommend that this is refused. And the
- 6 465 site, yes, if I look out my back door, I will be
- 7 staring at that to. I'm smack in the middle of both
- 8 sites. And they are within two elementary schools.
- 9 These sites should not be approved at all. Thank you.
- 10 (applause)
- 11 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Ann Ross.
- MS. ROSS: I already spoke.
- 13 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Oh --
- MS. ROSS: Thank you.
- 15 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Oh, I'm -- your name was
- 16 here twice. Okay. Mike Vargruskus?
- MR. MICHAEL VANGRUSKUS: (Not spelled on
- 18 record) Vangruskus. You were close.
- 19 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Thank you.
- MR. VANGRUSKUS: Mike Vangruskus, 517 Hill
- 21 Street. And just a couple of comments. I never knew
- 22 what the Siting Council was, so I -- I saw a sign go up a
- few weeks ago. You know what, we all should have got a
- 24 notice, alright. This is like in the blind, almost like

1 what the town does sometimes with certain things. 2 this is another thing being jammed down our throats, alright. 3 4 AT&T is putting these boxes on the poles. 5 They look like hell. You people should be driving around and looking at those. They're crooked, they're 6 7 not level, they're up on the sidewalks, they're putting 8 fiber optics and lines down the roads. Their lines look 9 like hell, and it's getting worse and worse, alright. 10 Put this stuff somewhere else. You're not 11 demoting my house any more. I'm sick of getting my house 12 demoted. That's all I got to say. 13 (applause) 14 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Helen Hingcliff? Did I 15 mispronounce that so badly that -- or -- Richard Rivard. 16 MR. RICHARD RIVARD: Good evening. My 17 name is Richard Rivard and I reside on 491 Hill Street in 18 East Hartford. 19 I'm here just to say and express my 20 feelings about the site on 465 Hill Street, that I live 21 literally three houses from the people that own the 22 property. And I'm -- I really don't want that in my backyard for -- you know, for all the -- and I'm not 23

going to repeat all the things everybody else has said

1 eight times in a row because everybody has heard it 2 already, but when I walk out on my back porch, that tower will be literally eye level with me. 3 4 And that -- I don't have a problem with 5 the 56 Hill Street because I think that would be far enough from my property, but I realize there's other 6 7 people that live in that area, but 465 Hill Street in my opinion is just too close for comfort. And that's 8 9 basically what I have to say. Thank you. 10 (applause) 11 CHAIRMAN STEIN: Okay, that's the list of 12 all the people that have signed up. I don't know whether Mr. Horan, the Vice Chair, whether you want to say 13 14 something at this point or --15 MR. HORAN: I would please, thank you. 16 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the opportunity to 17 be here today in your efforts to turn down the beef 18 because I was fairly certain I was going to go over the 19 time limit and anger somebody with that beep. So I'll do 20 my best to keep my comments short. 21 25 Rustic Lane, East Hartford, 22 Connecticut. I've lived in East Hartford my entire life, since 1965. I grew up on Stevens Street. And Corrine, 23

my mother, still lives there, about a three-wood from the

1 Homestead Dairy. And a few years ago as cell phones got 2 to be more and more popular, up came a cell tower at the Homestead Dairy, and nobody cared at all. One of the 3 4 reasons they didn't care was because it was a farm and 5 there were tractors out there making noise, dropping fertilizer and seed, there were cows going back and 6 7 forth, and it fit. We were a farming town at one time. 8 Look around East Hartford now and try to find a building 9 lot if you want to build a house and you're going to have 10 a tough time because there isn't much space. 11 And there's two things that I believe in 12 speaking with the constituents that called me and hearing what people said today, the first is that I think East 13 14 Hartford does need a cell phone tower for police use, for personal use. As more and more houses stop using land 15 16 lines and rely on cell phones, you need to have that 17 service. The second thing that I believe and that I'm sure of is that it belongs at 56 Hill Street. 18 It's a 19 farm. 20 I think it's unusual -- I guess I'm only 21 partly surprised because I did have some calls this 22 weekend that people are worried that it's unsightly. I don't think it's all that bad. You could put it in my 23

backyard if it doesn't work on either of these sites.

1 I'm on Rustic and it would work just as well.

But on the lower end of Hill Street the people that are complaining are looking over their fence now and they're looking at Dominic the Christmas donkey, who Ken has had for years, there are sheep and goats out there. It's a farm, it's a working farm. And if they're not bothered by the goats, they're not bothered by the sheep, they're not bothered by the fowl, I don't see how they could possibly be bothered by this monopole tree. It belongs there.

456 -- I watched the U-Conn stadium get held up for a number of years over I think it was a Sandpiper or some kind of a small peeking frog. And Gary Labeau fought like heck against it. I think it still held up Rentschler Stadium for about four years. So I hope that if -- if it -- if the Wickham site is picked, that all these neighbors take a page out of their book and start talking about the deer that you're not going to find them in any places in East Hartford and the Box Turtles and all the other wildlife that you have at Wickham that you're not going to find in any other places and hold this tower up for years and years because it belongs at 56. Thank you.

24 (applause)

1	A VOICE: Mr. Chairman, may I speak? May			
2	I speak?			
3	CHAIRMAN STEIN: If you've already spoken,			
4	the answer is no. I want to give people who haven't			
5	this is not			
6	A VOICE: (Indiscernible)			
7	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Wait a minute, I'm			
8	talking please, excuse me. This is not we're not			
9	this is not a rebuttal cross-examination. If there's			
10	anybody who has not spoken and now wishes to speak if			
11	you have not spoken and wish to speak, please come up			
12	go ahead and come up you sir and then you, and that			
13	will do it.			
14	MR. FRANK MASTROPASQUA: I believe if you			
15	my name is Frank Mastropasqua. I live at 42 Hill			
16	Street, East Hartford, Connecticut. M-a-s-t-r-o-p-a-s-q-			
17	u-a.			
18	A VOICE: (Indiscernible) you sat in			
19	front of me already and stated his name on the record			
20	he's getting two bites at the apple.			
21	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Well I think he did at			
22	least now we've got this name spelled into the record. I			
23	think it was his wife who spoke. If you can you know,			

I'm not going to go back and forth, but if you can be

1	very brief because your wife	
2	MR. MASTROPASQUA: I will be very brief.	
3	CHAIRMAN STEIN: I assumed she represented	
4	both of you, but go ahead.	
5	MR. MASTROPASQUA: If you go to the town	
6	records, 56 Hill Street is not a farm.	
7	VOICES: (Indiscernible)	
8	MR. MASTROPASQUA: It's R2. He can call	
9	it they can call it anything they want. It's not a	
10	farm. Thank you very much for letting me speak.	
11	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Okay. And that was	
12	(applause)	
13	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Yes, sir I don't	
14	MR. ROSS: I just have	
15	CHAIRMAN STEIN: No, you have to you	
16	have to come to the mic if you want to get it on the	
17	record.	
18	MR. ROSS: He spoke	
19	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Wait, you already spoke,	
20	right?	
21	MR. ROSS: Yeah. I just a quick question.	
22	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Well, we're not	
23	MR. ROSS: Is it is it possible for the	
0.4	3.mom	

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24 AT&T reps to address --

1	COURT REPORTER: Your name your name -	
2	-	
3	MR. ROSS: Don Ross, 64	
4	CHAIRMAN STEIN: The answer is no. I	
5	think I know where you're going no, they're	
6	MR. ROSS: To address the health hazards	
7		
8	CHAIRMAN STEIN: No. And I'll tell you	
9	why if you had listened to my initial comments,	
10	there's a federal law that was passed in 1996 that	
11	specifically states what the health standards are. And	
12	if they're met and they have in the record as their	
13	that they show what their that their RF will be below	
14	that, it's it's not a question.	
15	Despite all the issue is with Congress.	
16	If you want if you want to get the U.S if you	
17	believe that all these other studies all over the world	
18	are more valid and more recent, you've got to get	
19	Congress to change it, because every time whether	
20	it's this Siting Council or some other entity tries to	
21	impose their own standards, the courts throw it out. I	
22	mean these are the facts that we have to deal with, so -	
23	_	
24	MR. ROSS: Okay, thank you. I think the	

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1	truth has come out.
2	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Okay well yes,
3	sir.
4	MR. KENNETH DIDOMENACUS: (Name not
5	spelled on record) Good evening Council. My name is
6	Kenneth Didomenacus. I am the owner of Maplecrest Farm.
7	I would just like to let everybody know that I do have a
8	sales tax number. I've filed a Schedule C for the last
9	16 years. I produce over twenty-five hundred dollars in
10	goods grown on site. We are a farm stand. Thank you.
11	(applause)
12	CHAIRMAN STEIN: Okay. And I'm we're
13	not going to get into a debate as to what zoning says
14	versus what the property is actually used for.
15	So before closing the hearing, I just want
16	to announce that any briefs or proposed findings of fact
17	may be filed with the Council by any party no later than
18	July 8th of 2013.
19	Again anyone, including any of you and/or
20	your neighbors who have not become a party, but who may
21	desire to make his or her views known to the Council, may
22	also file written statements with the Council within 30
23	days of today.

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The Council will issue draft findings of

1	fact. And therefore, parties may identify any errors or	
2	inconsistencies between the Council's draft findings of	
3	fact and the record.	
4	And as I also mentioned before, copies of	
5	the transcript of the hearing will be filed in the East	
6	Hartford Town Clerk's Office. And you can also go onto	
7	the website of the Siting Council for all the background	
8	information.	
9	And I hereby declare this hearing	
10	adjourned and thank you all for your participation.	
11		
12	(Whereupon, the hearing adjourned at 8:00	
13	p.m.)	

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