

1	STATE OF CONNECTICUT
2	SITING COUNCIL
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4	Docket No. 440
5	Application of New Cingular Wireless, PCS,
6	LLC (AT&T) for a Certificate of Environmental
7	Compatibility and Public Need for the
8	Construction, Maintenance, and Operation of a
9	Telecommunications Facility Located at 522
10	Colebrook Road, Colebrook, Connecticut
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12	Public Hearing held at the Town Hall,
13	2nd Floor Meeting Room, 562 Colebrook Road,
14	Colebrook, Connecticut, on October 24, 2013,
15	beginning at 3:05 p.m.
16	
17	Held Before:
18	ROBIN STEIN,
19	Chairperson
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1	Appearances:
2	Siting Council Members:
3	JAMES J. MURPHY, JR.,
4	Vice Chairperson
5	ROBERT HANNON, DEEP Designee
6	PHILIP T. ASHTON
7	DR. BARBARA C. BELL
8	DANIEL P. LYNCH, JR.
9	DR. MICHAEL KLEMENS
10	
11	Siting Council Staff Members:
12	MELANIE BACHMAN, ESQ.
13	Acting Director,
14	Staff Attorney
15	MICHAEL PERRONE,
16	Siting Analyst
17	AARON DEMAREST,
18	Audio Technician
19	
20	For the Applicant:
21	CUDDY & FEDER, LLP
22	445 Hamilton Avenue, 14th Floor
23	White Plains, New York 10601
24	(914) 761-1300
25	By: LUCIA CHIOCCHIO, ESQ.

1	Appearances (Cont'd.):
2	For the Town of Colebrook:
3	THOMAS McKEON, First Selectman
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1	THE CHAIRPERSON: Good
2	afternoon ladies and gentlemen. I'd like to
3	call to order the meeting of the Connecticut
4	Siting Council. Today, Thursday, October 24,
5	2013, at approximately 3:05.
6	My name is Robin Stein. I'm
7	Chairman of the Connecticut Siting Council.
8	Other members of the Council present, Senator
9	Murphy, Vice Chairman; Mr. Hannon, designee
10	from the Department of Energy and
11	Environmental Protection; Mr. Ashton,
12	Dr. Klemens, Dr. Bell, and Mr. Lynch.
13	Members of the staff present are Melanie
14	Bachman, who's the Acting Executive Director
15	and Staff Attorney, and Michael Perrone,
16	Siting Analyst.
17	This hearing is held pursuant
18	to Title XVI of the Connecticut General
19	Statutes and of the Uniform Administrative
2 0	Procedure Act. Upon Application from New
21	Cingular Wireless, PCS, LLC, for a
22	Certificate of Environmental Compatibility
2 3	and Public Need for the Construction,

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Telecommunication Facilities Located at 522

Maintenance, and Operation of

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- 1 | Colebrook Road, Colebrook, Connecticut.
- 2 Application was received by the Council on
- 3 | August 14, 2013.
- 4 As a reminder to all,
- 5 | off-the-record communication with any member
- 6 of the Council or Council staff upon the
- 7 | merits of the application is prohibited by
- 8 law.
- 9 The parties to the proceed --
- 10 | these procedures are New Cingular Wireless is
- 11 | the Applicant, Attorney Chiocchio is the
- 12 | representative, legal representative, and the
- 13 Town of Colebrook is also a party with
- 14 | First -- the Frist Selectman, Mr. McKeon. We
- 15 | will proceed in accordance with the prepared
- 16 agenda, copies of which are available here,
- 17 | also available here are copies of the
- 18 | Council's Citizen Guide to Siting Council
- 19 Procedures. Those are on the table there
- 20 (indicating). And at the end of the
- 21 | afternoon session, we will recess, and resume
- 22 | the public hearing portion at 7 p.m. And at
- 23 | that hearing, the public will be able to make
- 24 | brief oral statements into the record.
- I also want to note that

parties, including their representatives and witnesses, are not allowed to participate in the public comment session.

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I also wish to note for those who are here for the benefit of your friends and neighbors who may be unable to join us for the public comment session, that you or they may send written statements to the Council within 30 days of the date hereof, and such written statements will be given the same weight as if spoken at the hearing. If necessary, party presentations may continue after the public comment session if time remains.

A verbatim transcript will be made of this hearing and deposited with the Town Clerk's Office in Colebrook for the convenience of the public.

I wish to call your attention to those items shown on Hearing Program marked as Roman Numeral I-D, Items 1 through 56. Does the Applicant or any party have any objection to the items that the Council has administratively noticed?

MS. CHIOCCHIO: Lucia

1	Chiocchio for the applicant. No objection.
2	THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.
3	Accordingly, the Council
4	hereby administratively notices these
5	existing documents, statements and comments.
6	Will the Applicant present
7	your witness panel for the purpose of taking
8	the oath.
9	MS. CHIOCCHIO: Thank you,
10	Chairman.
11	Lucia Chiocchio, for the
12	for the Applicant. To my right, far right,
13	Mr. Paul Lusitani, Civil Engineer, Clough
14	Harbour Associates. Sitting next to him is
15	Mr. Michael Libertine with APT. Sitting next
16	to him is Mr. Anthony Wells, our engineer for
17	AT&T. To my immediate left Mr. Dean
18	Gustafson, also with APT and Mr. David
19	Vivian, Site Acquisition for AT&T.
20	MS. BACHMAN: Please raise
21	your right hand.
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- 1 PAUL LUSITANI,
- 2 MICHAEL LIBERTINE,
- 3 ANTHONY WELLS,
- 4 DEAN GUSTAFSON,
- 5 DAVID VIVIAN,
- 6 called as witnesses, being first duly
- 7 sworn by Ms. Bachman, were examined and
- 8 testified on their oaths as follows:
- 9 MS. BACHMAN: Thank you.
- 10 THE CHAIRPERSON: And could
- 11 | you continue by numbering the Exhibits of
- 12 | your filing you've made and making the
- 13 request to administratively notice and
- 14 | verifying all exhibits by the appropriate
- 15 | sworn witness.
- MS. CHIOCCHIO: Thank you,
- 17 | Chairman.
- 18 The Applicants have exhibits
- 19 | identified in the Hearing Program Roman
- 20 | Numeral II-B, 1 through 7. I'll ask each of
- 21 the witnesses a series of questions regarding
- 22 those exhibits.
- 23 And I'll start with Paul
- 24 Lusitani.
- Did you prepare and help in

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1 | the preparation of the exhibits as
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- 2 identified?
- THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Paul
- 4 Lusitani, yes.
- 5 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Mike
- 6 Libertine, yes.
- 7 THE WITNESS (Wells): Tony
- 8 | Wells, yes.
- 9 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Dean
- 10 Gustafson, yes.
- 11 THE WITNESS (Vivian): David
- 12 Vivian, yes.
- MS. CHIOCCHIO: Do you have
- 14 | any revisions or updates to the information
- 15 | contained in the exhibits as identified?
- 16 THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Paul
- 17 | Lusitani, no.
- 18 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Mike
- 19 Libertine, no.
- THE WITNESS (Wells): Tony
- 21 | Wells, no.
- THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Dean
- 23 Gustafson, no.
- 24 THE WITNESS (Vivian): David
- 25 Vivian, no.

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                    MS. CHIOCCHIO: Is the
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    information contained therein true and
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    accurate to the best of your knowledge?
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                    THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Paul
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    Lusitani, yes.
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                    THE WITNESS (Libertine): Mike
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    Libertine, yes.
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                    THE WITNESS (Wells): Tony
 9
    Wells, yes.
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                    THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Dean
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    Gustafson, yes.
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                    THE WITNESS (Vivian): David
13
    Vivian, yes.
14
                    MS. CHIOCCHIO: And do you
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    adopt this as your testimony in this
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    proceeding today?
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                    THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Paul
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    Lusitani, yes.
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                    THE WITNESS (Libertine): Mike
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    Libertine, yes.
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                    THE WITNESS (Wells): Tony
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    Wells, yes.
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                    THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Dean
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    Gustafson, yes.
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                    THE WITNESS (Vivian): David
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1 | Vivian, yes.
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MS. CHIOCCHIO: We ask that

3 the Council admit the exhibits identified.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Does a party

5 | object to the submission of the applicant's

6 exhibits?

7 (No response.)

8 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

9 | Therefore, the exhibits are admitted.

10 (Exhibits Roman II-B1 through

11 | II-B-7(e): Admitted in evidence - described

12 | in index.)

THE CHAIRPERSON: We'll now

14 begin with the cross-examination by

15 Mr. Perrone.

16 CROSS-EXAMINATION

MR. PERRONE: Thank you,

18 Mr. Chairman.

19 Did you fly a balloon today?

20 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Mike

21 Libertine. There's certainly been an

22 | attempt. We've had periods of -- short

23 periods where the balloon has been at its

24 | full height but, for the most part, the winds

25 | have been fairly sustained above 10 miles an

hour. So it's been difficult. We've lost,
since eight o'clock this morning, we just
lost our seventh balloon as we were leaving
the site, but we will continue until this
evening and try to maintain, as best we can,
but it's been a pretty challenging day.

MR. PERRONE: What is the

MR. PERRONE: What is the color and diameter of the balloons?

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THE WITNESS (Libertine):

We've been flying, up to this point, during the day a red four-foot diameter weather balloon. We may intersperse that with black balloons depending upon our supply as we're starting to -- to run down a little bit. And it is tethered to 120 feet. So the balloon is on top of that.

MR. PERRONE: And how late this evening do you expect to leave that up?

THE WITNESS (Libertine): That will be flown until six p.m.

MR. PERRONE: Have any other wireless carriers expressed an interest in collocating on the proposed facility?

THE WITNESS (Vivian): David Vivian. I'm not aware of any other carriers

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1 | intervening at this point.
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2 MR. PERRONE: Would AT&T

3 provide space on the tower for municipal

4 | emergency services antennas?

5 THE WITNESS (Vivian): David

6 Vivian, yes.

7 MR. PERRONE: Okay. Has the

8 | Town expressed an interest in collocating

9 | emergency services antennas at this time?

10 THE WITNESS (Vivian): David

11 | Vivian, no, they have not.

MR. PERRONE: Okay. So would

13 | AT&T provide all three services initially,

14 | cellular, PCS and LTE?

15 THE WITNESS (Wells): Tony

16 | Wells. I think, if I remember the question

17 | correctly, you said, "Will they provide all

18 | three services, cellular, PCS, and LTE?" | I

19 guess to be more accurate, the first two you

20 | mentioned are frequency bands not -- not

21 | services specifically. But LTE -- AT&T will

22 | initially deploy the 1900 and the 800 bands,

23 700 to be followed shortly. And then the

24 | technology used would be UMTS and LTE in any

25 | manner of those bands.

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MR. PERRONE: Are you finding
that more and more of your traffic is data
rather than voice?
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THE WITNESS (Wells): Yes.

Yeah, there's a lot of data traffic these
days, and the two are -- are merging rapidly.

MR. PERRONE: Would

flush-mounted antennas require about 20 feet of additional height?

THE WITNESS (Wells): Yes.

MR. PERRONE: Could T-arms be used and provide the same coverage as the low-profile platform?

THE WITNESS (Wells): I just keep saying my name, right?

MS. CHIOCCHIO: That's okay.

THE WITNESS (Wells): Still,

Tony Wells -- yeah, the T-arms, from -- in our perspective, would -- would supply the same coverage.

MR. PERRONE: And just a clarification. In response to Interrogatory Number 13 -- well, let's see. Well, looking back at Number 12, it lists State Highway 183 and on Response 13, we have State Highway 183

1 | as well Colebrook Road. Just to clarify, so

- 2 | when you say "Colebrook Road," do you mean
- 3 | the coverage outside of Colebrook, and
- 4 | then 183, you mean, the coverage inside
- 5 | Colebrook? Number 13 has both. It has
- 6 | Colebrook Road and 183, so I just wanted to
- 7 | clarify that.
- 8 THE WITNESS (Wells): I'm not
- 9 entirely sure. I -- I don't think it is
- 10 related to the border. I think it's just the
- 11 | way the mapping program would have identified
- 12 | those roads. Sometimes this -- a different
- 13 | segment of the same road would be named
- 14 differently. I suspect that's -- that's more
- 15 | the case than the fact that it was outside of
- 16 | the area.
- 17 MR. PERRONE: Okay. But if
- 18 | they're the same route number, we could
- 19 | essentially add them?
- THE WITNESS (Wells): Correct.
- MR. PERRONE: Yeah, okay.
- 22 | That's fine.
- DR. BELL: But just following
- 24 up on Mr. Perrone's question. In the
- 25 application on Number -- on page number 10,

1 | you have that Colebrook Road is Route 182.

THE WITNESS (Wells): And

3 you -- I'm sorry. You said it was 182 or you

4 said 183?

DR. BELL: Well, if you look

6 | at your -- at your -- on page 10 of the

7 | Application near Section 3, it says: Site

8 | specific Public Need. Then --

THE WITNESS (Wells): Right.

10 Oh, I see.

9

DR. BELL: Then in the third

12 | line down it says: Communications network

13 | along Routes 182, paren, Colebrook Road;

14 | 182-A and 183. Now maybe there's a typo in

15 | those.

MS. CHIOCCHIO: Yes, Route 183

17 | is Colebrook Road. Yes.

DR. BELL: Okay. All right.

MR. PERRONE: Regarding the

20 | sign affidavit, I see the photo of the sign.

21 It had showed Tues -- it had shown Tuesday as

22 | the day, was that corrected?

THE WITNESS (Vivian): This is

24 David Vivian. Yes, it was. So when we were

25 | made aware of that fact, I think it was the

day after it was posted, we -- we put the patch to correct to correct the date to Thursday.

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MR. PERRONE: Okay. So it was corrected about a day after approximately?

THE WITNESS (Vivian): Yes.

MR. PERRONE: Okay. Turning to the frequency analysis in the Application, page 10. Does AT&T have any future plans to cover Route 183 to the northwest of the site?

THE WITNESS (Wells): This is

Tony Wells. We don't currently have a search ring for that area. But certainly you can see a gap there that anticipate filling in at some point. Exactly when, we're not sure yet.

MR. PERRONE: Okay. Going back to the interrogatories, response to Question 13, when the coverages are provided for 117 feet, 107 feet. It appears that the coverage increases slightly on Colebrook Road and Route 183 when the height decreases from 117 to 107. I was just wondering why that is.

THE WITNESS (Wells): From --

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on Colebrook Road?
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2 MR. PERRONE: Yes. Colebrook

3 | Road --

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THE WITNESS (Wells): Yeah.

5 MR. PERRONE: -- it goes up a

6 | little bit and also on 183 it goes up a

7 | little bit with a height decrease.

THE WITNESS (Wells): Yeah, those are very minimally. We're talking hundredths of a mile. A few hundredths of a So what's likely happening there is mile. that the -- the antennas have beam width associated with them, both horizontal -horizontal and vertical. So you're -- the main -- the main focus of the antenna is generally out at the horizon, we occasionally put some down tilt in, et cetera. But if you were to focus that antenna right at that and then went up and down continuing just to focus on that spot, then you -- then you wouldn't have that increase. But what may have happened -- what probably happens here as you go down a little bit, now you're changing where you are on that antenna pattern relative to that particular location.

1 So the antenna, you get a little less power

2 | because you're up a little higher, and then

3 | you drop down a little bit lower. The

4 | antenna pattern comes into play here.

Again, you know, we're talking

6 -- you know, we're talking hundredths of a

mile here.

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MR. PERRONE: Okay.

9 Turning to Interrogatory

10 Response Number 26, this one is about the

11 | noise analysis. I understand -- I understand

12 the distance in the calculation is 114 feet.

13 And I was just curious, is that from the AC

14 units to the property line?

15 | THE WITNESS (Wells): Yeah,

16 that was the average distance from the AC

17 units to the property line.

18 MR. PERRONE: Okay. And now

19 | also noise related, Interrogatory Response

20 Number 45, which is in Set II. There's

21 | mention of a wood-line fence with a sound

22 | blanket to reduce noise levels. I was just

23 | wondering how that could be done. Would you

24 use a wood fence for the entire compound, or,

25 perhaps, install one section of this with the

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1 | sound blanket inside the compound?
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THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Paul

3 | Lusitani.

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It can -- it can be done either way. You can it on the southern fence line or you can just do a fence around the actual equipment. Usually, the closer you are to the equipment, the more effective it would be. So I would suggest just doing something around the equipment itself.

MR. PERRONE: Would you be able to achieve compliance with the noise standards with that?

THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Paul

Yes. The blankets will reduce it within appropriate levels.

MR. PERRONE: And also about the proposed chain-link fence design, would that have barbed wire?

THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Paul Lusitani. No, it would not have barbed wire.

MR. PERRONE: All right.

Regarding the zoning of the subject property, is some of the property an R-2 and some of

the property is in the Village District? I
was looking at the abutters map and that's

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where I saw that.

THE WITNESS (Vivian): David
Vivian.

Yes, that's correct. If you look on Sheet C-01 of the plans you can -- you can see the Village District delineated under zoning, along the westerly -- northwesterly portion of the property.

THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Paul Lusitani. It's a district though, it's not a separate zone. As you see there parcels within the Village District are also designated Zone R-2.

MR. PERRONE: Okay. And also, while we're on that abutters map, could the proposed access be shifted to the north to avoid the wetlands? I see there's a gap with no wetlands to the north.

THE WITNESS (Vivian): We did not investigate that part of the property from a wetlands standpoint, so I can't testify whether or not we could avoid wetlands.

MR. PERRONE: And also, just hypothetically, if you did that, would that put the gate almost in line with the school?

THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Paul Lusitani.

Yes, the gate would be just

7 | about in line with the school.

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MR. PERRONE: Okay. Turning to the Conservation Commission comments.

Okay. Those are dated October 21st. The -the additional questions and suggestions,
they're on pages 4 and 5. There's two
sections. The wetland buffer advancement
planting and invasive plant, and the vernal
pool protections. I'm just wondering if AT&T
could respond to those. Does AT&T think they
would be able to accommodate those?

THE WITNESS (Gustafson): We can -- we have discussed it amongst the project team and -- Dean Gustafson -- and we do have some responses that we can, I think, satisfy the majority of -- of the concerns by the Conservation Commission. And I can kind of go over those and try to be as brief as I can, just go by item by item, if you'd like.

1 MR. PERRONE: Sure.

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THE WITNESS (Gustafson): For the vernal pool protections, Item A, there's a comment with respect to if construction work is planned during the migration period March 1st to May 30th.

And if construction would occur during that time period, we would employ additional protective measures that would include daily sweeps by the environmental monitor for amphibians and reptiles no more than a half-hour before the start of construction each day, as well as the installation of syncopated silt fencing patterns to allow for the passage of migrating amphibians and reptiles during that migration period.

We have employed this -- these type of techniques particularly the syncopated silt fencing pattern on other construction projects including another telecommunicating -- telecommunication projects in close proximity to vernal pools and found them to be very successful and minimizing the disturbance of migration of

amphibians and reptiles.

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The second item is Item B, it essentially rehashes some of the protective measures that are stated in my earlier report, "The Preliminary Wetland Impact Analysis," dated August 5, 2013, which goes into -- into detail on the various protective measures that we would employ during construction due to the proximity of the wetland resource areas that may provide amphibian breeding habitat.

So the response to that is essentially some of the information I've already identified.

For Item C, modifying the access road and create a wider buffer from Wetland II. I have discussed this with Paul Lusitani to see if it's a feasible -- if it's feasible to shift the access road in proximity to Wetland II further to the south, closer to the southern property boundary to allow for a hundred-foot non-disturbed buffer to Wetland II. And that is feasible and we can revise the site plans accordingly to allow for a greater buffer to Wetland II.

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For Item D, it's respect to ensuring no large rocks or uses riprap on the roadsides or bed. Again, I -- I conferred with Paul Lusitani to see if we can eliminate the use of riprap or large stones for the access road, side slopes, as well as the drainage swales, and we can. In particular the drainage swales, we will convert to grass swales that will require the use of tar-free and forest-wood mats because of the slopes that we are -- we are dealing with. So that can be accomplished.

The last item is Item E, is to request to -- or to allow Elizabeth Corrigan to review the final site plans. We -- we don't have any objection to taking

Ms. Corrigan's comments during the D&M phase, at which point we will be providing additional details of the protective measures that are actually on the -- on the D&M plans. And we'd welcome any comments that she could -- could provide.

MR. PERRONE: Mr. Lusitani, about the -- the proposed access, what is the grade, either an average grade or a maximum

1 | grade?

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THE WITNESS (Lusitani): The

3 grade varies from 2 percent to 18 percent.

MR. PERRONE: Okay.

5 And the -- and the other

6 access, the one from Colebrook Road, I

7 | understand there was issues with a water

8 | pipe. Could you tell us more about that.

THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Paul

10 | Lusitani.

11 Yes. There's a well on the

12 | property with a well pipe going under the

13 | existing clear path and it feeds some of the

14 abutting properties, and some of the abutters

15 | had some issues with that. So we decided to

16 get away from accessing the property from

17 | that side to alleviate -- alleviate their

18 | concerns and access it from Smith Hill Road.

MR. HANNON: Mr. Lusitani,

can you keep your voice up.

THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Yes.

MR. HANNON: Thank you.

MR. PERRONE: Do you think

24 there's a way to go around that or that

25 | wasn't investigated?

1 THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Paul

- 2 Lusitani.
- 3 Yeah, we thought we could
- 4 | protect it or replace it, but we felt it was
- 5 best to satisfy the abutters.
- 6 MR. PERRONE: Okay. Regarding
- 7 | the backup generator, would the fuel tank
- 8 | have double wall or some type of containment
- 9 | in case of a leakage?
- 10 THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Paul
- 11 | Lusitani.
- 12 Yes, it has a double wall.
- MR. PERRONE: Okay. Would
- 14 | there also be some containment for oil -- oil
- 15 or coolant like a recessed floor or?
- 16 THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Paul
- 17 | Lusitani.
- There's no plans for a
- 19 recessed floor.
- MR. PERRONE: Okay. And also,
- 21 | would the generator run periodically, like a
- 22 | weekly exercise or?
- THE WITNESS (Vivian): David
- 24 Vivian.
- 25 I think it cycles -- it cycles

about every two to three days for about a 20to 30-minute period.

MR. LYNCH: Mr. Chairman --

MR. PERRONE: Mr. Libertine --

THE CHAIRPERSON: Just a

minute. Mr. Lynch.

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MR. LYNCH: Mr. Vivian, as far as the running or testing of the emergency generator, and you said two or three -- it could be two or three times a week. This is going to be a two-part question. The first part is how often does it get refueled and topped off? That's one.

And now on a totally different plane, when you're calculating the db's for the noise calculations you have the air-conditioning stuff -- noise in here, is that -- are you calculating the noise that it generated when the generators are -- the noise that is produced, rather, when the generators are running to be tested?

THE WITNESS (Vivian): I'm going to let Mr. Lusitani speak to the noise question.

As far as the refueling,

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1 that's -- that's done simply on an as-needed
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- 2 basis and that that fuel level will be
- 3 | needed. It's probably about an -- I mean,
- 4 | this is kind of just an educated guess, about
- 5 once a month or so...
- 6 MR. LYNCH: Could you repeat
- 7 | that. I couldn't -- your voices are fading
- 8 down at this end.
- 9 THE WITNESS (Vivian): As --
- 10 | as far as -- I'm sorry. As far as refueling
- 11 | the emergency generators, it's more on a
- 12 as-needed basis. But it typically is
- 13 | about --
- 14 THE WITNESS (Wells): I think
- 15 | you're correct on the fuel but just -- just
- 16 one point on monitoring the fuel levels,
- 17 | there is a low-fuel level alert alarm that
- 18 | goes back to the AT&T NOC in the event that
- 19 | it does reach a certain level.
- 20 MR. LYNCH: You anticipated my
- 21 | next question as far as that was concerned.
- 22 | How -- how do they know when to refuel.
- 23 | Thank you.
- THE WITNESS (Wells): I'll
- 25 give that credit to our attorney.

1 MR. LYNCH: And one other 2 follow up to that, Mr. Ashton just clued me 3 in here. The alarm doesn't really -- it 4 tells you it needs to be refueled but it 5 doesn't tell you what the refueling 6 scheduling would be, so if the alarm goes off 7 or it reaches a level where it sets of a 8 signal, how -- what's the time -- the time 9 period between the signal going off and 10 something being refueled, I guess? 11 And the reason I'm asking is 12 because when we're talking about emergency 13 situations, if that tank is low we're not 14 going to get the hours out of that emergency 1.5 generator that you have listed here. So, all 16 I'm saying, I think refueling of these 17 generators is important. 18 THE WITNESS (Wells): I -- I 19 don't remember the exact percentage. There's 20

don't remember the exact percentage. There's different ways to monitor fuel levels. The way, I believe, AT&T is currently doing it is through a contact. You can do it and actually get the actual fuel level, whether it's 90 percent, 80 percent and the number of gallons in the tank, or you can use the

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generator's controller, which is a preset
level, and I'm pretty sure that a quarter of
a tank. So, you know, you can make the
calculations from there. I didn't -- I don't
remember what was in the report for -- for a
duration that the generator would run at full
level, so it would be one -- one quarter of
that once you get that alert.

MR. LYNCH: Again, when it reaches that one-quarter level when is the timeframe that that would get refueled to be topped off? I mean is that something that's checked on a -- your weekly visit to the -- or monthly visit, whatever it is, to the site?

THE WITNESS (Wells): Yeah.

Yes. Usually, yeah. So your hope is that you don't reach that. I mean, that's the -- that's called the critical fuel level, so, but during those maintenance windows you'll -- you'll recognize that it's part of the check to see what the fuel level actually is because there is a fuel gauge on there. The gauge is just it's not always record only, it's only used through the contact closures.

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So, but certainly in a storm event, that's -- that's when determinations are made, you know, they -- whether you should be fueling ahead of the contact closure going off or not.

MR. LYNCH: And the refueler, the diesel refueler, is that something you contract out to or is that a -- something you would just call up and say, you know, we need more fuel? Or is that something that contractors deliver on a regular -- would be delivered by a regular company or, I guess, a standard company, I guess?

THE WITNESS (Vivian): Right.

Well there are -- this is Dave Vivian. There are companies that are -- that are contracted by AT&T operations to refuel the generators.

And what I might add is that if there's a large storm that's predicted, typically what they'll do is they'll do sort of a special deployment to make sure that they're at full capacity.

MR. LYNCH: All right.

Mr. Lusitani, we're over to you as far as the noise calculations for the -- that you have

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in here for the AC, the air-conditioners
running. Are -- when the diesel generator,
emergency generator is being tested, is that
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4 also calculated in in the noise levels we

5 | have in here?

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THE WITNESS (Lusitani): The noise level, I believe is the same whether it's running or being tested. So it's --

MR. LYNCH: Are you saying the operation of the diesel generator would not add to the -- the noise levels in the compound?

THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Are you saying a difference between when we test the generator and when it's actually running. Is that the question?

Yeah, we did two studies. One with the two AC units and the generator and one with just the two AC units. The difference is very minimal.

MR. LYNCH: I'm sorry. Your voices are fading down at this end as far as Mr. Ashton pointed out. Could you -- could you please repeat that.

THE WITNESS (Lusitani): We

did two studies. One with the -- the
generator and the two AC units running
simultaneously. And then we did a second
with both AC units running simultaneously.

MR. LYNCH: Are those calculations in here? Because all I saw was the -- the numbers for the two -- the two AC units running simultaneously.

THE WITNESS (Lusitani): Yes.

I believe they were submitted with

Interrogatory Set Two.

MR. LYNCH: Could you point that out for me? I just -- if it's in here, I just didn't -- do it after the break.

Thank you.

THE WITNESS (Lusitani): I believe it's behind Interrogatory Set Two, Tab 1.

MR. LYNCH: Thank you.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Perrone,

21 | you want to continue?

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MR. PERRONE: Yes. Thank you.

Mr. Libertine, when deciding

between a monopine versus monopole, is the

existing tree height a factor? For example,

this site averages about 65.

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THE WITNESS (Libertine): Ιt certainly is a factor. It always comes into But probably more important is the play. aspect and the -- I guess, the overall view shed. This is an interesting site because there's not a lot of visibility. actually, this is probably a good time to go on the record. I'd like to turn everyone's attention to Tab 5 in the application, in the back where we have the two visibility maps. We did -- we actually did multiple balloon floats during leaf-on conditions over the spring, late spring and summer. We had some challenging weather where we had good weather in the morning and then kind of ran into some wind, so I visited the site and have flown balloons at this site on three separate occasions. Again, all with leaf-on.

And there was a little bit of a question mark in terms of when the leaves are off the trees would there be some additional areas of visibility. And this morning when it was fairly calm for a little bit of time, I did notice that right here in

the center of town there are very spotty
views through the trees. They are not what I
would consider to be very prevalent but if
you're standing in the right location and
know what you're looking for you can
certainly see the balloon from a few
locations. That's not reflected on these
maps. Essentially where Photo Number 5 is
shown on the map, that's essentially the
area, and that's kind of right where we are
for a very short stretch.

So I wanted to make that clear, because I do believe, and I did mention that it's likely that there could be some seasonal views in this general area but we just couldn't determine that during the times we flew the balloon. That being said, from this particular area, because of the screening of the intervening trees even with the leaves off and with the broad plateau of the hill, in that type of a situation a tree tower would work very effectively.

Obviously, the -- the pine tree look works very well when you're looking through trees in -- whether it's deciduous forest or even a

1 coniferous forest or a general mix. 2 here, you kind of have that mix, although 3 it's much more heavily deciduous. 4 challenge we always have is those near views 5 pretty much are eliminated because it blends 6 in so well. The only real, what I'll call 7 prevalent view, is to the southwest where 8 Viewpoint Number 6 is shown. And if you look 9 at that corresponding simulation, you can see 10 how that rises significantly above the 11 treeline from that location. It's a very 12 short stretch of the road, but it's very --13 it's probably 40 feet above the treeline from 14 that perspective.

That's where the challenge in the tree tower comes in. I think -- I don't know if any of you folks came in through Winsted and when you took 183, if you look to the left and saw the Winchester tree, that rises significantly above the treeline; however, as you start to come around and that lowers on the horizon, it works great.

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So I guess it's my long-winded answer, but to get to your point, there's always that tradeoff. And on this site, we

1 kind of struggled back and forth and 2 initially, I'm kind of the opinion that I 3 don't think a tree is necessary here. On the other hand, I can understand an argument for 4 5 it, because it's kind of one of those ones 6 where it's right in the middle. So tree --7 tree height certainly plays some role, but 8 it's usually the slope and the aspect 9 combined with that tree height that really 10 kind of gives you that -- that overall 11 effect.

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This one, you know, I think if you did a tree tower here, I think if you were on Stillman Road and were looking back over where View 6 is, it would probably jump out and you'd know it was a tower. Similar to certain aspects on the Winchester tree. From other areas, you probably would never even know what you were looking at because again, it would be a fairly effective screen. This is -- this one is a challenging one because, again, there's not a lot of overall visibility.

I'm not sure that answered your question, but I did want to get that

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1 other portion on the record, but it is not
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- 2 only a function of tree height, I guess is --
- 3 | is the -- I guess is the easy and short
- 4 answer.
- 5 MR. PERRONE: No, that
- 6 answered it. Thank you.
- 7 In the Colebrook Land
- 8 | Conservancy, there's discussion about Hale
- 9 Barn, H-a-l-e. Could you describe the
- 10 | visibility of the tower from Hale Barn?
- 11 (Pause.)
- 12 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Bear
- 13 | with me one moment while I get to that. I
- 14 | apologize.
- 15 DR. BELL: Mr. Libertine, just
- 16 | for starters on this question, could you just
- 17 | identify on the visibility map where Hale
- 18 | Barn is because there's a confusion about
- 19 | that.
- THE WITNESS (Libertine):
- 21 That's -- certainly.
- DR. BELL: So let's start with
- 23 that. Thank you.
- THE WITNESS (Libertine): That
- 25 | -- sure. That's where I'm trying to get to,

1 too, to make sure I'm talking about the -2 the specific location.

(Pause.)

THE WITNESS (Libertine):

Okay. Thank you for your patience.

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Route 183 intersection is essentially to the, I guess I'll call that, to the east or right of View Number 6. Essentially, 183 Colebrook Road is the main road that is -- it's labeled 183 but more or less at the bottom of the visibility map, the aerial face, that runs west of our site. Stillman Hill Road is actually part of, I guess it's labeled as 182, although I'm not sure that's actually 182 on this map, but it is -- but it does come at that intersection.

So essentially it's to the right of -- it's that intersection to the right of Photo Location Number 6. That's in a hollow. So there is no direct view from that particular intersection. So we would not anticipate -- we did not see any views from that intersection at all. I'm not sure which side of the road it's on, but if it's

1 | at -- if it's at that intersection and those

- 2 | -- and anywhere in those open fields, it
- 3 | doesn't -- it doesn't poke into view from
- 4 | there until you start to rise to the west
- 5 along the hill.
- MR. PERRONE: Okay. Could you
- 7 also describe the visibility from the
- 8 | Colebrook Consolidated School.
- 9 THE WITNESS (Libertine): That
- 10 's the school on Smith Hill Road that's
- 11 | adjacent --
- MR. PERRONE: Yes.
- THE WITNESS (Libertine): --
- 14 | to the property?
- 15 Yes. We could not see the
- 16 | balloon at any time during the floats that we
- 17 | did during the spring. I checked today again
- 18 | when the balloon was up and could not see it,
- 19 | so we're confident that they are not going to
- 20 | be views. And I actually walked to both ends
- 21 of the property, so I went out to the field
- 22 | at the edge of the woods, which gives you at
- 23 | least a best perspective of the hill. Again,
- 24 | the hill is a fairly broad plateau, which
- 25 | really works the vantage, and the tress are

1 | fairly high, obviously, the tower is above it

- 2 because that's the only way it's going to
- 3 | propagate but it works from a visual
- 4 | perspective when you're in kind of that near
- 5 view.
- 6 Again, until you get down at
- 7 this location here and start to head out of
- 8 town near the cemetery, there are very spotty
- 9 seasonal views. You won't see it during the
- 10 | leaf-on season. But this time of year, if
- 11 | you know what you're looking for through the
- 12 | trees, you'll be able to get a few views here
- 13 | and there, primarily coming back into town
- 14 from the north, southbound. And that's
- 15 | reflected around Viewpoint Number 3 on the
- 16 | photo location map.
- MR. PERRONE: Could you
- 18 | summarize the number of homes with seasonal
- 19 | year-round views of the town?
- THE WITNESS (Libertine):
- 21 | Sure.
- MR. PERRONE: And the streets,
- 23 if you have that.
- THE WITNESS (Libertine):
- 25 | Sure.

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Under the analytical results in the report, we actually have called those out. They're, as I said earlier, I'll start with the distant views on Stillman Hill Road or which is State Route 182. That's about eight-tenths of a mile from the site to the southwest, and there are some open agricultural fields. As you crest that hill there are two fairly large properties that do have residences on them, so I am -- I know in front of one, for sure. We were at -- actually the picture is taken more or less in front of that property where the home is.

There's another home across the street that is surrounded by landscaping and trees. I conservatively said that home would also have some views year round, so those two. There would be two on Stillman Hill Road.

And then there's one home that's directly across from the entrance to the cemetery here on Colebrook Road, which is Route 183, just north of town, where standing at the edge of their driveway and the road, I could not see it, but I've conservatively

1 | said that there could be seasonal views.

2 There may even be a spot year-round view from

3 some portion of that property, but I couldn't

4 access the property. So conservatively I say

5 that. Also there would be one property here

6 on Colebrook Road that could potentially see

7 it.

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There are seasonal views during this time of year when the leaves are off the trees from portions of the cemetery. There is a house that abuts the cemetery to the north, potentially they could see it. There's a lot of trees intervening so that one I'm a little less -- it's conservative -- conservatively I guess I would say two along this road and two from Stillman Hill, and that would probably be a very conservative number.

The homes nearby, from what we can tell, will not have views at any time of the year. There's just too much intervening tree cover with the acreage that we have, and you've also got the slope of the hill that's working to our advantage as well.

You may have seen it, I don't

know if anyone looked when we were on Smith
Hill Road mingling before we went up to the
site, the balloon was at full height. I was
looking for it the whole time, I couldn't see
it through the trees this time of year, which
was consistent with what we've seen every
time out. But again, now that the leaves are
falling, things can open up, but I'm fairly
confident that you're not going to see
anything along Smith Hill Road as well.

MR. PERRONE: Could you also describe the visibility from the Colebrook Center Historic District about a half mile north.

THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes, which is essentially where we are. And that's the part that I would like to go on the record, that's a little bit different than what we're showing here. That there is a small portion right here where we are, that if you were standing in the street, you would be able to see it for a very short amount of time. But again, you have to kind of look through the trees to actually see it. And we're looking at a red balloon, so it was --

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1 you know, it was fairly easy to pick out as
2 you're kind of moving around.

Even a monopole, I think is going to be lost somewhat in the structure of the intervening trees, so I don't consider those to be really prevalent views, and I think the -- the State Historic Preservation Office which weighed in, even a few years ago, there had been some photo simulations that had been presented to them during leaf-off that was fairly consistent with what we're seeing today.

So, again, it's not something that is -- it's not rising above the tree line. It's through intervening trees, so it's a fairly negligeable view line to it, but it does exist, and I thought it was important to get that on the record.

MR. PERRONE: Okay. I don't know if you would have this, but is this site, this section of Colebrook located within the Housatonic Valley National Heritage area?

THE WITNESS (Libertine): I don't have that readily available. I could

- 1 | certainly find out.
- 2 MR. PERRONE: Okay. And then
- 3 | if there are any impacts to that.
- 4 And my last question. This
- 5 goes back to the site search. I understand --
- 6 | the site search is in Tab -- under tab 2.
- 7 | That there were two copulas that were looked
- 8 at. One at the Senior Center, one at the
- 9 town hall. I know those were rejected by
- 10 AT&T's engineers. Were those rejected
- 11 | because of insufficient height?
- 12 THE WITNESS (Vivian): David
- 13 Vivian. That's correct.
- MR. PERRONE: Okay. Thank
- 15 you. That's all I have.
- 16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Senator
- 17 | Murphy will now have the questions from the
- 18 Council.
- SENATOR MURPHY: Thank you,
- 20 Mr. Chairman. Just a few items. There was a
- 21 | public information hearing on the 4th of
- 22 | April. What was the attendance and what was
- 23 the reaction of those attendants at that
- 24 | meeting? I assume a number of people might
- 25 | have appeared over there.

MS. CHIOCCHIO: Thank you.

Lucia Chiocchio, I -- I am probably the best

person to talk about that.

That was a couple of years ago when we started the municipal consultation.

And the attendance was about -- about 25 to 30 folks expressing concern at that time, we had proposed the access drive from Colebrook Road. There was concern, as you heard earlier, about the existing spring and well on that property. And that was mainly the concern with respect to the site.

SENATOR MURPHY: And just out of curiosity, was the balloon float done as a result of being asked for at that meeting?

MS. CHIOCCHIO: Yes. We --

we --

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SENATOR MURPHY: Because it was done a week later.

MS. CHIOCCHIO: Right. We -we offered to fly a balloon and noticed that
for the community and we did, when I spoke
with the First Selectman a few months back,
we also provided notice of another balloon
float that we had done for the visual report.

1 SENATOR MURPHY: And I understand from the material that based upon 2 3 the First Selectman's feelings there was no 4 informational meeting done since that time? 5 MS. CHIOCCHIO: Correct. 6 Basically, the site had not changed. 7 SENATOR MURPHY: All right. 8 Mr. Wells, on your 9 propagations, I assume you did propagations 10 higher than 120 or 117 is the center line? 11 THE WITNESS (Wells): Yes, we 12 did. 13 SENATOR MURPHY: If you went 14 up 10 feet, what would be the difference in 1.5 your propagations? Would it cover more 16 territory or height not -- does it -- because 17 I understand there's not always an increase. 18 THE WITNESS (Wells): It would cover more, yes. But we didn't feel 19 20 substantially more. What we do is we started at a fairly high height, 180, 190 feet, and 2.1 22 start lowering that. Well, generally we start at 180 assuming, you know, if we know 23 24 there's no way you're going to get 180 we

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don't start there. But generally we start at

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a high level, and then just start reducing the tower height in 10-foot increments in our model, and start to see where we feel there are -- there are significant differences whether on major roadways or the cumulative counts of the roads and population and everything else. And at 120, is essentially where we felt that was that breakpoint.

And 130 yes, there is more coverage and at 180 there's even more. And if you asked me as an RF engineer what do I want? I want 195? But can I sit here and justify that? I don't know. You know, I would like 195 because it provides more coverage, but I don't think I can reasonably sit here and convince you why, you know, that it substantially more coverage.

But at 120 versus 110 versus 100, I think I can say with confidence that that is an appropriate height and that there is a tradeoff there that's worth it.

SENATOR MURPHY: Okay. Which leads me to the -- to the next question. The tower is designed for four carriers, three in addition to the Petitioner, the Applicant

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117 center line?

here. And I know that you don't speak for other carriers or what have you, but being an expert in the field, what's your best guess as to how viable those spots are under your

THE WITNESS (Vivian): They are viable, because even at those lower heights you do pick up additional coverage.

I would have concerns at the higher frequencies at 1900 megahertz where there are more carriers there than at the 800 megahertz, and I would be surprised if collo applications requested an increased height to accommodate those frequencies.

SENATOR MURPHY: And as I understand it, the tower is being constructed at the base at least, so that it could possibly be increased to 20 feet which is the standard which --

THE WITNESS (Vivian): I'm not sure that it's a standard but, yes, usually -- usually, especially when you're talking about something under say, a 150 -- SENATOR MURPHY: And in this instance the -- and in this instance the

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- 1 | answer is yes.
- THE WITNESS (Vivian): Yes.
- 3 You can make it an extendable up to say, 150.
- 4 SENATOR MURPHY: And
- 5 Mr. Libertine, if this tower were to be at
- 6 | 140, what difference would you give us in
- 7 | your visibility analysis?
- 9 | Well, I think it would be two-fold. I think
- 10 certainly there would be some increased areas
- 11 | that are at the proposed height. We're not
- 12 | seeing it when we start to get visible from
- 13 | certain locations. I can't point to specific
- 14 | locations, but my gut tells me that we're
- 15 going to start to see some increased overall
- 16 visibility.
- I wouldn't say it's
- 18 | substantial, but I think some of the higher
- 19 | locations that look across the valley towards
- 20 our site would certainly start to pick it up.
- 21 And, of course, always, the
- 22 | character now becomes the consideration,
- 23 | because 20 feet starts to push it
- 24 | significantly higher, above the treeline, so
- 25 | those locations where we're seeing it today

1 is going to be that much further above the 2 treeline. I think I would have certainly 3 some concerns about this location downtown, 4 and heading into downtown which is the 5 historic district, and I think the DSHPO 6 might also have some concerns. If we were 7 going to go with that type of an increase, 8 SHPO would be required to review it again 9 because it's over a 10 percent increase. 10 SENATOR MURPHY: And if it 11 were 140 what, if any, change would there be 12 to your answer regarding monopine? 13 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Ι 14 think in that case, I'd probably be a 15 proponent of a monopine knowing and 16 recognizing that from distant locations it's 17 going to look like a Winchester tree, for 18 lack of a better term. But I think it would

proponent of a monopine knowing and
recognizing that from distant locations it's
going to look like a Winchester tree, for
lack of a better term. But I think it would
be -- I think the benefits would offset it
because the nearer views, within a half mile,
especially from this area, I think would
still be fairly negligible because you'd be
looking through other trees, and so I think
the pine would be fairly effective.

SENATOR MURPHY: Great. Thank

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25

1 you.

2 I have no other questions,

3 Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Klemens.

5 We usually go unless --

DR. KLEMENS: Yes, I do have

7 questions.

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The first question is generated by the heightening the tower. That would not -- would that require guy wires?

THE WITNESS (Vivian): David Vivian. No, this would be a self supporting

13 | monopole.

DR. KLEMENS: Thank you.

I have some questions about vernal pools and other issues. But I have one other just general question, and forgive my ignorance, I'm new to this and maybe this is a redundant question, but there, on page 12 of the application, its introduction, there is a statement that repeater is micro-cell transmitters to transmitters and DOS systems are not practical here. Maybe you could educate me why, why they're not?

THE WITNESS (Wells): Tony

Wells.

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The first I guess, DAS, I
don't know if we spelled that out, DAS is an
antenna system and repeaters, micro-cells and
distributed antenna systems are generally
lower power and lower height technology. For
example, a distributed antenna system in a
lot of areas, they're mounting antennas on
telephone poles along a roadway. Micro-cell
is also limited in -- in power generally.

So the -- the limitation with those is, again, the height and the power that you can transmit out of them. And in an area like this where you're surrounded by hills and trees, where trees significantly weaken the signal from Point A to Point B, and if you're already in the trees because you're -- you're at say 50 feet or 40 feet on a telephone pole, you are pretty much line of sight. If you can't see it, you're probably not getting a signal from it.

So if you could imagine the complexity of providing service, if you look at the map that we've provided, a coverage area that we can achieve from this site, you

can imagine you had to place antennas

everywhere you can see them to achieve that,

that equipment coverage, it becomes quite a

challenge in an area like this.

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DR. KLEMENS: Thank you.

On page 17 of the summary, the worst-case emissions from proposed facility are just 10.8 percent the Federal MPE standard. If you had three other carriers on the tower, would that still fall below the federal standards?

THE WITNESS (Wells): Yes, it will. And this is, when we -- just for clarification -- Tony Wells -- when we say, "Worst-case" we -- we do the calculations as if the antennas were pointed at the ground. But as I mentioned earlier, the antenna has a pattern. It's much like a flashlight beam that if -- if you're shining it in a particular spot, it illuminates that spot, but if you're standing below that, that beam, that light is significantly attenuated. In -- in the -- for the Siting Council generally, when do a calculation, we assume the antennas are pointed at the ground, and

is a very worst-case. In practice, even with three carriers on this tower, if you go out and make measure -- actual measurements, you'd probably be at around that 10 percent

DR. KLEMENS: Okay. Thank you.

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or below.

The generator. There was discussion earlier about the generator.

Again, is that generator for the tower or if there were additional carriers would there be additional generators involved?

THE WITNESS (Vivian): David Vivian.

The generator we were discussing and what we're proposing is a 50 kW diesel power generator specifically for AT&T's equipment. Typically, if, say, Verizon would also have their own generator which is enclosed in a shelter.

DR. KLEMENS: So theoretically, one could anticipate that you could have four -- four generators there if the tower was to used to the capacity that's on the plans with four different fueling

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1 | schedules, because one of the things that

- 2 have been talked about is the infrequency of
- 3 | the use of the driveway for maintenance which
- 4 | is a big issue, when we talk about vernal
- 5 | pool species and critters and everything.
- 6 But the idea is you're going to have one --
- 7 one maintenance visit a month. But if we had
- 8 | the tower and was fully capacitized, for fuel
- 9 alone, we could be having four visits a
- 10 month. Is that correct?
- 11 | THE WITNESS (Vivian): Well,
- 12 | yes and no. Typically, the only two carriers
- 13 to my knowledge that are utilizing the full
- 14 emergency as their back power source are
- 15 | Verizon and AT&T. The others use battery
- 16 | back-up, T-Mobile, Sprint, MetroPCS in this
- 17 | area.
- DR. KLEMENS: Okay. Thank
- 19 you.
- 20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Just to let
- 21 | you know, this is -- this is an issue that
- 22 | the Siting Council, at least I think we feel
- 23 | pretty strongly about that industry is going
- 24 to have to come to grips with this issue of
- 25 | either a shared versus multiple generators.

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I think just listening to the question from Dr. Klemens is -- it's pretty clear that if this were to be fully -- have four carriers each with their own generator and each with their own system, their own schedule, and maybe even different fuels, it just doesn't -- it doesn't make sense.

So this is something that we are encouraging, I think at every meeting that, in this case, AT&T starts thinking seriously about how to deal with this issue, because it's -- I don't think we're I think we've -- we've -- we're not happy with the answers we're getting tat this point. We just don't think it's looking into overall needs, if there is a, both on a routine basis, and also if there's a major storm.

I mean, it just -- it just doesn't make sense that there would be -- everybody would be doing their own thing. You're sharing a tower, so you ought to figure a way to share generators. Okay.

DR. KLEMENS: Now, I'm going to move now to -- to wetlands and to know a little bit a more about the about cell

1 towers.

My first question is, are
there -- was there any attempt or effort made
to consult with the Army Corps of Engineers,
and are these jurisdictional wetlands as
defined by the Army Corps?

THE WITNESS (Gustafson): We have -- Dean Gustafson. We have submitted a category one determination request under the Connecticut General Permit to the Army Corps of Engineers. It is in receipt. It is currently being reviewed by the Army Corps of Engineers.

The majority of the wetlands would be considered jurisdictional with the possible exception of Wetland IV which I don't believe has the hydrology or the vegetation to be classified as -- as a federal wetland.

The other wetland systems, in my opinion, would certainly be jurisdictional and certainly, the one wetland system that we do have direct impact, Wetland III, is in my opinion, clearly a jurisdictional wetland.

DR. KLEMENS: Moving to

Wetland III, which I did walk up the road and look as that would be to the southeast on the site walk, and clearly there is, as you have indicated, there is a signature of a vernal pool as you get quite far back from the entrance way. How far back is that ponded area where you have the bare mock and soils and the appearance of ponding for a significant portion of time, how far back is that from the entrance road in feet?

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THE WITNESS (Gustafson): From the nearest location of the proposed access road it's approximately 250 to 300 feet to what I would qualify as potentially cryptic vernal pool type habitat within kind of the southeastern reach of Wetland III, close to the property boundary and Smith Hill Road.

DR. KLEMENS: Now, you're having 700 and -- was it 701 foot -- square feet of wetland loss on Wetland Number III from the entrance road. You're aware of the -- the guidance document issued by the Army Corps of July 2011 that talks about calculating loss of forest habitat around vernal pools as in part of your calculation.

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1 | Are you aware of that?
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THE WITNESS (Gustafson): I am

3 | aware of that document.

DR. KLEMENS: Can you tell us

5 | how many square feet of forest associated

6 | with that vernal pool within the 750 feet of

7 | that vernal pool? How many square feet of

8 | forest are going to be taken by the proposed

9 | road and clearing?

10 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): We

11 | have not performed that calculation but we

12 | could provide that information to the

13 Council.

DR. KLEMENS: Do you think it

15 | might be over 5,000 square feet that would

16 | move you -- in total, the forest plus the

17 | fill that would move you to a different

18 permit category?

19 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes,

20 I -- I do believe that there would be that

21 | potential.

DR. KLEMENS: Okay. Thank

23 you.

24 On Vernal Pool Number II or

25 the wetland we looked at in the field, I

1 looked at that and saw that the -- we sort of 2 looked at it and we had a discussion in the 3 field that that looked like it didn't have a lot of permanent hydrology, you have in your 4 5 report that you were there in early May, two 6 visits in May, it didn't have any water, then 7 in the last visit in May I believe you said in the field was about a foot of water? 8 9 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): 10 That's correct. Our -- our dates of our 11 investigation were May 14th and 16th to 12 perform the initial delineation of wetland 13 resources in proximity to the proposed 14 project. During both of those dates, all of 15 the wetlands, including Wetland II, did not 16 show any evidence of inundation. There was 17 just soil saturation near the surface in some 18 locations.

However, they're preceding -not preceding that. After that date, we
inspected the wetland areas on May 30th of
this year following some -- some intense rain
the previous seven to ten days, and at that
point, we did observe inundation in
Wetland III at some shallow inundation

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essentially in the southeastern end of
Wetland III. Most of the inundation levels
were six inches or less, with exception of
some isolated areas which approached 12
inches of inundation. And then for
Wetland II, the -- the deepest portion of
Wetland II we observed inundation

approximately 12 inches deep.

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DR. KLEMENS: That leads me to another question. Did you observe inundation in the vernal pool, putative vernal pool section of Wetland III? Did you observe that in your early visits? Was it inundated?

THE WITNESS (Gustafson):

During our early visits in May it was not inundated. It was just saturated to the surface.

DR. KLEMENS: Would you agree or that that vernal -- that, what you call Vernal Pool II is fairly marginal vernal pool habitat compared to Vernal Pool Number III?

THE WITNESS (Gustafson): I

would agree with that statement.

DR. KLEMENS: Excuse me. I'd like to now move to the avian resource

1 analysis that was done. It's on Tab 2 Number 4.

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And as I understand, it's a desktop analysis, so there's no actual fieldwork actually ornithological fieldwork done on the site. Is that correct?

THE WITNESS (Gustafson): That is correct. It is -- it is a desktop review of available resources.

DR. KLEMENS: I'd like to direct your attention to numbered at the end, under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Communications Towers Compliance, on Point Number 4, the guidance is the tower should not be sited in or near wetlands, and your response is that the site is not within a wetland. Would you say that the site is near a wetland?

THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes. The site is approximate to a wetland.

DR. KLEMENS: But possibly if the road is moved would that improve it? The tower pad would still remain near the wetland, correct, if you were to move the road as may have been suggested by the

1 | Conservation Commission?

migratory bird species.

THE WITNESS (Gustafson):

Yeah, moving the access road certainly will improve the situation for Wetland II as far

5 as creating additional buffer for that

6 wetland system.

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7 DR. KLEMENS: Under the Fish 8 and Wildlife Service, Number 8, I'm somewhat 9 troubled by this, where they ask if --10 your -- the response that they are -- and 11 this is if I'm correct, and please tell me if 12 I'm not, that I believe that the U.S. Fish 13 and Wildlife Service quidance document here 14 refers to migratory. Their focus is on

THE WITNESS (Gustafson):

That's correct. That's my understanding as well.

DR. KLEMENS: Okay. So if you did no field, on-site field investigations, how could you reach the conclusion under Number 8 that significant numbers of breeding, feeding or roosting birds are not known to habitually use the proposed tower construction area?

THE WITNESS (Gustafson):

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We're basing that conclusion on the information that's contained in the front of that document, that goes -- it references various other sources that indicate areas of potential bird concentrations.

So, I agree with you that it's not based on actual field data, observing information from the site, but we are relying upon various sources, data sources that would lead one to in -- to believe that there was potential for significant bird concentrations on this particular property or not. And based on those data sources, none were in -- were identified on the subject property, hence, we drew that conclusion.

DR. KLEMENS: And I'm a little bit foggy on this because there's hawk data, there's important bird areas, there's water foul, but concentrations of migratory birds can be in many different places, I mean, important bird areas are just -- are acknowledged areas. Actually, I -- I just don't see how that can really be supported by -- I don't believe, I don't believe you've

1 made, in my opinion, a case for that 2 statement.

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THE WITNESS (Gustafson):

The -- and I will -- I would just, I guess, point you to an early part of our discussion with our understanding of the main intent of satisfying the criteria from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as far as siting facilities, and that directly relates to a potential impacts to migratory birds. And considering that, you know, the potential for this habitat to support, and I agree with you, you know, water foul is going to be limited. It's probably going to be mainly Neotropical species. They're going to use some of the forest canopy for either roosting or breeding habitat.

And as far as impacts to migration and Neotropical species, the height of this facility is at such a low height that it will not result in an adverse impact to those species because we are certainly well below the heights that are typically associated with potential impacts of migratory species. Also the tower is not

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1 lit. It's not a guided tower, so that helps
2 mitigate for any of those potential impacts.
3 DR. KLEMENS: That's in your
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submission and I agree with that. But, for example, forest interior species: Would you expect forest interior species to be breeding in that forest as you see it now?

THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes,

DR. KLEMENS: And do you expect that that habitat that that habitat would be rendered less suitable for forest interior migratory bird breeding species after the road is constructed and the tower is put in place?

THE WITNESS (Gustafson): I would certainly anticipate some level of impact --

DR. KLEMENS: Thank you.

THE WITNESS (Gustafson): --

21 because of the removal of mature tree growth.

DR. KLEMENS: Now, we've

23 already gone through the wetlands. So you

did -- you did no actual field sampling for

25 any -- for any larval amphibians or any --

1 any kind of actual field -- fieldwork?
2 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):

3 That's -- that's correct.

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on -- on the 30th, we did do some dip-netting, but it was essentially just a few days after some intense rain, so those pools would have essentially just had filled within the past couple days, so we did not see anything in them. I wasn't surprised we didn't see anything because it was so -- it was such a brief event, but we did not follow up with additional biological sampling later that's in the spring season.

DR. KLEMENS: Okay.

THE WITNESS (Gustafson): So that's why we -- we took a conservative approach, assumed that it would support at least some level of breeding habitat, so that's why the protective measures were recommended to be employed, should the facility be approved by the Council, during construction to minimize the impact to those -- those resources.

DR. KLEMENS: Moving along to the vernal pool protective recommendations.

1 Is there any reason why we 2 just could have completely, as I've seen in 3 other projects, rather than have all this 4 elaborate avoidance and monitoring, could we 5 just avoid -- avoid construction in the 6 vernal pool activity, the height, which is 7 basically, you have it correct, is March 1st 8 to May 30th. Actually it may be a bit 9 earlier, if you have Jefferson salamanders on 10 site, which we don't know, they would be 11 migrating already in -- in February. But is 12 there any reason why construction can just 13 not be avoided in -- in that time of heaviest 14 of potential vernal pool activity? 1.5 THE WITNESS (Vivian): David 16 Vivian. No, I think that AT&T could accept a 17 condition to avoid construction during that 18 period. 19 DR. KLEMENS: Thank you. 20 Moving on. I'm sorry there's 21 no pagination here, but under Protective 22 Measures, the removal of the Herpetological 23 sweeps, I would ask you to -- you're 24 carefully grasping them in both hands, that

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sort of implies, at least to me, a large

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animal like a turtle or a snake. Would you
consider maybe if you're gathering amphibians
that they should be put in a moist tank
rather than be put in cans?

5 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I
6 think that's yes.

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DR. KLEMENS: Thank you.

Now, a lot of reliance has been placed in this document, and I'm not on -- the letter from Dawn McKay and National Diversity Data Base, and there is an inherent conflict in this letter. I'd like for you to comment on that. The first paragraph Ms. McKay says: "She has determined that the proposed activities will not impact to any extant populations of Federal or State Endangered, Threatened, or Special Concern Species that occur in the vicinity of this property."

And yet, in the second

paragraph: "This information is not

necessarily the result of comprehensive or

site-specific field investigations.

Consultations with the Data Base should not

be substitutes for on-site surveys required

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for environmental assessments."

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So, although you have this letter from the state, do you think that possibly it would have been useful to have done some specific fieldwork, as well for some of the other species that could be there or did you take -- oh, I let you answer, and then I follow up on it.

THE WITNESS (Gustafson): The second part of their letter that you reference is standard language.

We rely upon the database to identify natural occurrence, the number of species, in which case we'd investigate further the potential impact, otherwise, and unless we saw it, maybe a unique habitat during our initial wetland investigation it would be the way we would conduct our studies.

DR. KLEMENS: So you interpret this basically as -- this letter addressed any potential endangered threatened special species. Receiving this letter is sufficient to indemnify or satisfy the requirement?

THE WITNESS (Libertine): Dr.

1 Klemens, if I could. We've wrestled with 2 this probably what, 15 years. We have spoken 3 to that, and it's as -- as Mr. Gustafson 4 alluded to one of the first things you do 5 when you go and see a site, is try to 6 determine whether there may be a potential 7 for any habitat so that we can screen the 8 site. We have to use NDDB, but we don't rely 9 solely on them. We try to use our best 10 judgment. The challenge we have is that 11 we're talking about trying to understand 12 whether or not, you know, there are species 13 of concern or even threatened species, so 14 it's very challenging for us to try to obtain 1.5 site-specific information because we're 16 really not sure in a lot of cases what we'd 17 be really be looking for. It's almost like 18 we're opening up that Pandora's box. 19

So it is a challenge and I recognize where you're coming from, so we're somewhat limited in that capacity.

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But with respect to this language, because I've always had the same issue with this language. As an LEP in the state of Connecticut, I will tell you that

1 this agency has propensity of having this 2 type of, I won't say double standard, but 3 conflicting information in almost all of 4 their approval letters. It's just something 5 that we've always kind of wrestled with. So 6 that it gives us an opportunity to say yes, 7 we've been able to clear the site, but 8 there's always the potential for the --9 either the state or another agency to come 10 back and say, "Well, there's some new 11 information that's just been brought to the 12 table, " or "We'd like you to look further

So unfortunately, it's something that I'm not sure how we resolve that.

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into it."

DR. KLEMENS: Well, there is such an investment of resources, technical resources, legal resources, citizen resources, council resources, I don't -- really, I don't understand why, who makes the decision, certain projects do real biological studies and other ones to do it this way.

And I would -- I would hope that maybe as we go down the road, that people would spend

1 more time looking at the sites, gathering 2 site-specific information, as is noted in the 3 second paragraph, because I think that would make -- I think it would make for a much 4 5 better review. There's a lot of speculation 6 that we're engaging in now, which is, I 7 understand we're here now at that point, but 8 gathering biological data on applications such on this, on wetlands, on vernal pools, 9 10 on biodiversity, on avian resources, I think 11 would strengthen these applications 12 tremendously from my perspective.

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THE WITNESS (Libertine):

Understood. I will say that working with AT&T and Verizon in particular, we have often been in the position where either Mr. Gustafson or myself or others on the team, have identified certain species and we have reached out to the DEEP, so we're at least adding to the NDDB in that capacity. But I understand where you're coming from, and it's a valid issue.

DR. KLEMENS: I don't think you're going to be seeing any more letters quite this definitive coming out of the NDDB,

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because I actually spoke to people at the

NDDB today, and that particular language is

incorrect in the first paragraph. But that's

what you have to work with, so....
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5 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Fair 6 enough.

7 DR. KLEMENS: Thank you.

8 That's it. Thank you.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Bell.

DR. BELL: Thank you,

11 Mr. Chair.

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Mr. Libertine, just looking at the yellow hatched area in your visibility map, the population of abutters probably -- it's a small area compared to many yellow hatched areas I've seen. Do you think that the population of actual abutters to whom you sent the letter covers that area or there are other people who are not abutters who still live in that area? I'm just curious.

THE WITNESS (Libertine): I'm sorry. In the -- in the yellow or in the orange that surrounds the actual site?

DR. BELL: No, just -- I'm just looking at the yellow, the year-round

visibility.

application.

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THE WITNESS (Libertine):

Well, they're certainly not abutters, that's almost a mile away, so they would not have been contacted directly as part of the

DR. BELL: Okay. Mr. Wells, in your response to Question Number 13 in our first set of -- sorry, 35, in our first set of questions, this has to do with the whole flush-mount issue. And you're basically saying, giving the answer that we've heard before which is that you can't put flush -- you can't mount antennas flush because -- or that it's -- it's not reasonable to mount the antennas flush, because then you'd have to mount several layers to get up to 12 or 15 antennas.

But I'm just focusing in on this particular boilerplate language that we see. We had an -- on September 6th we had an EM modification on our list at 530 Bushy Hill Road in Simsbury in which you simply put multi-band antennas in into a flagpole. The flagpole wasn't the minimum flagpole. It got

extended a little bit, but the way flagpoles do sometimes, but basically it was a flush mount or close to flush mount configuration. And since they were multiband antennas they covered several frequencies. I don't know whether it was exactly the number of frequencies it covered in that particular installation.

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But my question is could you, for homework, give us the three most recent installations of the type I'm talking about where you put multiband antennas in close configuration, closer than you're planning, say, for this tower. And -- and justify those three installations, in terms of the argument you make here, which is that, quote, AT&T usually reserves flush mounting or similar structures to cases where historic or documented scenic views might be impacted.

Do you understand what I am asking for? I don't know if you're the proper person to ask, maybe Mr. Vivian, but at any rate, that's what I'm trying to get at some specific examples of where you have mounted these antennas close to the tower in

a multi -- using multiband antennas which
would satisfy the problem in cases where
historic or documented scenic views are

4 involved.

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Here, you're saying,

presumably according to that argument,

according -- you're saying documented or -
historic or documented scenic views are not

involved. And I'm looking for the

documentation on three recent cases, the one

in Simsbury would be one recent case.

THE WITNESS (Wells): Right.

Yeah, we can -- we can look at that with

certainly Mr. Vivian and our attorney's help

on that. And although that, I would say that

probably raises a -- a good correction, for

lack of a better word. From an RF

standpoint, I guess I would say more

generically, we'll do it where we absolutely

have to and have no choice, and that's kind

of what leads to this language on the

visibility aspect. I suspect, and I don't

know the particulars of Simsbury in

particular, but I suspect that that was an

existing site and to rebuild that site so

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1 it'll accommodate either T-arms or a platform
2 was not going to happen, so that's what we
3 had to do.

And as you've heard me say before, you can do things mechanically, it doesn't make it a good idea. You know, we've talked about antenna separation before, can we put a -- you know, yes, we can put antennas right on top of each other, but it creates, believe me, it creates problems and I've dealt with those problems in the field and it becomes a matter of compromise.

But I think you're -- your -- to the point you raise, probably, highlights some fallacies in our wording. And again, from -- simply from an RF engineering perspective, it's when we have to. And when we have to includes the visibility. And Mr. Libertine may say, Look, this is the way to go and you have to do this because this is, you know, this is not going to be met well with the community, or an existing structure in that case which is not covered in this language, as I think you pointed out.

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THE WITNESS (Libertine):

Dr. Bell, I don't have recent examples that I can just rattle off. I'm sure we can get some. My experience has been typically we have been, and kind of building off what Mr. Wells, that we've been, I don't want to use the word forced, but we've certainly had to go back to the drawing board in those areas that are scenic or historic because we have had consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office and they've said, Look, you've got to come up with some other solution. So it becomes that compromise which limits, you know, collocation and some other things, so I -- yeah, I'm trying to think of one that's been recent, but nothing comes to mind. Although, there are several that we're kind of in consultation right now where we may be running down that road where we may have no other option just because we are faced with being in or approximate to a historic district or the Merritt Parkway. Well, I mean, that DR. BELL:

would be covered if you can -- when that's the case, then that's covered by that

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1 | language I just quoted.
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THE WITNESS (Libertine):

3 Right.

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DR. BELL: What Mr. Wells is talking about is another type of situation where there really is no scenic -- documented scenic resources or documented historic situation, but you have to because you can't -- you have to raise the height of the tower because the existing tower you can't spend the money to put in an entirely new tower, so you've come up with this thing.

So I'm --

THE WITNESS (Vivian):

Dr. Bell, if I may. This is Dave Vivian.

I can -- I can give you an example relatively recent, the tower has been stacked, we're still waiting for -- for our Telco to come through, but in the Town of Redding, and during consultation with both the planning -- Planning Commission and with the Selectman, there was a tradeoff in their discussion because for, I forget what the docket number was, but it's -- it's 28 Great Oak Lane. It's behind the DPW yard. It's in

full view where you can see the tower from an elementary school across the soccer field.

So they grappled with what AT&T's minimum height was requirement of 150 feet in this case versus where you could see it, that visibility. And the Town in that instance, in order to produce the lease and whatever, decided to go the 30-foot higher with 180-foot flagpole.

THE WITNESS (Libertine):

11 | Right. That's a great example.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Did you need

13 | the 180 feet as you testified?

14 THE WITNESS (Vivian): I'm

15 sorry.

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THE CHAIRPERSON: Did you need

17 | the 180 feet?

18 THE WITNESS (Vivian): Yes, we

19 | needed the 180 feet because then at that

20 point essentially have flush --

THE WITNESS (Libertine): Beca

22 | use of the flush mounts.

THE WITNESS (Vivian): --

24 | mount they're internal mounts but it's

25 essentially the same as a flush mount but

they wanted it to actually look like a
flagpole.

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DR. BELL: Well, I think
Mr. Wells and I are kind of the same
wavelength in the sense that I would like -I would genuinely like some examples. I
asked for three. And if you -- if you want
to offer that as one, that's okay. That's an
example where you -- where you got acceptance
from the town. But at any rate, I'd just
like to get an example base so that the
language, if necessary, can be adjusted. I'm
just -- if there's a problem with the
language, then we need to adjust the
language.

If there is, in every case, a historic or scenic justification, then we don't need to adjust the language and there is a justification. But one way or the other, I'm feeling there's a gap here. Something needs to be adjusted.

THE WITNESS (Vivian): Right.

It can be strengthened, and I would agree

with Mr. Wells -- this is Dave Vivian, again,

I'm sorry -- in that it's -- the carriers for

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the most part prefer not to go with that type
of a configuration because there are
limitations.

But, for instance, there's a docket that is just bringing up, it's down in New Canaan or rather Norwalk at the Armory Facility, where we were impacted there by the State Historic Preservation Officer because the historic nature of that portion of the Merritt Parkway. And so there what AT&T is proposing, and I'm sure that in this case Verizon will also intervene since they've -they've actively been pursuing the site as well, we did two flagpoles, you know, because we anticipated based on the need of both AT&T and in this case Verizon for having those multiple levels within a flagpole. But the flagpole configuration was designed almost entirely because of the -- the State Historic Preservation Office, and so what we're doing is we're proposing two, one for AT&T and one for Verizon to accommodate then the limitations on collocation.

THE WITNESS (Wells): So just to make sure the record is clear. I think,

1 | for me, I get your point. We say that we're

- 2 doing this for, you know, high visibility or
- 3 | whatever the language we put in there. I
- 4 | think that needs to be changed.
- 5 And again, from an RF
- 6 | perspective, it's not a design character,
- 7 | it's not a -- it's a pure design
- 8 | consideration, and when we don't have to, we
- 9 | will not because if you build a whole
- 10 | network, the more of those you have in your
- 11 | network, the more problems you will have in
- 12 your network.
- So, but we will -- but I get
- 14 | your point that the language does not meet up
- 15 | with what I just said, so we will go back and
- 16 get those examples, but I can almost a
- 17 | hundred percent guarantee you that each
- 18 | answer will have its own particular
- 19 considerations that, yeah, RF said don't do
- 20 | this, real estate said suck it up, you're
- 21 going to have to do this.
- DR. BELL: Okay. Moving right
- 23 | along.
- Mr. Vivian or Mr. Wells, does
- 25 the list of sites that were considered, the

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1 available sites, either one, include the
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- 2 | public safety network sites or do you know
- 3 anything about the public safety network in
- 4 | this region around here?
- 5 THE WITNESS (Vivian): Well,
- 6 | generally -- this is Dave Vivian. The --
- 7 | you're referring to the site search summary
- 8 and the sites that were considered. Is that
- 9 | correct? If there are public safety
- 10 | facilities that are available then certainly
- 11 | they're considered. I was not aware of any
- 12 | within the search area itself.
- DR. BELL: Okay.
- 14 THE WITNESS (Wells): Other
- 15 | than the -- the Town of Colebrook
- 16 | firehouse --
- 17 THE WITNESS (Vivian): Right.
- 18 THE WITNESS (Wells): -- was
- 19 | -- was looked at.
- DR. BELL: Okay.
- THE WITNESS (Vivian):
- 22 | Although that one wasn't looked at -- looked
- 23 | at by me, that was by a previous Set
- 24 Acquisition specialist because that's well
- 25 outside of the ring --

1 DR. BELL: Okay. THE WITNESS (Vivian): -- and 2 3 I would not have considered it in my search 4 in the first place. 5 DR. BELL: And you -- you have 6 since -- since the public safety people have 7 not asked to be on the site you're proposing, 8 they either -- they're operating in some 9 other way or they're on some other set of 10 sites or they're coordinating with another 11 community, but neither you nor Mr. Wells 12 knows about the plan of public safe -- the 13 public safety network in this area. Is that 14 correct? 15 THE WITNESS (Wells): I do not other -- other than, again, the one example I 16 17 mentioned is the firehouse --18 DR. BELL: Yes. 19 THE WITNESS (Wells): 20 considerably north of the search area. 2.1 DR. BELL: Okay. 22 THE WITNESS (Vivian): 23 just bear in mind that public safety operates

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efficient, certainly, than -- than what we've

at a much lower frequency so it is more

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been granted license to operate under.

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2 DR. BELL: Yes. I understand 3 I just want to integrate a little bit that.

4 of whatever knowledge you have on that point. 5 Okay. I have just one more

question, it's a question about noise to 7 Mr. Lusitani.

There are -- there are two noise calculations that you did, one was in -- I don't know if you did it, but at any rate, it was in handwriting and then there was an update to that. Is that correct? THE WITNESS (Libertine):

that's correct.

DR. BELL: Okay. So in looking and comparing those two, I can see --I can see one change that you made which was to do a different set of calculations to be more specific on distance. So I understand But the main change I noticed was a change in the tree buffer factor at the end when you finally get that in. Because in the -- in responses to the CSC Number 1, you have a five to eight decibel drop for every hundred feet of vegetation. And in Response

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    Number 2, the figure changes to three to
 2
    eight. So I assume that's a federal figure.
 3
    And I'm wondering why did that change?
 4
                    THE WITNESS (Lusitani): When
 5
    I initially researched how tree buffers
 6
    impacts noise, I found the five-to-eight
7
    drop. And -- and when I continued to
8
    research I found one on the federal highway
 9
    website, they had a more thorough discussion
10
    and it was a lower drop, I believe, three to
11
    five decibels, so I went with the more
12
    conservative three to five and updated.
13
                    DR. BELL: Okay. Thank you.
14
    I was just curious because I, you know,
15
    didn't -- didn't know whether that had
16
    dropped in the -- in the federal guidance for
17
    some reason but it was just in the
18
    research -- in doing your research. Okay.
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I think those are my

20 questions. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Hannon.

MR. HANNON: Thank you,

23 Mr. Chair.

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Some of the questions I have go back to what you had originally proposed

to the town in terms of the access to the
site, which I think was like a little over
1800 feet, and how that ties in with the
current proposal which is the 1337, I quess.

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And, I guess the reason I'm asking that is because it looks as though from a grade perspective that you may actually be able to get a road into this site in between where you originally proposed off of that existing road. And where you currently it proposed it sort of somewhere in the middle. So that you would be east of the existing proposed road. It looks like the topography would be less steep, and the big thing to me is it also gets all the construction away from Wetland Number III.

So can you please discuss that, if you've even looked at that as a possibility?

THE WITNESS (Vivian): I'm sorry. Could you -- could clarify what you're proposing again? This is Dave Vivian.

MR. HANNON: Sure. Right now you're proposing is -- what you're presenting is the access off of Smith Hill Road.

THE WITNESS (Vivian): Uh-huh.

2 MR. HANNON: Originally, when

3 | the proposal came in it was off -- I forget

4 | the name of the road off the top of my head.

THE WITNESS (Vivian):

Colebrook Road.

7 MR. HANNON: Okay. Colebrook

8 Road there.

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You said because of some of the neighbors where they were concerned about the water pipe in that area you wanted to stay away from that area. I have no problem with that.

But where you take the road off of Smith Hill and swing it to the East and it comes around up the hill, you start off with a very steep slope, I'm asking if you looked at the possibility of taking the road and swinging it to the west and coming up to the site that way so that it ends basically where you had originally proposed the location off of Colebrook Road. Because the big thing that does, for me, is it gets it away from Wetland Number III, which seems to be most viable of all the wetlands on the

1 | site.

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the other.

2 THE WITNESS (Vivian): We 3 could do it I guess. We hadn't investigated 4 it that way but it seems, at least on its --5 on its face, to be another alternative. 6 haven't -- I haven't walked that -- that 7 route, but I now understand what you're 8 saying. In other words, circling to the west, 9 and, you know, one -- circling one way versus

MR. HANNON: Yeah, and in essence, coming up where you had originally proposed accessing --

THE WITNESS (Gustafson):

15 Right. Uh-huh.

MR. HANNON: -- the compound.

And then just to follow up on that, a question that I have is: Is Wetlands Number I, as it's currently shown, is that the same as the Wetland area that was designated as C-1 through C-6 when it was originally proposed to the town? It looks like it is, but I just want to get a confirmation on that.

THE WITNESS (Gustafson): That

1 is correct. They're -- they're one in the 2 same wetland areas --

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MR. HANNON: Okay.

THE WITNESS (Gustafson): -- with just different flag designations.

And in that Wetland I we are showing the full extent of that wetland system on the subject property. Actually, the bulk of that wetland system lies on the adjoining property to the south.

with -- with respect to your early discussion on alternate access road coming off of Smith Hill Road but sweeping more to the west and then coming at a more kind of southerly approach, the proposed tower. The only -- we did not investigate that part of the property from a wetlands standpoint.

MR. HANNON: Uh-huh.

THE WITNESS (Gustafson): I
will just point out that Wetland V we are
just showing the southern limits of that
wetland system and that wetland does extend,
I can't determine how far it extends to the
north, but that wetland system does extend

1 further to the north and is more expansive as 2 you move to the north, the limits of which we 3 didn't -- it would outside, it's well outside 4 our study area to begin with, so that if we 5 do investigate that we'd have to determine 6 the full limits of Wetland V to determine if 7 that wetland system eventually drains into 8 Wetland III or if it's another isolated, you 9 know, larger wetland system.

MR. HANNON: Yeah, I'm just looking at it as possibly an alternative to stay further away from Wetland III --

THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yeah

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MR. HANNON: -- in particular.

THE WITNESS (Gustafson):

Yeah, I would just say it would require further investigation from a wetland perspective to determine if there would be additional impacts with an alternate route.

MR. HANNON: And then the last question, and I believe there was a -Mr. Vivian, I think you agreed to this about possibly even putting a condition on when work be done so that that like March 1st to

1 May 30th period dealing with any vernal pool 2 issues, that something that would be

3 accommodated so....

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THE WITNESS (Vivian): Yes.

There's no reason to have to go -- to go
through hoops for say a one and a half or two
month period, other than the marketers get,
you know, get -- getting out their little

9 trackers for a date on that.

MR. HANNON: Okay. Thank you.

11 I have no further questions.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Ashton.

MR. ASHTON: Okay. Quickly, the monopole, proposed monopole, what kind of a finish are you thinking of using on that, galvanized or?

THE WITNESS (Vivian): We typically go with a galve steel, yes, sir.

MR. ASHTON: Why not something a little different?

THE WITNESS (Vivian): Well, as an alternative, for instance, to a monopine, I've had some situations where instead what we do is go with like a flat sort of chocolate brown, so for instance,

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1
    where you can see it through in a leaf-off
 2
    condition were the only time you're going to
 3
    see it --
 4
                    MR. ASHTON: You don't have a
 5
    problem with that, though?
 6
                    THE WITNESS (Vivian):
                                            I'm
7
    sorry.
8
                    MR. ASHTON: You don't have a
 9
    problem with anything other than -- okay.
10
                    THE WITNESS (Vivian):
11
                    MR. ASHTON: The equipment
12
    shelter, what's that going to be, precast
13
    concrete?
14
                    THE WITNESS (Vivian): Yes.
15
                    MR. ASHTON:
                                Okay. The diesel
16
    storage tank, you say it was -- you're going
17
    to run your generator two to three times a
18
    week for how long?
19
                    THE WITNESS (Wells):
20
    think -- I'm sorry.
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                    MS. CHIOCCHIO: Go ahead.
                                                Go
22
    ahead.
23
                    THE WITNESS (Wells): I think
2.4
    that might be an overestimate.
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THE WITNESS (Vivian): Yes, it

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1 | is.
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THE WITNESS (Wells): In my

3 experience --

4 | THE WITNESS (Vivian): It's

5 | more like once a -- once a --

THE WITNESS (Wells): Yeah,

7 | it's either once a week or once every couple

8 weeks.

9 MR. ASHTON: Once a week.

10 Okay. How long does it run?

11 THE WITNESS (Vivian): It's

12 | around 20 to 30 minutes.

MR. ASHTON: And does it run

14 | at full load or is it run at disconnected?

15 THE WITNESS (Vivian): I'm not

16 | sure of that myself. Do you know, Tony?

17 THE WITNESS (Wells): I --

18 MR. ASHTON: I mean is it a

19 | full exercise of all the equipment including

20 | the flow over?

THE WITNESS (Wells): I'd have

22 | to check. You can run it either way. I

23 don't know --

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THE WITNESS (Vivian): Yeah.

MR. ASHTON: I think you can

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1 | but I'm trying to find out what.
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THE WITNESS (Wells): -- what

3 | the protocol is, yeah.

4 THE WITNESS (Vivian): Right.

5 THE WITNESS (Wells): I'll

6 have to --

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7 THE WITNESS (Vivian): I don't

8 know how AT&T ops determines that.9 MR. ASHTON: Okay. We never

really answered how often you get a refueling

11 up at the roadway to take care of the tank.

12 | First of all, now we correct ourself to once

13 | a week rather than two and a half times a

14 week. And then the next thing is we don't

15 know how long it runs. I think it would be

16 | nice to get an answer on that. How often do

17 | you refuel your generator? And speaking of

18 | the generator, what is your objection to

19 running a backup generator for all the

20 carriers that come on a system, on an

21 installation? I'm looking at you,

22 Mr. Vivian. I think you're the ring leader

23 here.

THE WITNESS (Vivian): I know.

25 I'm trying to hide my eyes.

MR. ASHTON: You can't hide.

THE WITNESS (Vivian): It can

- 3 be done. One of the -- one of the
- 4 | considerations is that AT&T typically says,
- 5 Listen, we need to have X amount of power.
- 6 They like to have control over it
- 7 | particularly in say remote sites like this,
- 8 | particularly where you don't have any
- 9 expressed interest near term.
- MR. ASHTON: Yeah, but we can
- 11 | help that, can't we?
- 12 THE WITNESS (Vivian): With
- 13 | any other carrier --
- MR. ASHTON: No tickie no
- 15 | shirtie.
- 16 THE WITNESS (Vivian): Then at
- 17 | that point, what the Council is asking AT&T
- 18 | in this example, but with other carriers for
- 19 | new cell tower sites --
- MR. ASHTON: Okay.
- THE WITNESS (Vivian): -- is
- 22 | to maybe overdesign ultimately.
- MR. ASHTON: I want to
- 24 emphasize what the Chairman said.
- THE WITNESS (Vivian): Uh-huh.

1 MR. ASHTON: That we're going 2 to move towards requiring this if we're not 3 already at that point. You share a structure 4 don't you? 5 THE WITNESS (Vivian): Yes. 6 MR. ASHTON: You share a 7 leased area, don't you? 8 THE WITNESS (Vivian): More or 9 less. 10 MR. ASHTON: It's a common 11 lease. 12 THE WITNESS (Vivian): Right. 13 Within -- within -- yes. 14 MR. ASHTON: Yeah. In many 15 cases -- in some cases I know you share a 16 common control house, facilities house. 17 Don't you? 18 THE WITNESS (Vivian): Yes. 19 MR. ASHTON: You share a 20 common road, don't you? You share a common

THE WITNESS (Wells): Well, not that far.

communication link too, I believe.

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MR. ASHTON: All right. But

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power supply, don't you? You share a common

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the point -- the point is, this is done
normally. And there is a reluctance, I
understand, to go to separate -- to go to a
common generator, but I don't understand it
can't be philosophical, because
philosophically you're already in bed.
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THE WITNESS (Wells): Can I -- 8 and if I might, just --

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MR. ASHTON: Sure, I'll argue it.

THE WITNESS (Wells): -- in this discussion, if I could ask you some questions, I'll further this discussion with internal folks at AT&T. But the one question that it comes to mind for me how would you -- this site, for example, I don't -- I believe we don't have anybody interested currently.

MR. ASHTON: Right. No problem.

THE WITNESS (Wells): So how would -- how would you propose you size a generator initially for -- would it be -- because you can have, as you've seen on many sites, right, it could be anywhere from only us to six carriers on there.

1 MR. ASHTON: Yeah.

THE WITNESS (Wells): So how

3 | -- how would -- how would we initially --

4 MR. ASHTON: I would -- I

5 would employ a guy named Tony Wells to come

6 up with some recommendations.

1.5

This already goes on all over
Connecticut because there are such things as
joint line agreements where in one town or
part of one town AT&T is the custodian of the
poles, in the other part of the town CL&P in
most of the state, UI in parts, are the
custodians. And they've worked out a system
where they can do this sort of thing. I
don't think it's incumbent on the Council to
do it. I think it's incumbent on the
operators to figure out a way to do it. My
god, we operate New England Power Pool with a
gazillion utilities as though it was one
entity. They've been doing it for years.

THE WITNESS (Wells): Right.

You know, and I -- yeah.

MR. ASHTON: So, you know, and I think, I have respect for your genius, and I want you to plan on this. I'm not being

flattering. I'm being practical.

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THE WITNESS (Wells): Right.

MR. ASHTON: I think there's every opportunity for you guys to get serio

every opportunity for you guys to get serious to come up with an answer to it. Okay. Let me move on because I'm going to get yelled at

7 | for running up too much time.

My understanding is that the underground utility -- or the utilities are going to come off a pole on the east side of Smith Street and go out overhead to a new pole on the west side and then go underground and up the right-of-way. Can't we guys get to agree that we're going to go underground off that east side of the road so we go underground, under the street, there's no technical reason is there you can't?

National Electric Safety Code does make provision for bare conductor, plastic conductor, or steel -- pardon me. Plastic conduit or steel conduit, different depths. And if I remember right, with steel you only have to go seven inches down. I wouldn't recommend it. I'd go deeper than that but that's -- it is not a mission

impossible. We had this interesting
conversation up in East Hartford I remember
once.

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By the way, do you top off these fuel tanks before you get -- if you hear a storm is coming in?

THE WITNESS (Vivian): That's what I -- that's been my understanding from AT&T operations.

MR. ASHTON: Okay.

THE WITNESS (Vivian): And certainly the history from I think it was whatever the -- was it Sandy? Whenever the last storm was that they certainly did -- they did a lot of coordination beforehand as far as -- as far as predeployment.

MR. ASHTON: I don't want to get into the timing of business days, but I would strongly recommend you go back and bore in with that -- that question and make sure the answer is satisfactory. AT&T or any carrier is going to look with a very green face if they have storm and they didn't top off. You know it and I know it.

Okay. Geez, my boss says no,

1 | that's it for now, and I respect my boss.

- 2 Thank you.
- THE CHAIRPERSON: We're going
- 4 | to adjourn the this portion of the hearing.
- 5 MR. LYNCH: Mr. Chairman,
- 6 | could I just get --
- 7 THE CHAIRPERSON: You only
- 8 | have one question?
- 9 MR. LYNCH: One quick
- 10 question. Very quick for Mr. Wells.
- 11 THE CHAIRPERSON: But I have
- 12 | about 20. No.
- MR. LYNCH: I've got a lot
- 14 more questions but I want to get this one on
- 15 | the record before I forget.
- Mr. Wells, we're close to the
- 17 | Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the property
- 18 line, I mean, the state lines and you
- 19 reference a couple of towers that you may
- 20 | hand off to in Massachusetts, one is seven
- 21 miles one is 11 miles away. It's behind
- 22 | Tab 1, page 8.
- 23 My question is, are there --
- 24 when we come to state lines like that, aren't
- 25 there different bands that you have to -- I

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mean, doesn't one state have one license band and the other state have the other. Is that a problem here?

THE WITNESS (Wells): It's -it's a -- it is a problem at -- at the 800
megahertz frequency band. We're operating
also at 1900 down to 700 and up in AEWS we
have those spectrums. Those are okay.

There is a challenge, let's say, at 800 megahertz because you do have a separate frequency block. And now in a typical handoff scenario, to be quick for the Chairman, in a typical handoff scenario, you're on this channel and you're also monitoring other cells on that same channel or frequency band usually the same channel now, the problem is now if you have another, you're operating over in that other band, now you're not monitoring that and seeing and comparing what you're on every 80 milliseconds. It's actually that fast. So what you have to do is -- is say, well, pretty close. I think I'm good. Go. And you hope for the best.

It's -- it actually works

1 better than I just articulated and because I, 2 you know, I drive between Connecticut and 3 Mass. a lot, and it works better but it's not 4 the -- the elegant every 80 millisecond 5 comparison and cool algorithm that engineers 6 like, that's sometimes referred as a Hail 7 Mary. But it actually does work, again, much 8 better than I just described. 9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Wе 10 really, we're going to have to break. 11 we're going to resume at seven p.m. for the 12

public portion of the hearing.

(Whereupon, the witnesses were excused, and the above proceedings were

15 adjourned at 5:00 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

2	I hereby certify that the foregoing 109
3	pages are a complete and accurate
4	transcription of a digital sound recording
5	taken of the Public Hearing in Re: DOCKET
6	NO. 440, APPLICATION OF NEW CINGULAR
7	WIRELESS, PCS, LLC, FOR A CERTIFICATE OF
8	ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED F
9	FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND
10	OPERATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES
11	LOCATED AT 522 COLEBROOK ROAD, COLEBROOK,
12	CONNECTICUT, which was held before ROBIN
13	STEIN, Chairperson, at the Town Hall, Second
14	Floor Meeting Room, 562 Colebrook Road,
15	Colebrook, Connecticut, on October 24, 2013.
16	
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1		I N D E X	
2	WITNESSES	PAUL LUSITANI	
3		MICHAEL LIBERTINE	
4		ANTHONY WELLS	
5		DEAN GUSTAFSON	
6		DAVID VIVIAN Page 7	
7	EXAM	INATION	
8		Mr. Perrone Page 10	
9			
10		EXHIBITS	
11		(Admitted in Evidence.)	
12	EXHIBIT	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
13	II-B-1	Application for a Certificate	11
14		of Environmental Compatibility	and
15		Public Need field by New Cingul	lar
16		Wireless, PCS, LLC, received	
17		August 14, 2013, and attachment	S
18		and bulk filing including:	
19			
20	B-1(a)	Colebrook Plan of Conservation	11
21		and Development, effective 9/1,	05
22			
23	B-1(b)	Colebrook Zoning Regulations,	11
24		Amended June 16, 2011	
25			
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1		I N D E X (Cont'd.)	
2	EXHIBIT	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
3	B-1(c)	Colebrook Zoning Map	11
4			
5	B-1(d)	Colebrook Inland Wetland &	11
6		Watercourse Regulations,	
7		Revised June 11, 1990	
8			
9	B-1(e)	Technical Report	11
10			
11	II-B-2	Affidavit of Publication,	11
12		dated August 21, 2013	
13			
14	II-B-3	Applicant's responses to	11
15		Council Interrogatories,	
16		Set I, dated October 3, 2013	
17			
18	II-B-4	Applicant's responses to	11
19		Council Interrogatories,	
20		Set II, dated October 17, 201	3
21			
22	II-B-5	Applicant's Pre-filed	11
23		Statement of Facts in Lieu of	
24		Direct Testimony dated	
25		October 17, 2013	
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1	EXHIBIT	I N D E X (Cont'd.) DESCRIPTION	
2		Affidavit of Sign Posting,	PAGE 11
3		Received October 18, 2013	
4			
5	II-B-7	Witness' resumes, received	11
6		October 18, 2013	
7			
8	B-7(a)	Michael E. Libertine, LEP,	11
9		Director of Siting and	
10		Permitting, All-Points Technolo	oax
11		Corporation, P.C.	
12			
13	B-7(b)	Dean Gustafson, Senior	11
14		Wetlands Scientist, All-Points	
15		Technology Corporation	
16			
17	B-7(c)	Paul Lusitani, P.E., Project	11
18		Engineer, CHA	
19			
20	B-7(d)	David Vivian, Site	11
21		Acquisition Specialist, Site	
22		Acquisitions, Inc.,	
23			
24	B-7(e)	Anthony Wells, Managing	11
25		Partner C Squared Systems	
		IINITED DEDODTEDO INO	
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