

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Docket No. 446

Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
Application for a Certificate of
Environmental Compatibility and Public Need
for the Construction, Maintenance, and
Operation of a Telecommunications Facility
Located at the Pilot Corporation of America
property, 60 Commerce Drive, Trumbull,
Connecticut.

Council Meeting held at the Trumbull Town
Hall, Council Chambers, 5866 Main Street,
Trumbull, Connecticut, Thursday, April 29,
2014, beginning at 3:00 p.m.

H e l d B e f o r e:

ROBERT STEIN, Chairperson

1 A p p e a r a n c e s:

2 Siting Council Members:

3 JAMES J. MURPHY, JR.,

4 Vice Chairperson

5 PHILIP T. ASHTON

6 DR. BARBARA C. BELL

7 ROBERT HANNON, DEEP Designee

8 COMMISSIONER MICHAEL A. CARON, PURA

9 DANIEL P. LYNCH, JR.

10 EILEEN M. DAILY

11

12 Council Staff:

13 MELANIE BACHMAN, ESQ.,

14 Acting Executive Director, Staff

15 Attorney

16 ROBERT MERCIER

17 Siting Analyst

18

19 For Homeland Towers and New Cingular

20 Wireless, PCS, LLC:

21 ROBINSON & COLE, LLP

22 280 Trumbull Street

23 Hartford, Connecticut 06103

24 By: KENNETH C. BALDWIN, ESQ.

25

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: Good
2 afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. The meeting
3 of the Connecticut Siting Council is called
4 to order this Tuesday, April 29, 2014, at 3
5 p.m. My name is Robin Stein. I'm chairman
6 of the Siting Council.

7 Other members of the Council
8 present are Senator Murphy, our vice
9 chairman; Mr. Hannon, who is designee from
10 the Department of Energy and Environmental
11 Protection; Mr. Ashton; Dr. Bell; and
12 Mr. Lynch.

13 And members of the staff,
14 Attorney Bachman, our executive director; and
15 Robert Mercier, our siting analyst.

16 This hearing is held pursuant
17 to the provisions of Title 16 of the
18 Connecticut General Statutes, and of the
19 Uniform Administrative Procedure Act upon an
20 application from Cellco Partnership, d/b/a
21 Verizon Wireless for a Certificate of
22 Environmental Compatibility and Public Need
23 for the Construction, Maintenance and
24 Operation of a Telecommunications Facility
25 Located at the Pilot Corporation of America

1 property at 60 Commerce Drive, Trumbull,
2 Connecticut. The application was received by
3 the Council on February 26, 2014.

4 As a reminder to all,
5 off-the-record communication with a member of
6 the Council or a member of the staff upon the
7 merits of this application is prohibited by
8 law.

9 The Applicant to this
10 proceeding is Cellco partnership, d/b/a
11 Verizon wireless and Attorney Baldwin of
12 Robinson & Cole, their representative.

13 We will proceed in accordance
14 with the prepared agenda, copies of which are
15 available here. Also available are the
16 copies of the Council Citizen Guide to Siting
17 Council Procedures. At the end of this
18 afternoon's session, we will recess and
19 resume again at 7 p.m.

20 And a verbatim transcript will
21 be made of this hearing and deposited with
22 the town clerk's offices in Trumbull and
23 Stratford for the convenience of the public.
24 And I don't believe we have any public
25 official. Unless the gentleman sitting in

1 the back wants to? No?

2 Okay. And we don't have any
3 motions. Right? No.

4 Okay. I wish to call your
5 attention to those items shown on the hearing
6 program marked as Roman numeral I-D, items 1
7 through 54. Does the Applicant have any
8 objection to the items that the Council has
9 administratively noticed?

10 MR. BALDWIN: No,
11 Mr. Chairman.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.
13 Accordingly, the Council hereby
14 administratively notices these existing
15 documents, statements and comments.

16 Will the Applicant present
17 your witness panel for the purposes of taking
18 the oath, and the Council's staff attorney
19 executive director will administer the oath.

20 MR. BALDWIN: Thank you,
21 Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon. Kevin Baldwin
22 with Robinson & Cole on behalf of the
23 Applicant, Cellco Partnership, doing business
24 as Verizon Wireless.

25 We have a witness panel for

1 you to question this afternoon which includes
2 Sandy Carter, Regulatory Manager with Verizon
3 Wireless; Mr. Ryan Ulanday, a radio frequency
4 engineer with Verizon Wireless; Carlos
5 Centore, a professional engineer with Centek
6 Engineering, the project engineers for this
7 site; Mr. Mike Libertine, an LEP and the
8 Director of Siting and Permitting for
9 All-Points Technology Corporation; and Dean
10 Gustafson, the Senior Wetlands Scientist and
11 Professional Soil Scientist, also with
12 All-Points Technology Corporation.

13 And I would offer them to be
14 sworn at this time.

15 M I C H A E L L I B E R T I N E,
16 D E A N G U S T A F S O N,
17 S A N D Y M. C A R T E R,
18 R Y A N U L A N D A Y,
19 C A R L O S F. C E N T O R E,

20 called as witnesses, being first duly
21 sworn by Ms. Bachman were examined and
22 testified on their oaths as follows:

23 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Chairman, we
24 have five hearing exhibits listed in the
25 hearing program. And we actually have a

1 modification to one of those and an
2 additional exhibit to offer.

3 First, Exhibit 1D, the
4 Trumbull Plan of Conservation and Development
5 was just recently updated, and a March 2014
6 edition was issued to essentially update the
7 October 10, 2006, edition. Copies of that
8 technical report -- I'm sorry, of that
9 conservation and development plan have been
10 submitted.

11 I would point out for the
12 Council's benefit that, unlike its
13 predecessor, there is one small reference
14 that I discovered on page 94 of that document
15 to, under the utility section, related to
16 cell phone coverage in town. And it talks
17 about coverage lacking in the town center
18 area and that the Town would be working
19 actively with the providers to identify
20 appropriate ways to deal with gaps in
21 service. And that's, again, on page 94 of
22 the March 2014 plan of conservation and
23 development.

24 The additional exhibit, which
25 I would ask to be identified as Exhibit 6, is

1 a portion of the Town Assessor's map which we
2 have submitted copies to the Council. This
3 was taken from the town's GIS system. There
4 was a question that came up yesterday
5 regarding how some of the abutting properties
6 to the north, in particular, connected.

7 And I think this map
8 demonstrates how the Bowen property, which is
9 identified on that map as Parcel 2975, and
10 the consumer products parcel, which is shown
11 as Parcel Number 45, connects again to the
12 north of the subject site. And we would ask
13 that that be labeled as Applicant's
14 Exhibit 6.

15 With that, Mr. Chairman, I
16 would like to verify these exhibits.

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

18 Is there any objection?

19 Hearing none.

20 MR. BALDWIN: If we could ask
21 our witness panel to answer the following
22 questions. Did you prepare and assist in the
23 preparation, and are you familiar with the
24 exhibits listed in the hearing program under
25 Roman II, Subsection B, items 1 through 5 as

1 amended, and items 6?

2 Mr. Gustafson?

3 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.

4 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Libertine?

5 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes.

6 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Ulanday?

7 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Yes, I

8 did.

9 MR. BALDWIN: Mrs. Carter?

10 THE WITNESS (Carter): Yes, I

11 did.

12 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Centore?

13 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes, I

14 did.

15 MR. BALDWIN: And do you have
16 any corrections or modifications to offer to
17 any of those exhibits at this time?

18 Mr. Gustafson?

19 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): No.

20 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Libertine?

21 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I do
22 have one correction I'd like to make behind
23 nine -- Tab 9 in the visibility report. On
24 page 3, the -- the paragraph above and
25 infield activities, the second last sentence

1 states that, numerous trail systems are
2 located within the study area. That's an
3 incorrect statement and should be struck.
4 Although there are some footpaths associated
5 with some of the parks, in the study area
6 there are no formal trail systems.

7 And with that that's the lone
8 modification I have.

9 MR. BALDWIN: Thank you.

10 Mr. Ulanday?

11 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): No, I
12 don't have any corrections.

13 MR. BALDWIN: Mrs. Carter?

14 THE WITNESS (Carter): No, I
15 do not.

16 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Centore?

17 THE WITNESS (Centore): No, I
18 do not.

19 MR. BALDWIN: And with the

20 corrections noted, is the information
21 contained in those exhibits true and accurate
22 to the best of your knowledge?

23 Mr. Gustafson?

24 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.

25 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Libertine?

1 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes,
2 they are.

3 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Ulanday?

4 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Yes.

5 MR. BALDWIN: Mrs. Carter?

6 THE WITNESS (Carter): Yes.

7 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Centore?

8 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes.

9 MR. BALDWIN: And do you adopt
10 the information in those exhibits as your
11 testimony today?

12 Mr. Gustafson?

13 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes,
14 I do.

15 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Libertine?

16 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes.

17 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Ulanday?

18 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Yes.

19 MR. BALDWIN: Mrs. Carter?

20 THE WITNESS (Carter): Yes.

21 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Centore?

22 THE WITNESS (Centore): I do.

23 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Chairman, I
24 offer them as full exhibits.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

1 Since there's really no party
2 intervenor, I will state that the exhibits
3 are admitted as requested.

4 (Exhibits II-B-1 through
5 II-B-5: Admitted in evidence - described in
6 index.)

7 And we'll now begin with
8 cross-examination of the Applicant by Mr.
9 Mercier.

10 MR. MERCIER: Thank you.

11 I'll just begin with a few of
12 the things we talked about at the field
13 review today. As for the site, why was the
14 rear of the building selected as a location
15 for the tower rather than the grassy area
16 adjacent to the parking lot?

17 THE WITNESS (Centore): Carlos
18 Centore with Centek Engineering.

19 At our initial site visit,
20 the -- not the property owner -- the property
21 is on the market, but the property manager
22 indicated that they wanted to keep the
23 building and site tucked in behind the
24 existing building to leave the other area
25 available, should any potential buyers want

1 to use that area in the future.

2 MR. MERCIER: Do you have the
3 approximate height of the building at the
4 rear?

5 THE WITNESS (Centore): It's
6 going to vary because of the changing grade,
7 but it averages between 22 feet and 26 feet.

8 MR. MERCIER: Do you know the
9 approximate height of the berm where it rises
10 up and turns into woodland?

11 THE WITNESS (Centore): Based
12 on the topography of our C drawings, it's
13 about 18 feet, but I can't confirm if that,
14 that top grade elevation of 186 feet is the
15 top of the berm or not. So I'm going to say
16 a range between 18 and 22 feet in height.

17 MR. MERCIER: Now, to fit the
18 site back there, I understand you have to
19 build a retaining wall. Do you know the
20 approximate height of the retaining wall? If
21 it varies, give me a low to high. Or --

22 THE WITNESS (Centore):
23 It's -- the top of the wall
24 from finished grade on the compound is
25 approximately 7 feet.

1 MR. MERCIER: And the compound
2 will be fenced?

3 THE WITNESS (Centore): The
4 compound will be fenced.

5 MR. MERCIER: Is there a fence
6 on top of the retaining wall, or is it along
7 the base?

8 THE WITNESS (Centore):
9 There's a fence along the base
10 that ties into the retaining wall, but
11 there's no -- there's no fence -- there no
12 fence on top. Something -- something to be
13 considered, though, looking at the site.

14 MR. MERCIER: Okay. So
15 potentially, for safety's sake, if someone
16 is walking around the back, Verizon could
17 look into installing a fence?

18 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yeah,
19 we will. We will make sure to add a fence
20 along the top of that wall in our D and M
21 plans. There is a safety concern.

22 MR. MERCIER: And, at the top
23 of the berm, there's the woodland on up top
24 of the hillside there above the site. Do you
25 know the approximate height of those trees?

1 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):
2 After our site walk, I did go up there and
3 confirm some of the tree heights with the use
4 of a clinometer and measured trees ranging
5 from 80 to 100 feet in height. So it's about
6 an average of about 90 feet in height.

7 So, compared to the elevation
8 of the tower, the trees have an effective
9 height of approximately 110 feet.

10 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I
11 would point to Photo Simulation Number 1 in
12 Tab 9. It gives you a pretty good idea of
13 standing, essentially, at grade as you're
14 driving into the property, and it gives you
15 kind of that -- essentially confirms what Mr.
16 Gustafson had measured in the field and just
17 stated. It gives a pretty good perspective.

18 MR. MERCIER: Also, looking at
19 that photo, I see there's locations for two
20 platforms. Is that the current capacity
21 design for the tower?

22 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I
23 don't believe so, but I'll -- I think we did
24 that as just an example.

25 THE WITNESS (Centore): The

1 current site as presented is -- is showing
2 two carriers, and provisions will be made for
3 a 20-foot extension.

4 MR. MERCIER: Have you heard
5 any inquiries from other carriers regarding
6 this location up to date?

7 THE WITNESS (Carter): We --
8 we have received notice that neither AT&T nor
9 T-Mobile are interested in this site, so we
10 did contact them, but there is no interest.

11 MR. MERCIER: And was there
12 any -- I'm not sure if you contacted the Town
13 regarding emergency services antennas or any
14 of the municipal service antennas, if they
15 were interested?

16 THE WITNESS (Carter): In our
17 discussion with the Town during the tech
18 report process, we did make that offer to
19 them, but we have not heard back from them at
20 all. But the offer stands.

21 MR. MERCIER: Now, looking
22 through the materials, I understand a box
23 turtle awareness program will be implemented,
24 I believe, at the request of the DEEP. Is
25 that correct?

1 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):

2 That's correct. And we've submitted details
3 of that plan to DEEP for their review.

4 MR. MERCIER: Do you know if
5 they had any historic records in the woodland
6 behind the site, or is that just a general
7 vicinity where box turtles were recorded?

8 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): We
9 were not provided specific information
10 regarding the occurrence of Eastern Box
11 Turtle in the area, but based on a review of
12 the mapping, it appears that it's in the
13 vicinity and not -- may not be necessarily
14 associated with the woodlands directly
15 abutting the site. But that potential
16 certainly exists, and our protection plan
17 accounts for that potential existence.

18 MR. MERCIER: Is that woodland
19 area, is that suitable habitat for the
20 turtle, box turtle?

21 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): It
22 does provide some -- some habitat. It is
23 fairly highly fragmented, observing the
24 surrounding corporate office park as well as
25 the residential development, but it does --

1 they do have a fairly small home range so
2 there is a potential that a couple of
3 individuals could be associated with that
4 woodland block and that stream system to the
5 north.

6 MR. MERCIER: Just out of
7 curiosity, do they use grassy areas
8 frequently if they're in their home range?

9 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):
10 They're -- for the most part Eastern Box
11 Turtles are habitat generalists. They'll
12 utilize a variety of habitats and will move
13 from -- from the woodland to those grassy
14 areas as well as to the stream system.

15 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Thank
16 you.

17 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):
18 You're welcome.

19 MR. MERCIER: Now, reading
20 through the application, I understand the
21 site that's presented here is to relieve
22 capacity from adjacent sites, adjacent
23 existing sites. I'm trying to determine what
24 kind of information Verizon uses to determine
25 that an additional site is needed for

1 capacity relief.

2 Is it different than, you
3 know, the old style where, you know, they had
4 gaps in coverage and there's dropped calls
5 and things of that nature? Or is there other
6 types of information utilized?

7 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): You're
8 right. This site is purely a capacity site,
9 and we have an historical collection of
10 info -- information and data showing that the
11 neighbor -- neighboring sectors are currently
12 hitting our threshold for us to add capacity
13 in that area.

14 MR. MERCIER: So when you say
15 "a threshold," they're fully utilized for a
16 certain period of time or almost that?

17 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Not
18 actually. We take it to a point that we
19 still have time to react and to add
20 additional capacity. So right now it's not
21 fully in full capacity, so we just have that
22 threshold that we maintain for us to have
23 enough time to react.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Lynch, I
25 think, had a follow-up question.

1 MR. LYNCH: Excuse me. If
2 this is a capacity site, what other sites in
3 the surrounding area have reached their
4 capacity so you need to hand off here?

5 THE WITNESS (Ulanday):
6 Actually, not off the proposed tower. We
7 have the, what we call the Shelton site -- in
8 Trumbull East. I'm sorry about that. It's
9 the Trumbull East site. It's on the water
10 tank three quarters of a mile north of our
11 proposed tower. And all those sectors are
12 hitting our threshold for exhaustion.

13 And then we have another site
14 south of our proposed tower which is
15 approximately half a mile. It's on the --
16 it's on the Marriott Building. And I believe
17 just one sector of it -- the Marriott
18 Hotel -- and the sector pointing to the
19 corporate park is actually exhausting on that
20 site.

21 And we have another site
22 east -- a mile east of our proposed tower,
23 which is what we call the Stratford North.
24 It's on the monopole, and all sectors on that
25 site as well is exhausting.

1 MR. LYNCH: So are the sites
2 you just mentioned, only one is a tower? The
3 other facilities are all on structures?

4 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): That's
5 correct.

6 MR. LYNCH: Thank you.

7 MR. MERCIER: With this site
8 that you're proposing here today, would that
9 replace any of the sites that you just
10 mentioned, or they'll just work all together?

11 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): They
12 will work, work all together.

13 MR. MERCIER: Now, in regards
14 to the visibility, in the response to
15 interrogatories, I understand there's eight
16 residential properties that could have
17 year-round views of the facility once
18 constructed. Are any of those of abutting
19 properties?

20 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes.
21 The -- there's a handful along Huntington
22 Road, which abuts to the east. Those are
23 properties -- you can see a few of the homes
24 through the trees.

25 So, again, Huntington Road

1 there are a couple. And then there may be a
2 few along Twin Circle Drive, which is further
3 to the north. Our -- the property, the host
4 property extends another 200 feet, and then
5 there's another small property, a narrow
6 property in between that and the backyards of
7 the homes there.

8 It's very -- it was very
9 difficult at all times of the year to try to
10 get a handle on whether or not there was that
11 much visibility on a year-round basis,
12 because a lot of the homes along Huntington,
13 in particular, we really could not see the
14 balloon from the roadway. But it's clear
15 because of the proximity -- we're only
16 talking a couple hundred feet -- I think, you
17 know, through the trees you're probably going
18 to see some portion of the tower.

19 The only thing I would perhaps
20 say that might be helpful is there are --
21 Photo Number 2 was taken from Twin Circle
22 Drive -- actually 2, 3 and 4 -- and it gives
23 you a pretty good idea of the density of that
24 woodland. That's also elevated above the
25 site, so if they were to see it through the

1 trees, we're talking about the upper portion
2 of the tower.

3 And then a little bit further
4 into the report when we get into Photos 7, 8,
5 and 9 and we tried to give an idea of as you
6 drive down Huntington what you're going to
7 see, and I think we were pretty probably
8 conservative in calling a lot of these
9 year-round views. But I would stand with
10 that and say, yeah, you know, there's going
11 to be some.

12 None -- none of them are
13 unobstructed, and none of them have the
14 balloon or the tower, in this case, above the
15 tree line. So all of them will have some
16 kind of a buffer even on a year-round basis,
17 but those were the homes that were the -- the
18 residences that were most affected were
19 really the ones that are abutting the
20 property.

21 MR. MERCIER: Okay. So the
22 eight that were noted in the interrogatories,
23 that includes Twin Circle and Huntington?

24 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):
25 Correct.

1 MR. MERCIER: No other
2 streets?

3 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
4 Well, I didn't include it in this count,
5 although in the report I noticed, when I was
6 cross-referencing, I do have one other photo
7 from a site that is to the west of, actually
8 the Merritt Parkway. And that's on
9 St. John's drive -- I'm sorry, Route 8.
10 Thank you.

11 That's Route 8, and then
12 there's Merritt Boulevard that we came down
13 to access Commerce Drive.

14 Photo 5, you can see that
15 through the trees. I called it a year-round
16 view. There are real -- no residences as you
17 move to the right in this photo, but I -- so
18 I didn't include any in those. So again,
19 it's really the two roads that kind of
20 surround our site are where you're going to
21 get the majority of year-round views.

22 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Thank
23 you.

24 Just back to the tree heights
25 again and also the height of the tower. I

1 think the tower is about 3 feet shorter than
2 the top of the trees. I believe that was the
3 testimony earlier?

4 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
5 Effective tree height, yes.

6 MR. MERCIER: So how does that
7 affect coverage? What's your orientation of
8 the site? And would the trees affect any
9 type of coverage?

10 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): The
11 trees are actually to the north of the site
12 and we need the added capacity towards the
13 south, towards the corporate park, towards
14 the buildings around the corporate park.

15 And we -- we also need to
16 enhance vehicular traffic along Route 8 and
17 route -- Route 15. So we really don't need
18 that much coverage towards the north. So
19 that tree line actually helps us limit our --
20 the extent of our coverage towards the north.

21 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Thank
22 you.

23 And finally, could you just
24 describe the balloon fly that occurred during
25 the field review today?

1 THE WITNESS (Libertine):

2 Well, unfortunately, we had a pretty breezy
3 day. We were at the site at 7:30 this
4 morning, and there have been attempts
5 throughout the -- the morning and early
6 afternoon. We've lost -- as of the site walk
7 at two o'clock, we were -- well, by the time
8 we left that was the seventh balloon that was
9 put up, so we did lose quite a few.

10 It's been -- it's been
11 difficult. As you can see, unfortunately
12 the -- the winds as they're blowing around at
13 ground level it doesn't feel like there's all
14 that strong a breeze, but once you get up
15 into the tree line, the problem is -- to keep
16 it aloft has been very difficult just because
17 we've got the trees so close to the site
18 itself. So it's not been a real successful
19 day in terms of balloon flying. We are going
20 to continue to keep balloons up until six
21 o'clock, which is the prescribed time by the
22 Council.

23 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Thank
24 you. No further questions.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

1 Senator Murphy?

2 SENATOR MURPHY: Thank you,
3 Mr. Chairman.

4 Just a few things.

5 Mr. Libertine, how high would this tower have
6 to be in order to be viewed from the Merritt
7 Parkway?

8 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I'm
9 going to estimate here, but I think you'd
10 probably have to get it another 30 feet or
11 more before you start to see it on the
12 Merritt.

13 SENATOR MURPHY: So in your
14 opinion, if it went up to 20 feet -- which
15 would effectively be 103, under the Wolinski
16 Rule, in your opinion, it would not be
17 visible from the Merritt Parkway?

18 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
19 Correct.

20 SENATOR MURPHY: Okay. If it
21 were to go up the 20, assuming the antennas
22 protrude again on the top as they will on the
23 80 feet, what will that do to the surrounding
24 visibility that you analyzed and gave us a
25 report for this application?

1 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I
2 think, essentially, an effective 20-foot
3 swing or less is probably not going to
4 significantly alter the view shed or even
5 really the characteristics. I think if you
6 get above that, now you start to eclipse that
7 tree line. North and east are really the
8 major visual receptors. The corporate park
9 is going to see it from some of the locations
10 within the corporate park itself.

11 SENATOR MURPHY: They may just
12 see a little bit more?

13 THE WITNESS (Libertine): They
14 may see little bit more, but I think that
15 20-foot -- I'll use that 20-foot kind of rule
16 of thumb in this location where it's not
17 going to have a great affect on it again if
18 we start going above that. I think now
19 you're starting to probably have some views
20 above the trees from some of the neighboring
21 properties and even across the roads
22 themselves. They would -- it would open up
23 above 20 feet.

24 SENATOR MURPHY: Thank you.

25 THE WITNESS (Libertine):

1 You're welcome.

2 SENATOR MURPHY: Mr. Ulanday,
3 on capacity, I heard the questions from Mr.
4 Mercier. And one of the things as a member
5 of the Council, there's supposed to be an
6 indication from the evidence that there's a
7 need for this tower, and we get propagations
8 and it's a capacity thing. So really it's
9 coverage on coverage.

10 How do you convince me that
11 what you've got there ain't working, or very
12 soon is not going to be working well?

13 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Well,
14 that's --

15 SENATOR MURPHY: The
16 application does spell out that the near
17 capacity of two of the three towers is almost
18 there, less so on Trumbull East. So somehow
19 you're able to discern this. So explain to
20 me how you go about this, and convince me
21 that you're really going to put this up
22 because we're going to be joking ourselves in
23 a little while. Go ahead.

24 THE WITNESS (Ulanday):
25 Actually, we have historical

1 data that shows all our existing sites within
2 the area are exhausting. And we know right
3 now that -- that we -- we are seeing
4 astronomical pickup and use of the new 4G LTE
5 smartphones and, with that, the use of our 4G
6 LTE resources. So that's why --

7 SENATOR MURPHY: So what
8 increase in capacity, ballpark, have you had
9 in the last 12 months have you had that, or
10 calendar year, or whatever it is, on Trumbull
11 North, East, and Trumbull Two, if you know?

12 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Yeah.
13 We're seeing a lot of use in data,
14 specifically down -- download data from our
15 subscribers.

16 SENATOR MURPHY: Okay. And
17 what percentage of an increase can you give
18 to us?

19 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): I
20 don't have the exact number, but we have a
21 threshold that we use in Verizon Wireless.
22 Any time we hit that threshold --

23 SENATOR MURPHY: When? When
24 do you estimate that you reach your threshold
25 on Trumbull 2?

1 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): On
2 Trumbull 2, we do them -- based on our
3 historical data, we do a two-year projection,
4 and I believe Trumbull 2 is -- is within that
5 two-years.

6 SENATOR MURPHY: Within the
7 two years?

8 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Yeah.

9 SENATOR MURPHY: Okay. What
10 about Trumbull North?

11 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): All
12 those three sites are actually within two
13 years.

14 SENATOR MURPHY: They're all
15 within two years?

16 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Yeah.

17 SENATOR MURPHY: Why is it
18 then that you indicated that in the
19 application that it's not such an immediate
20 need for Trumbull East as it is for the other
21 two, as I read it, that the nearing of the
22 capacity was not so bad as to Trumbull East
23 in reading it?

24 But in any event, you're
25 envisioning that within the next two years

1 there would be a spillover capacity of each
2 one of those three current towers that you're
3 using in this area?

4 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): That's
5 correct. That's right.

6 SENATOR MURPHY: And when was
7 this study done, this two-year study?

8 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): It was
9 done actually almost a year ago, so we're on
10 the first year right now.

11 SENATOR MURPHY: Do you know
12 of any reason that it's changed in the last
13 year?

14 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Say
15 that again?

16 SENATOR MURPHY: Do you know
17 of any reason why you would think that the
18 results of that study have changed?

19 THE WITNESS (Ulanday):
20 Actually, if it would have changed, it would
21 have been just more on the drastic side,
22 because we're seeing a lot --

23 SENATOR MURPHY: So it may be
24 that the capacity might be reached on maybe
25 two of them is less than a year?

1 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): That's
2 true.

3 SENATOR MURPHY: It could be?
4 Okay.

5 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): It
6 could be.

7 SENATOR MURPHY: I have no
8 other questions, Mr. Chairman.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.
10 Mr. Ashton?

11 MR. ASHTON: Thank you. In
12 that same regard you mentioned that there was
13 a volume of calls coming out of the Commerce
14 Park area along Route 8. How do you pin down
15 the source of the call, the geographic
16 location of that call? How do you know
17 Commerce Park versus a car on Route 8 right
18 in back of them?

19 THE WITNESS (Ulanday):
20 Actually, we have software that we use, a
21 program which takes a snapshot of our network
22 in a certain -- in a specific time. And when
23 I say, a snapshot, it takes -- on that
24 specific time, it takes all the subscribers
25 in that cell site, all subscribers that are

1 making a voice call, texting, doing
2 downloadings or just idle.

3 And together with that
4 information there is what we call, like, a
5 timing advance where -- where the -- where
6 the handset sends out how just -- what are we
7 to call this? It sends out how high is the
8 signal that is receiving from the -- from the
9 cell site. And with that signal the -- the
10 cell site then estimates how far it is, how
11 far the handset is from the cell site.

12 And, actually, we can gather
13 all that data and plot it on a map. We call
14 it a traffic map. So right now with this
15 proposed site we're seeing all that traffic
16 concentrated on the corporate park.

17 MR. ASHTON: Having done a
18 little long-range planning in the past, what
19 is your planning horizon? How far out do you
20 go?

21 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Like I
22 said earlier, we do two years.

23 MR. ASHTON: That's all?

24 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): But it
25 depends actually, because we're continually

1 rolling out new -- new services. So before
2 we roll out new services, we kind of see and
3 make sure that all our cell sites are capable
4 of serving all our subscribers.

5 MR. ASHTON: If, for the sake
6 of argument, all the phones in this
7 geographical area are on the AT&T system --

8 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Uh-huh.

9 SENATOR MURPHY: -- and if
10 AT&T decided in its infinite wisdom that it
11 was going to abandon all hardwire phones, and
12 the public is making a big dent in that right
13 now, what would that do to traffic on your
14 cell phones?

15 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): It
16 would definitely add a lot of traffic.

17 MR. ASHTON: Quantify that.
18 Can you?

19 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): I'm
20 not sure what -- because I'm not sure what
21 you're getting at.

22 MR. ASHTON: Okay. Well, let
23 me be more specific. If I remember the
24 numbers right, and it changes by the month,
25 there's about 35 percent of all the wired

1 landlines have been abandoned.

2 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Uh-huh.

3 MR. ASHTON: Okay?

4 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Uh-huh.

5 MR. ASHTON: Let's suppose a
6 hundred percent gets abandoned over the next
7 12 months. What would that mean in terms of
8 impact on the volume of calls Verizon is
9 likely to see on its cell facilities?

10 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Well,
11 for example these, cell -- cell sites are --
12 have a finite capacity. So --

13 MR. ASHTON: Well, I know, but
14 you find ways of you put on more antennas per
15 sector, or you put up more antennas period.
16 You find a way to skin the cat.

17 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Yeah,
18 probably we -- we'll be buying more
19 frequencies if we see the need.

20 MR. ASHTON: All right. But
21 would you be able to handle those that you
22 simply load those additional frequencies on
23 to a given cell site such as this one and
24 that would handle the volume?

25 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): I can

1 only speak for Verizon wireless, but yes.

2 MR. ASHTON: I understand, but
3 you're a smart RF engineer. You've got to be
4 looking over your shoulder at what's
5 happening to AT&T and all the rest of the
6 world, too?

7 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Yeah,
8 I think we have enough resources to handle
9 all that.

10 MR. ASHTON: Ignoring the
11 ownership of facilities, in other words,
12 lumping AT&T and Verizon, and so forth,
13 wireless together, if AT&T abandoned its
14 hardwired system what would that do to the
15 aggregate volume of all carriers in the cell
16 system?

17 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): We
18 will definitely see a large volume of
19 traffic.

20 MR. ASHTON: Okay. What are
21 we talking about, though? Your large volume
22 and my large volume might be worlds apart.
23 Are we talking a doubling of traffic? Are we
24 talking a 10 percent increase in traffic?

25 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): I

1 don't have the exact number right now.

2 MR. ASHTON: But use your
3 judgment.

4 THE WITNESS (Ulanday):
5 Definitely, it's was more than double the
6 traffic.

7 MR. ASHTON: It would be more
8 than doubling?

9 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Yeah.

10 MR. ASHTON: Okay. That's
11 helpful. The backup generation proposed for
12 this site is diesel. Is that correct?

13 Mr. Centore, I guess that's your --

14 THE WITNESS (Centore): That's
15 me.

16 MR. ASHTON: -- your wigwam
17 I'm getting into?

18 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes,
19 it is.

20 MR. ASHTON: Is there any
21 natural gas available on the site? Do you
22 know?

23 THE WITNESS (Centore): There
24 is. There is natural gas on the site. The
25 gas at the street is 2 psi. It's low, but

1 we'd have to put a booster -- booster pump
2 in.

3 MR. ASHTON: Two pounds per
4 square inch gauge pressure?

5 THE WITNESS (Centore): Two
6 per square foot.

7 MR. ASHTON: I'm sorry.

8 THE WITNESS (Centore): Two
9 psi, yes.

10 MR. ASHTON: That's a gauge
11 pressure?

12 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes,
13 gauge pressure.

14 MR. ASHTON: And that's not
15 adequate for a diesel?

16 THE WITNESS (Centore): Not to
17 power up, not to get the initial start up on
18 the diesel.

19 MR. ASHTON: Oh, I didn't know
20 that. Okay. Thank you. I learned something
21 new to me.

22 I have to be careful that I
23 don't get accused of promoting natural gas.
24 This is not Yankee territory, for whatever
25 comfort that is. In discussions with state

1 staff, and I'm going to leave it very vague,
2 they are very uneasy about the proliferation
3 of diesel equipment from an air-pollution
4 standard area. Whether that's valid or not,
5 I won't debate, but insofar as they're uneasy
6 about it, do you have any strong preferences
7 as to natural gas versus diesel?

8 THE WITNESS (Centore): I -- I
9 would from an operational standpoint. And
10 that is that many times in -- if there is a
11 naturally occurring emergency, a storm event,
12 there's power outages. Sometimes natural gas
13 needs to be shut off in the street to avert
14 any potential problems due to -- due to the
15 gas, and that would cut off any power supply
16 to our natural-gas fed generators, where we
17 don't have that problem with the -- with the
18 diesel and/or propane.

19 MR. ASHTON: I want to take
20 that slowly, because I'm not sure I
21 understand it. You're telling me, am I
22 correct, that in the event of a natural
23 disaster of what nature?

24 THE WITNESS (Centore):
25 There's been a -- on a couple

1 of occasions, Verizon has had issues, and I
2 couldn't tell you specifically which
3 buildings, though. But it was brought to my
4 attention that they had power outages and
5 thought it was -- I forgot if it was a
6 flooding event or a windstorm, but they shut
7 off gas to the building for -- for concerns
8 of safety of the building with the gas
9 service going in and lost power to their
10 generator on the shelter.

11 MR. ASHTON: Lost power to
12 their backup generator?

13 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes.

14 MR. ASHTON: And you're
15 telling me the utility electric supply also
16 was out?

17 THE WITNESS (Centore):
18 Correct.

19 MR. ASHTON: I've never heard
20 that before. That's surprising.

21 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yeah.
22 And they've actually been adding remote
23 connections for drive-up emergency generators
24 in case that would happen on any sites that
25 have natural gas on them, generator plugs.

1 MR. ASHTON: The generator
2 floods?

3 THE WITNESS (Centore): Plugs
4 there.

5 MR. ASHTON: Oh, plugs. Okay.
6 I've got to think about that. I've never --
7 it's something I've never encountered before.
8 I thought you might get some brownie points
9 from the State as far as cutting back
10 emissions. I know standby units are exempt,
11 but I have other thoughts in the back of my
12 mind as to what these units can be used for.

13 Would the same apply to
14 propane?

15 THE WITNESS (Centore): It
16 would not. Propane can be refueled, like the
17 diesel can be refueled. It's the natural
18 gas, shut it off, the valve in the street,
19 you're done. You're not bringing in an
20 alternative.

21 MR. ASHTON: I'm puzzled
22 because I can never recall in my career a
23 situation where that occurred. Okay. I'm
24 going to have to -- we'll have to go to
25 the --

1 THE WITNESS (Centore): I can
2 try to do some homework before the afternoon
3 session to see if there's --

4 MR. ASHTON: It's not
5 appropriate. My concern here was to avoid an
6 emissions issue.

7 THE WITNESS (Centore):
8 Understood.

9 MR. ASHTON: And that's all.

10 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yeah.

11 MR. ASHTON: Your experience
12 is your experience. I have to accept that.

13 Mr. Libertine, time to pick on
14 you. I looked at the diagram of visibility
15 at the back of Section 9, and frankly, I was
16 amazed. This says it's visibility for --
17 visible, pardon me, for roughly half a mile,
18 sort of, radius around that site, and I have
19 trouble believing it.

20 THE WITNESS (Libertine): It's
21 pretty generous.

22 MR. ASHTON: It's pretty
23 pessimistic.

24 THE WITNESS (Libertine): What
25 we've done over the last couple of years with

1 the model is we really -- we've really
2 fine-tuned it with much better data in terms
3 of the topo in the way we can extract forest
4 fires. And that's all great.

5 The downside to it is that
6 it -- with the limitations that we do put
7 into the model with the assumptions, we still
8 find that it overpredicts. One of the
9 challenges I have is, when I can't access
10 properties, I'm now much more reluctant to
11 extract that based on observations I can see
12 around me, because I just can't confirm that.

13 So we are probably now showing
14 more visibility, on average, on our
15 visibility analyses than we ever have in the
16 past, and it's just that's the function of it
17 is that we have decided that we will put in
18 all the assumption we can make and try to be
19 as real-world as we possibly can, but -- and
20 this is a perfect example where it's very
21 clear.

22 Actually, beyond these
23 photographs, I don't think you're going to
24 get any visibility, and I think the
25 photographs kind of bear that out because

1 it's just so dense in that area in terms of
2 the woods.

3 MR. ASHTON: Yeah. I had --
4 also had problems sorting out the difference
5 between seasonal and year round in here. And
6 the color distinction just didn't make --
7 just didn't work for me. I'm not color blind
8 or anything like that.

9 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
10 Yeah. No. We're trying to play with colors
11 as well. I've had a problem with that, too.
12 It looks better on a screen, but when we go
13 to print, we have a problem with it.

14 One of the things I've been
15 trying to do is, lately over the last year or
16 so, is presenting both a topo version as well
17 as aerial. It tends to show a little bit
18 better. Verizon is great in terms of
19 allowing me to use whatever I want to depict
20 this, but when you get in a group of people,
21 some people don't want -- I -- I would love
22 to use red, but I know red has a connotation
23 of bad, so no one wants to use red.

24 And if we use blue, that tends
25 to conflict with what -- what bodies of water

1 and that type of thing. We've settled on the
2 orange and the yellow, but you're absolutely
3 right. Sometimes making the distinction,
4 especially when you've got a tight grid --

5 MR. ASHTON: The distinction
6 on the aerial is much clearer to me than the
7 previous page.

8 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
9 Absolutely. So I'm -- I'm empathetic to what
10 you're saying. We're still -- we're always
11 trying to kind of improve that for the
12 reader, because obviously we're trying to
13 tell a story.

14 MR. ASHTON: The other
15 thing -- and I think we've gone around on
16 this on other dockets -- the other thing that
17 bothers me a bit is that to have the top
18 6 inches of the tower visible doesn't, in my
19 mind, mean it should be declared a visible
20 tower. It's kind of painting a pretty stark
21 all-or-nothing type of picture.

22 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
23 Right.

24 MR. ASHTON: And I really
25 don't like it, but I have no good ideas, no

1 good suggestions as to how we get around it.
2 You know, I think, on this specific site,
3 98 percent of the visibility is going to be
4 the top 10 feet, if it's -- if that?

5 THE WITNESS (Libertine): If
6 at all. Right. Absolutely.

7 MR. ASHTON: And I don't know
8 what to do about it.

9 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I'm
10 struggling with it, too. You'll notice
11 there's a lot more -- there's a lot more
12 language in the report speaking to this very
13 issue, because again the model, the
14 limitation is it's a point site to site. And
15 if you're standing at point A and you're
16 looking at the tower at point B, if you can
17 see 1 inch, it's going to show.

18 So the purpose of the maps,
19 I've always said, is to give the numerical
20 aspect that, you know, to quantify where you
21 could potentially see it. I really try to
22 rely on the photographs to give an idea of
23 the characteristics because that's really
24 what it's all about. And you're -- you're
25 speaking exactly to an issue that we've

1 struggled with.

2 We've actually taken into
3 account at times where we've said, Oh,
4 let's -- let's drop 5 feet from the top of
5 the tower and see what the difference is and
6 see how many of these kind of, what I'll
7 call, "noise," for lack of a better term,
8 that we're showing here.

9 But I've -- I guess I -- I
10 struggle with it. And this is the best that
11 we've kind of come up with a compromise
12 solution, and we're -- we're always looking
13 for input on it. The problem I have with
14 extracting it and saying it's visible or
15 not -- or saying it's not visible is that,
16 theoretically, it could be visible and it is
17 a model.

18 So it's a balance. It's a
19 very -- it's a tough balance, but you're
20 absolutely right. This is one site where
21 it's very evident, when you compare the
22 photos and you compare the footprint, it's
23 clear this -- this is showing much more
24 visibility than what's really happening in
25 real life.

1 MR. ASHTON: Does your system
2 allow for identification of a building that
3 sticks up above the topography, and hence
4 anything on the backside of that building,
5 any viewing area is blocked because of the
6 presence of the building?

7 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes.
8 One of the things we're able to do now, which
9 we weren't able to do just a few years ago,
10 is to have the model actually extract
11 buildings, forest layers.

12 We can actually tell the
13 difference by -- we wrote some script files
14 where we can actually tell the difference
15 between the different landforms. So we can
16 tell an asphalt building, we -- an asphalt
17 roof on a building, roads, systems, water
18 bodies, deciduous trees, coniferous trees,
19 open sandlots versus grassed areas. So we
20 have all these characteristics, and then we
21 have to assign certain values, and the values
22 that are most important are the tree heights
23 and building heights.

24 In a case like this where we
25 have kind of a mix, we have commercial

1 buildings and homes, it's a little bit more
2 difficult. When we're in much more urban
3 areas, then we can assign kind of an average
4 height. But to answer your question, yes,
5 the -- those obstacles are built into this.

6 MR. ASHTON: There's one
7 building in particular that struck me as I
8 drove out and that I thought would block
9 viewing from a significant arc, because it's
10 relatively close to the tower.

11 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
12 Uh-huh.

13 MR. ASHTON: Relatively high.

14 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
15 Right.

16 MR. ASHTON: And anything, in
17 this case, west of that building you ain't
18 going to see it.

19 THE WITNESS (Libertine): No,
20 I agree. I agree. And again, it's -- it's
21 at the scale we're talking about, and again
22 because we have to kind of -- there's a
23 smoothing technique that has to be done so
24 that we just don't have blocks, because we
25 could have -- we could have a lot of open

1 areas that are probably more realistic, but
2 it gets very tedious to really look at and
3 try to discern at these scales. It -- it is
4 a problem from -- from that standpoint, but I
5 agree with you. There are some buildings
6 that are going to just basically make it so
7 you can't see it beyond a certain point.

8 MR. ASHTON: Thank you.

9 Mr. Mercer answered -- got the
10 answers to three questions I had. Mr. Murphy
11 got one. And I'm all set, so I'll turn it
12 over to Mr. Hannon.

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

14 Mr. Hannon, your turn.

15 MR. HANNON: Thank you. Thank
16 you, Mr. Chairman. I do have a couple
17 questions. I noticed that the local
18 regulations talk about towers being 750 feet
19 from residential properties. I think the
20 closest unit here is 390. Any comments from
21 the Town about that?

22 THE WITNESS (Carter): No. No
23 comment.

24 MR. HANNON: Okay. One of the
25 questions I asked down at the site, I've got

1 some questions about the design for the
2 retaining wall and how the drain pipe that,
3 I'm assuming, is going to be installed behind
4 the wall is going to collect water, and then
5 what's going to happen to that water?

6 Because the wall is such that
7 you've got the two wings on it. So,
8 theoretically, if the pipe is going to wrap
9 around that, it's got to go somewhere. And
10 you're showing it in the schematics that the
11 pipe is going to be above grade. So I'm just
12 trying to figure out how you're proposing to
13 deal with any water coming out of that pipe
14 so that it's not going to potentially create
15 some erosion problems?

16 THE WITNESS (Centore): Sure.
17 That's a good question. That -- that pipe is
18 to relieve hydrostatic pressure, groundwater
19 from behind the wall. We would weep that
20 pipe out through the face of the wall right
21 into the compound area, and I don't
22 anticipate it having high flows of water or
23 velocities that would cause erosion.

24 What's not shown in the detail
25 that you have in front of you -- and that's

1 part of this set. I believe it's detail 3 on
2 C4, the retaining wall, is -- is that, as
3 part of the D and M plan, when we finalize
4 the -- the drainage around the site there
5 will be a -- a swale created along the back
6 of that while that's going to drain towards
7 the east.

8 And that, that swale will be
9 protected with -- it will be seeded or
10 stoned, whichever the -- the appropriate
11 measure is avoid erosion and allow it to
12 drain naturally to the east where the --
13 where the water currently drains on site.

14 MR. HANNON: East or west?

15 THE WITNESS (Centore): North,
16 south, I got my directions wrong. To the
17 west, towards the transformer to the west.

18 MR. ASHTON: Okay. And then
19 with that I'm going to follow up on the issue
20 about the generator and going in and sort of
21 regrading so that you're putting in a swale
22 that drains towards the water body, to me,
23 would seem like this may be a good spot for a
24 propane facility rather than diesel so that
25 if there was a spill with the diesel, you're

1 almost setting up a channel going right to
2 the water body. So I don't know if you have
3 any --

4 THE WITNESS (Centore): Well,
5 I -- we could. I understand your point. I
6 don't know that this, the volume of runoff
7 that we're talking about at this particular
8 site, is anything excessive, but it is
9 runoff.

10 MR. HANNON: But they're
11 talking about tomorrow possibly 3 inches of
12 rain. You know, if that happened to tie in
13 with some type of a leak from a
14 diesel-powered generator, it can create a
15 problem down into the water body. So --

16 MR. ASHTON: You have a rifle
17 shot into that water body.

18 MR. HANNON: So it's something
19 to think about.

20 THE WITNESS (Centore): It's
21 something to think about. I'm comfortable
22 with the fact we've got three forms of
23 containment on one -- on these sites, that
24 generator itself and the tank -- and the
25 belly of the tank have -- have a containment

1 system. And then as tertiary containment the
2 floor is designed to hold the -- the volume
3 of fuel. And any other --

4 MR. HANNON: Is it
5 100 percent, 110 percent capacity?

6 THE WITNESS (Centore): Excuse
7 me?

8 MR. HANNON: For any type of
9 retaining area, is it about 110 percent of
10 the capacity of the tank?

11 THE WITNESS (Centore): 125,
12 125 percent. They're very contained.
13 They're very -- Verizon's environmental
14 policy is pretty strong, and they -- they, if
15 they have any concerns of an environmental
16 issue associated with their installation
17 being diesel, they require us to design
18 propane and/or natural gas, whichever is
19 available.

20 MR. HANNON: Okay. And I'm
21 happy to hear that you're talking about like
22 a reservoir of, like, 125 percent, because
23 that's typically greater than what you'll
24 normally see.

25 THE WITNESS (Centore): You'll

1 see in most of those shelters you actually
2 have to step up over the stoop because you
3 have the extra step up and over to get in.

4 MR. HANNON: Okay. I have no
5 further questions. Thank you.

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

7 Dr. Bell?

8 DR. BELL: Thank you,
9 Mr. Chair.

10 Just to pursue, since we're
11 talking about this backup generator, the
12 matter of natural gas that you were talking
13 about before with Mr. Ashton. The fuel cells
14 that have been put in all around Connecticut,
15 many of them run on natural gas. And those
16 are specifically designed for emergencies.

17 So the notion that you have
18 to -- that natural gas would be shut off
19 during emergencies, which I understand what
20 you're saying, that doesn't jibe exactly with
21 all these various fuel cells that we've seen
22 going in. That's just a comment. I'm not in
23 a position to state one way or the other,
24 because I certainly have no direct knowledge
25 of any of this. But that's playing into the

1 matter.

2 I mean, you could put in a
3 fuel-cell, but if there's something that's
4 different about the connection between a
5 fuel-cell and a gas, a natural-gas generator,
6 you know, I don't know. But I'm just --
7 that's a comment and I'm --

8 THE WITNESS (Centore): I'm
9 glad it's a comment because I don't know the
10 answer to that question, either. So --

11 DR. BELL: Okay. Back to
12 base. Mr. Gustafson, I have just one
13 question about the flood maps that you
14 provided in -- that are provided in Tab 14.

15 First of all, I don't know if
16 it was you, but I'm asking you because you,
17 you generally work with flood maps. Thank
18 you for the two maps, the one that's printed
19 off the site and the other one that
20 All-Points created.

21 I'm looking -- I'm just
22 looking at the Zone X markings on the map,
23 that the firm map copy has Zone X -- has two
24 Zone Xs. And I understand -- my
25 understanding is the zone X that's stippled,

1 or that has the polka dots, is the 500-year
2 flood area, and the Zone X that has no
3 markings at all that's on the other side here
4 of Huntington Road is above the 500-year
5 floodplain. Is that a correct understanding?

6 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): That
7 is absolutely correct.

8 DR. BELL: Okay. So you're
9 not -- you're showing on the other map that
10 you created the Zone X that's stippled here
11 is just shown with water, you know, blue
12 markings which indicate where the water would
13 come. And you just don't mark the other Zone
14 X because there wouldn't be any water?

15 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):
16 That's correct.

17 DR. BELL: Okay. Thanks.
18 That's all I needed to review.

19 Maybe, Mr. Centore, is there
20 any thought about noise implications from the
21 air conditioners in the shelter, the
22 compound?

23 THE WITNESS (Centore): We had
24 a -- we had a noise study, a noise compliance
25 study done. Let me just double-check our

1 values.

2 Yeah, based on the findings of
3 our -- our noise study, we're well below the
4 daytime and nighttime noise limitations in
5 that area.

6 DR. BELL: Okay. Thank you.
7 Just one last -- not a question, but a
8 comment, to Mr. Libertine, going back to your
9 conversation with Mr. Ashton on the way you
10 indicate visibility. I just wanted to say
11 thank you for giving us the topographic map
12 view that you have done that -- and that's
13 for a little while now, but you haven't
14 always done that. And I find that very
15 useful to have both types of views. So thank
16 you.

17 Mr. Hannon is asking me to
18 follow-up on my question about noise,
19 Mr. Centore, by saying, is there any way you
20 can characterize the difference between the
21 noise levels that you have in that report
22 there that you just looked at and the noise
23 of the firing range that we heard this
24 afternoon?

25 THE WITNESS (Centore): I was

1 waiting for a serious question there.

2 I hope it was a firing range.

3 DR. BELL: Okay. I think we
4 don't need an exact answer on that. Thank
5 you.

6 Those are my questions,
7 Mr. Chair.

8 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

9 Mr. Lynch?

10 MR. LYNCH: Just to follow up
11 on Dr. Bell's comment on fuel cells. In my
12 area of the state where they have emergency
13 shelters that are used -- fuel-cells as their
14 source with natural gas, during the hurricane
15 and the major snowstorm, all of them were in
16 use, and none of them were shut down and none
17 of them failed. Just to follow up on our
18 existing -- for what it's worth.

19 THE WITNESS (Centore): Just
20 to -- just to curiosity, just for -- to find
21 out a little more myself. Was that in our
22 rural area, or was it in the city?

23 MR. LYNCH: No both.

24 THE WITNESS (Centore): Okay.

25 MR. LYNCH: The majority of

1 them are in -- the emergency shelters were
2 set up in -- either in community centers or
3 in local schools, or junior high or high
4 schools. But this is in the northern part of
5 the state, but they did work rather well, and
6 they housed and fed hundreds of people.

7 And just to -- Mr. Libertine,
8 I don't know whether I'm more confused or,
9 you know, I understand what you're saying
10 about the difference between that -- and it
11 goes to your Question Number 3 on the
12 interrogatory -- on the modeling versus
13 actual on site, you know, because I don't
14 understand. The modeling just is a yes/no:
15 We can see it; we can't see it, and so on?

16 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
17 Correct.

18 MR. LYNCH: And --

19 THE WITNESS (Libertine): And
20 if I could?

21 MR. LYNCH: Yeah. Elaborate,
22 please.

23 THE WITNESS (Libertine): The
24 simple question we asked the model to tell us
25 is, if we're standing at point A, 5 feet

1 above the ground looking at where the tower
2 should be with all the intervening structures
3 and trees, can we see the top of that tower?
4 It doesn't make a distinction as to whether
5 we can see a hundred feet of it, or a
6 hundred inches or 1 inch. So all it says is,
7 is there a direct line of sight from the top
8 of the tower and back to where we're -- we're
9 looking from?

10 So that creates kind of a
11 dilemma for us because it really doesn't give
12 us any idea of the character of the view, how
13 much. In the past we have played around with
14 how much percentage of tower is above the
15 tree line. That becomes problematic just
16 because there's so much data, even within
17 just a two-mile study area, that it presents
18 its own problems.

19 From certain -- we can tell
20 from -- we can isolate an area and say, yes,
21 we can tell the percentage. To do it
22 throughout the entire study area, we found
23 that it tends to break down just because of
24 modeling issues that we have. But that,
25 that -- that question and answer that we have

1 from point A to point B, again, just gives us
2 a quantification of, like, here's this
3 footprint of where there may be some views.
4 And that's why I am very careful in my
5 discussions about trying to characterize the
6 views from certain areas because a lot of the
7 views that we're showing aren't really
8 necessarily -- necessarily above the
9 treeline.

10 As you can see from the
11 photos, we're now getting into that kind of
12 gray area where you're looking through the
13 trees, and yes, you can see the top, but it's
14 clearly not above the intervening trees.
15 It's through those trees, and that's where
16 we've made some substantial changes in the
17 model over the last year -- well, two years.

18 I was always very reluctant to
19 try to get into modeling for seasonal
20 visibility because it's -- it's impossible to
21 build the forest cover as it stands within
22 any given community just because you'd have
23 to survey every single tree and tree branch
24 and -- and the patterns, and you just can't
25 do it.

1 So we had to make several
2 assumptions, which creates this
3 overproduction. We're just assuming every
4 tree is a vertical pole with no branching
5 patterns of a certain value. And yes, you'll
6 see through them, but it -- again, it doesn't
7 really approximate -- it approximates, but it
8 doesn't give you a real world value. So
9 it's -- it's still problematic.

10 I think this is still -- this
11 is a much better product than we were doing a
12 few years ago. I think it's closer, but
13 because of those limitations and that I can't
14 get onto these private properties, I'm
15 leaving those. If it's saying it's visible
16 I've got to assume that somewhere within this
17 footprint it -- there's probably a view.

18 What that view looks like,
19 that's where I'm trying to use my closest
20 vantage point from a public place to get an
21 idea of what it might be from the character
22 of that view so we can extrapolate, at least
23 in that general area, what it might look
24 like.

25 MR. LYNCH: And I'm assuming

1 that the modeling can't do anything that an
2 on-site view can do, like we've discussed in
3 the past, like painting the towers to make
4 it, you know, less visible?

5 THE WITNESS (Libertine): No.
6 The model can't take into account the -- the
7 human factor, because if -- in some cases
8 where we have high elevations at the two-mile
9 range, I think it's clear anyone who's driven
10 around and looked at these towers, at
11 two miles something that's direct, right at
12 the treeline I may be showing as visible, but
13 you're not going to be able to just discern
14 that from any of the surrounding features.

15 So the model really can't give
16 us that diminishing view as you move away or
17 if there's some kind of camouflaging. Either
18 it's visible or it's not. And that goes --
19 when we do the stealth tree options, I'm
20 always reluctant there to mess with the model
21 and what it's showing, but at the same time I
22 want to make sure people understand, if you
23 get a mile out and you're looking back at
24 this, it's going to look like every other
25 tree out there.

1 As a matter of fact, I was
2 out -- anecdotally, I can tell you that last
3 Friday I was out on the Appalachian Trail in
4 Salisbury and the Verizon facility that was
5 built in Falls Village recently, the tree, I
6 could see it from one open spot in a field.

7 And I looked, and it was about
8 4:30 in the afternoon. And because of the
9 light, I could see it was darker than all the
10 trees around it, but I couldn't tell -- I was
11 probably two miles out, but I had binoculars,
12 and sure enough I said, Wow, there's the
13 tree. And it looked great with the backdrop.
14 And the only reason it popped out was because
15 all the other trees around it weren't of --
16 didn't have quite that dark feature to it.

17 But it kind of reiterated to
18 me that the limitation in these maps and what
19 we're showing as visible really is, again it
20 doesn't really give you that idea of what
21 that human eye perceives when you're looking
22 at one of these facilities. So --

23 MR. LYNCH: Thank you.
24 Because you know your eyes can play tricks on
25 you, and they adjust to what they see. You

1 know, not being a tree lover like my
2 colleague to my right here, but you know...

3 Following up on something that
4 Mr. Ashton was talking about, as we go into
5 the future and less and less people are
6 having -- in their residential area and homes
7 are using wireline phones -- I don't think
8 anyone under 40 and I'm being generous at
9 that -- really has a wireline phone anymore.

10 And again, Mr. Ashton hit on a
11 good point. How do you go about planning for
12 what's going to be coming when you get -- and
13 I'm only talking only about calls here, not
14 data services or anything. You know, all
15 these additional calls that will come in as
16 residence after residence, you know, gives up
17 their wireline phone, and the younger
18 generation just don't use them? They don't
19 even know what they are.

20 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): I'm
21 sure our planning folks are taking into --
22 taking that into account right now.

23 MR. LYNCH: I'm sorry. I
24 didn't hear you.

25 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): I'm

1 sure our planning group are taking into
2 account all those scenarios right now.

3 MR. LYNCH: Well, as
4 Mr. Ashton pointed out, I hope they are. And
5 that leads me into an area here -- we're
6 going into, Mr. Underlee, Underday -- or I'm
7 sorry if I mispronounce it -- we've been
8 going in -- I've been asking this question
9 for a number of hearings now as far as your
10 network switching over from your calling
11 services to your delivering data services.

12 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Yeah,
13 that's correct.

14 MR. LYNCH: All right? And I
15 think that's the main focus of your whole
16 network now. And as this -- and I'm
17 following up on a question that Dr. Bell has
18 given me here -- as this technology changes,
19 as you know, as the reliability threshold
20 changes, you go from LTE to, you know, from
21 your other standards of technology, how do
22 you incorporate these changes into your
23 system?

24 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): We
25 still maintain all those, what do you call

1 this --

2 MR. LYNCH: I guess, let me
3 ask you this then.

4 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Uh-huh.

5 MR. LYNCH: As we progress
6 into the future and LTE and other frequencies
7 become available, you know, will -- because
8 right now I guess your LTE 700 only delivers
9 data?

10 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Yeah.
11 Right now, yes. That's correct.

12 MR. LYNCH: Right now?

13 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Uh-huh.

14 MR. LYNCH: When do you
15 project that it may deliver calls as well as
16 data?

17 Or I guess what I want to say
18 here is, are you going to come to -- reach a
19 time when your 800 service -- or probably not
20 800, but your 1900 service will become
21 obsolete like your -- because I remember
22 hearing, you know, don't worry, Analog
23 technology is going to be here forever.

24 It's gone?

25 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Yeah.

1 That's a very good question actually, yeah.

2 For example, our -- our
3 initial target actually was to roll out voice
4 over LTE at the start of 2014, at the start
5 of the year, but it got pushed out, I think,
6 towards the fourth quarter of the year
7 because of some performance issues, if I may
8 say. So we're continually testing that,
9 enhancing -- enhancing that service, voice
10 over LTE.

11 And to your next point, it
12 would eventually come to that. We will
13 harvest all those older generation, all those
14 frequencies that are using the
15 third-generation services and bring that into
16 LTE as well. So all those PCS and
17 850 megahertz frequencies will -- we are
18 looking to eventually use it for LTE.

19 MR. LYNCH: Well, LTE seems to
20 be becoming the backbone here of everything.

21 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): That's
22 correct.

23 MR. LYNCH: And as -- which
24 would be the first to go? Your 1900
25 frequencies or your 800 as far as becoming

1 obsolete?

2 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): It
3 would be the 1900, since the 850 have more
4 footprint than the 1900.

5 MR. LYNCH: And going back to
6 Senator Murphy's question, is the -- is LTE,
7 or the 700 or any other frequencies that may
8 come along, are they able to handle all this
9 capacity for voice, LTE, and more
10 importantly, the data that's going to be
11 coming? Because it looks like data service
12 is like a tsunami: it's coming in and it's
13 coming big.

14 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Yeah.
15 Actually right now I can say we can only
16 guess. We can only do as much to, you know,
17 to project and take into account all these
18 services that we are looking to provide. So
19 right now we can only --

20 MR. LYNCH: Okay. And as far
21 as other carriers are involved, I know that
22 we've seen -- we've gotten input from other
23 carriers that they're not interested?

24 THE WITNESS (Carter): That is
25 correct.

1 MR. LYNCH: But does the
2 not-interested answer really mean they're not
3 interested, or at this time they're not
4 interested and we may see you in a year or
5 two?

6 THE WITNESS (Carter): They
7 don't -- they don't tell us that.

8 MR. LYNCH: Yeah, I know that.

9 THE WITNESS (Carter): So I
10 mean, at this time, they have told us they
11 are not interested. I can't foresee what
12 another carrier will do or what their needs
13 will be in this area.

14 MR. LYNCH: I'm not asking you
15 to. I'm just -- go ahead. Sorry, Mr.
16 Baldwin.

17 MR. BALDWIN: I was going to
18 add, Mr. Lynch, I can tell you from our
19 perspective, it's always a caveat at this
20 time because we can never know what our needs
21 are in the future.

22 MR. LYNCH: Thank you. And
23 let's see. If we can come to the -- go up to
24 the emergency generator for a second -- and
25 I'm not talking fuel cells. So your answer

1 to Question Number 4 I found a little
2 confusing, but maybe that's just me. You say
3 in an emergency situation your 210-gallon
4 tank, you know, running continuously will run
5 for 49 hours. Then you go on to say, at less
6 than full load under normal operating
7 conditions, it will run for four days.
8 That's 96 hours.

9 I guess what are -- my
10 question is, what are normal operating
11 conditions that would have this generator
12 running other than emergency?

13 THE WITNESS (Centore): Give
14 me a chance to just take it all in so I can
15 give you a -- a good response or an
16 appropriate response.

17 MR. LYNCH: I guess the simple
18 thing would be, what are normal conditions
19 versus emergency conditions?

20 MR. BALDWIN: Just to clarify,
21 Mr. Lynch, while Mr. Centore thinks a little
22 bit more, the only time the generators are
23 operating is what we would consider during
24 emergency conditions, I believe when
25 commercial power to the facility is shut.

1 I think the distinction is
2 between full load and normal operating
3 conditions, which is what we referred to in
4 the interrogatory responses.

5 MR. LYNCH: Yeah. Well,
6 that's what's confusing me. Sorry,
7 Mr. Baldwin. You know, if I could get --
8 just get a little bit more clarification, I
9 guess.

10 THE WITNESS (Centore): The
11 calculation on the 49 hours, the 210 gallons
12 of fuel in 49 hours assumes that the
13 generator is running at full power
14 continuously during that time period at it's
15 maximum running speed.

16 What happens is, is during
17 normal operations that -- that the generator
18 will only draw and generate the power that it
19 needs. So it will -- it will ramp up when,
20 on initial startup, especially if the
21 air-conditioning units are both running and
22 you've got all the equipment running, but
23 when -- when those are down, or it's running
24 on one air conditioner and -- and everything
25 is charging, it's not going to demand as much

1 power from the generator.

2 MR. LYNCH: All right. I'm
3 still not getting it. But --

4 THE WITNESS (Centore): I'm
5 going to -- what I'd like to do is I can
6 provide a better response. I'll tell you my
7 background is structural engineering, but
8 I'll let -- I can consult with one of our
9 team of electrical engineers who can explain
10 that better.

11 But my understanding is that
12 the facility's -- that generator is sized
13 to -- to provide clean, clean power because
14 of the types of equipment that's in the
15 gen -- in the generator room. And the fact
16 that it's clean power, it needs to be a
17 larger generator, but it doesn't operate at
18 it's maximum output. So it -- it allows it
19 to run more cleanly.

20 MR. LYNCH: I guess where I'm
21 confused, Mr. Centore, is that I can't
22 understand the scenario where, if it's an
23 emergency situation, it's not operating under
24 maximum power?

25 THE WITNESS (Centore): Okay.

1 I think that the misconception -- that the
2 misunderstanding is in the fact that it's not
3 saying emergency. It's saying "under normal
4 operating conditions," which is what it's
5 normally operating at, that the calculation
6 is based on the generator running at full
7 capacity now, what it's capable of running
8 at.

9 In other words, if you have a
10 Porsche that can do 280 miles an hour,
11 250 miles an hour, whatever the speed of that
12 car is, you're not running it anywhere on our
13 local highways at that speed, but it's
14 capable of doing that. How much gas would
15 you get at full load on a Porsche versus if
16 you were driving it under normal operating
17 conditions, I think that might be better type
18 of --

19 MR. LYNCH: So let me ask you
20 this, let me put it this way. It may be an
21 emergency condition, but it's not operating
22 at it's maximum?

23 THE WITNESS (Centore): That's
24 correct.

25 MR. HANNON: Okay. I got it

1 now.

2 THE WITNESS (Centore): Okay.

3 MR. LYNCH: Thank you for
4 bearing with me.

5 And the other thing I noticed
6 here is -- it's the first time I've seen
7 it -- when we come to shared generators, you
8 said there's a possibility with the size of
9 the generator that you would consider sharing
10 the generator, is that correct, with other
11 carriers or the town services, whatever may
12 be available?

13 MR. BALDWIN: Well, just I
14 think the response is you can always put a
15 generator in large enough so that it can be
16 shared, and I think we have shared generators
17 in the past, but I'll let Mrs. Carter respond
18 further.

19 THE WITNESS (Carter): Yes.
20 It's -- it's always been Verizon's policy to
21 have a generator at its site. And in the
22 past, when we've had a site such as a round
23 hill where all the carriers were going to be
24 on that site and we were confined to one
25 building under unusual circumstances, we knew

1 from the get-go that everyone was going to be
2 part of that application. We have shared
3 generators in the past.

4 We do not want to share
5 generators with someone else that has put in
6 a generator, because in the past we have
7 found out that they do not maintain the
8 generators. And when we have had an
9 emergency, we do not have power at our site
10 and, actually, that another carrier just
11 kind -- came in and brought up an emergency
12 generator for themselves, so that is not
13 reliability as part of Verizon's service.

14 We find that other carriers do
15 not want to share our generators. They do
16 not want to maintain the generators. They do
17 not want to contribute to the cost or have
18 any agreement to have shared generators. So
19 that poses a real problem for us as well.

20 So we have found that we, on
21 the few rare occasions where we have had full
22 responsibility for the maintenance and the
23 service of the reliability of those
24 generators that belong to us, we have shared
25 those generators. But, for 99 percent of the

1 cases, we provide for our own service and
2 we -- we know that it's going to be reliable,
3 and we find that other carriers do not want
4 to share their generators with us.

5 MR. LYNCH: I know that's your
6 policy, and I know you have shared generators
7 in the past. This is the first time I've
8 ever seen it in an interrogatory that there's
9 a possibility of doing it again. That's all
10 I was saying. Yeah.

11 THE WITNESS (Carter): We --
12 we just feel very strongly about having our
13 reliable service. And when we're in charge
14 of the generators and they belong to us and
15 we maintain them, we make certain that
16 they're ready to go as needed. Verizon does
17 that as best we can.

18 MR. LYNCH: Okay. And my last
19 question is going back to data services
20 again, and delivering these services to
21 whether they're phones or, you know, iPads or
22 computers, whatever is out there. You know,
23 over the last year, do you have any
24 projections on what the percentage increase
25 of this data service may be over the next

1 couple of years?

2 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Right
3 now I don't have any numbers to present, but
4 it sure is a big number.

5 MR. LYNCH: Then let's work
6 backwards then.

7 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): Uh-huh.

8 MR. LYNCH: You know, two
9 years ago to the present, do you have any
10 idea what that percentage of increase might
11 have been on your system?

12 THE WITNESS (Ulanday): I
13 believe nationwide it's over a hundred
14 percent over the last two or three years.

15 MR. LYNCH: Okay. Thank you,
16 Mr. Chairman.

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Can I ask a
18 question?

19 MR. ASHTON: Oh, absolutely.
20 After you.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: The
22 generator, the compound that you're
23 proposing, is that sized for one or two? Or
24 how many generators could fit in that
25 compound without having to come back if they

1 were separate?

2 THE WITNESS (Centore):

3 Generators or carriers? I
4 think the compound size to -- to accommodate
5 two carriers at this point. It would need
6 further expansion should additional carriers
7 come on. As far as generator space for
8 another generator, the second carrier could
9 fit in -- in a shelter and generator. So --

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. So
11 it's?

12 THE WITNESS (Centore): Two
13 carriers, both have generators.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: The two are
15 separate. And I won't go -- there have been
16 others more eloquent than I am about
17 maintaining generators, just like other
18 portions of your infrastructure are
19 maintained by others and your -- it seems to
20 work pretty well, such as these, the
21 utilities that provide power to you.

22 So -- but we won't get into
23 that argument, although I think you've heard
24 the sense from the Council on this issue, and
25 I don't think we're going to -- we're ready

1 to send out the white flag yet, because I
2 can't -- just can't understand why if some
3 entity is responsible and -- that they won't
4 maintain in their ways to cost share, but
5 okay. That's a statement, not a question.
6 So unless you feel absolutely you have to,
7 you don't have to respond to that.

8 I did have a totally separate
9 question. I was just curious, because I
10 think it was Attorney Baldwin who mentioned
11 the latest version of the Trumbull -- is it
12 the plan of conservation and development
13 had -- I think you read -- had some brief
14 mention of telecommunication towers or
15 facilities?

16 And my question is, just out
17 of curiosity, is that -- since I haven't had
18 a chance to look at it -- is that something
19 that you're seeing more and more in the newer
20 plans of conservation and development, that
21 there's at least some acknowledgment that
22 that is an issue and may be a part of an
23 important infrastructure? I'm just curious.

24 MR. BALDWIN: If I could,
25 Mr. Chairman? Yeah, we are. We are seeing

1 that more and more with more updated plans
2 where there's some inclusion, usually in the
3 utilities section, that wireless service is
4 becoming something that towns are now
5 thinking about in their planning efforts,
6 which obviously we see as a favorable thing.
7 But in the older plans it's still something
8 that is hardly ever seen.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Ashton.

10 MR. ASHTON: Thank you,
11 Mr. Chairman.

12 I want to go back to the
13 planning horizon just a little bit, because
14 there's -- I'm not sure we're talking on the
15 same wavelength.

16 Mr. Baldwin, you used the
17 term, "at this time," and we've heard that
18 before. But aren't there really two planning
19 horizons? One is where you go to your
20 management and ask for capital authorization,
21 or tell them that you expect to go for
22 capital authorization of a carrier, of a cell
23 tower location of X, Y and Z versus
24 long-range planning where there's no capital
25 authorization involved. It's rather a layout

1 of facilities to meet expected needs over a
2 period of time.

3 Is that a fair distinction? I
4 guess, Mr. Ulanday, I'm looking at you. I'm
5 picking up on Mr. Baldwin's remark?

6 THE WITNESS (Carter): I think
7 at Verizon there are -- there are groups that
8 are simply there -- they're the planning
9 group to determine what the needs of Verizon
10 are going to be based upon certain
11 parameters.

12 MR. ASHTON: Right, but there
13 are two levels of approval in most businesses
14 that I've encountered.

15 THE WITNESS (Carter): Right
16 now Verizon is looking at a plan that will
17 meet the demand of the customers that we have
18 and the services that we provide to them.
19 And, as was mentioned earlier by Mr. Ulanday,
20 the bulk of our services are the data
21 services, and they are growing at a -- at a
22 great rate in the last two years.

23 And Verizon is looking at that
24 and anticipating the number of sites that it
25 may need in the future. So we know that we

1 have tools that our RF personnel use. They
2 know when a site is exhausting or a sector of
3 a site is exhausting, such as we're
4 discussing in the Trumbull area today.

5 And they look at how many
6 sites we're going to be needing. And based
7 upon that need, they come up with a budget
8 for a number of sites to be determined to be
9 built in a certain time frame. So there is a
10 capital budget put together for the large
11 overall planning.

12 And then we know, as we
13 indicate in our application today, that a
14 site of this magnitude is going to cost X
15 number of dollars. So I think -- here I
16 think it was \$700,000. So there are -- there
17 are two levels, as you indicate, but there is
18 a major plan that takes into account a number
19 of sites that will have to be built in a
20 certain -- certain period to meet the demands
21 of the customers.

22 MR. ASHTON: I going to put a
23 few little words in your mouth, and you tell
24 me if I'm wrong, but from my experience in
25 planning, we would look at the totality of

1 the need in a geographic area, the state of
2 Connecticut, for example. We would surmise
3 that, to serve that totality of need, we're
4 going to need a defined number of facilities
5 spread out over a long period of time.

6 However, we know that the
7 needs for total coverage in the town of
8 Union, or at least parts of Union that are
9 not next to 84 are going to be way low on the
10 priority list. And so they're not going to
11 get into that capital budgeting horizon for
12 five, or eight, or ten years.

13 However, we are going to have
14 needs in the Meriden area, an urban center, a
15 major interstate, major highways going through
16 it. We're going to know that we've got to
17 cover the capital to satisfy all the needs,
18 including data, which is obviously the
19 driver, in the next couple of years. And so
20 you budget those capital dollars for the
21 years 2014 and '16 and '15, but we don't
22 worry about Unionville, except we've
23 identified it as something we've got to
24 address.

25 Isn't the planning work

1 something like that?

2 THE WITNESS (Carter): I would
3 say something like that, yes.

4 MR. ASHTON: Yeah. Okay. And
5 one of the frustrations we have on the
6 Council is that when we ask carriers, other
7 than the one proposing a facility before us,
8 do they have a plan for it, they come back
9 and say no. And we can never figure out
10 whether that's because they haven't included
11 it in the capital budget, or it's not on
12 their long-range plan.

13 My suspicion, it's in the
14 long-range plan, but it ain't in the capital
15 budget for the next couple of years, which is
16 the one that goes before the board of
17 directors for approval. And I guess I'm
18 going to make a plea here that, when you get
19 that question and answer it, you answer it
20 with a, yeah, it's in our long-range plan but
21 not in our capital budget, or it's, yeah,
22 it's in our capital budget as well as in our
23 long-range plan. That's a distinction that I
24 understand explicitly, and I think the rest
25 of the Council would, too.

1 THE WITNESS (Carter): Or else
2 sometimes we get an explanation or we give an
3 explanation when asked by other carriers, do
4 you need this site? And we -- we may have a
5 site that's right near it that provides the
6 services for that area, and so we can say
7 that --

8 MR. ASHTON: And that's okay.
9 That's okay, but my guess is that nine out of
10 ten times that's not the case. My guess is
11 that the vast majority of times you're
12 working in an area where there is a service,
13 particularly the big carriers, AT&T and
14 Verizon especially.

15 But we're not trying to get
16 into your innermost thoughts. We're not
17 trying to invade your competitive positions
18 or anything like that, but we are trying to
19 figure out what the hell is going on in the
20 state of Connecticut because we're charged
21 with that.

22 And it would be helpful to
23 have a response from the carrier about
24 talking to you today -- I'll talk, if I can
25 remember it, to others that come down the

1 pike -- that says, Yeah, this is something
2 that is not immediate, but in a longer range.
3 If you can say it's in the three to five-year
4 range, or the four-to-ten-year,
5 four-to-eight-year range, that would be
6 helpful because that gives us a sense of
7 where we're going.

8 THE WITNESS (Carter): I -- I
9 understand where you're coming from,
10 Mr. Ashton, but I don't think a carrier
11 would -- or another carrier would tell us, or
12 maybe we wouldn't tell another carrier either
13 that, you know, maybe we're going to need you
14 in two years or four years or next year.

15 I think that's just part of
16 the -- the competitive process in -- in the
17 industry.

18 MR. BALDWIN: And I think, and
19 to add to that, Mr. Ashton, we did just
20 respond to a request from the Council
21 regarding AT&T's Ridgefield location and said
22 something similar to what you suggested,
23 which is we certainly have a need in the
24 area. I think there are no facilities up in
25 that part of the Town of Ridgefield for

1 example, but that it's not currently in the
2 budget, if you will, for development.

3 MR. ASHTON: I don't have any
4 problem with that. It would be more helpful,
5 perhaps, to give us a sense of rough year,
6 but it's no question in my mind that AT&T and
7 that Verizon and others, as they come out,
8 want to cover the state of Connecticut. So
9 you've got 5,000 square miles that's in the
10 target. It's just a question of when.

11 MR. BALDWIN: Right. I could
12 also tell you --

13 MR. ASHTON: As a competitor
14 that wouldn't surprise me one iota. And I
15 don't think I'm trespassing on secret
16 information to draw that conclusion.

17 MR. BALDWIN: I can also tell
18 you, from my experience working with Verizon
19 for as long as I have, those budget
20 priorities can change overnight.

21 MR. ASHTON: Oh, absolutely.

22 MR. BALDWIN: So sometimes we
23 may say something one day, and the next day
24 it changes, and all of a sudden, we can move
25 forward with the site. So we may jump --

1 MR. ASHTON: I have no doubt
2 about that whatsoever. You're no different
3 from any other utility. I'll say that
4 point-blank, electric, gas, or
5 communications.

6 Mr. Centore, I want to go back
7 a little bit on this generator. You really
8 surprised me when you said that a natural gas
9 source is prone to be cut off. I've never
10 experienced that in my professional life, as
11 I said. The only instance I could think of
12 was if there was a fire, in taking this
13 explicit example, in the pilot building and
14 it got going really hot, you'd want to shut
15 off all sources of ignition. And I would
16 argue then that you'd want to probably direct
17 water on the propane or diesel systems so
18 that didn't ignite if the roof above it is
19 burning merrily.

20 And so I find it -- your
21 answer really troubles me, and I can't think
22 of, other than that instance, a basis for
23 shutting it off. If the power is out, you
24 need this. And more and more we're
25 understanding what you guys understand is

1 that these are critical facilities, and the
2 feds are looking at it that way, and so we're
3 going to have to move heaven and earth to
4 keep them online.

5 I don't know. The one thing I
6 will say, and forgive me for testifying,
7 Madam Executive Director, is that my view of
8 the experience of the bad storms we had in
9 the past couple of years was lousy, that
10 diesel didn't work because we couldn't get
11 fuel to the sites.

12 Next time you testify, I hope
13 you'll have a detailed answer, because I'm --

14 THE WITNESS (Centore): I
15 will.

16 MR. ASHTON: I'd like to hear
17 it.

18 THE WITNESS (Centore): I
19 will.

20 MR. ASHTON: Thanks,
21 Mr. Chairman.

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: And if, at
23 such time, we get to the D and M plan, that's
24 if -- that might be an opportunity to explain
25 what type of generator, slash, fuel you

1 intend to use and why. So you and we will
2 get another shot at that one.

3 DR. BELL: Mr. Chairman.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: We're
5 determined to run this -- okay. Yes,
6 Dr. Bell?

7 DR. BELL: I just have one
8 question not on this subject. We heard this
9 afternoon two types of data that, in response
10 to council members' questions. One had to do
11 with so-called "historical data" on each site
12 and that Mr. Ulanday mentioned, and also Mr.
13 Ulanday mentioned so-called "traffic maps."

14 We understood what those are
15 and took those into account in terms of the
16 need, but we generally do not see those two
17 types of data on applications. My question
18 is, are these types of data regarded as
19 proprietary, or could they be put on
20 applications?

21 MR. BALDWIN: Were you looking
22 at my notes, Dr. Bell? Because I wrote that,
23 that very question down. When we prepare for
24 these hearings we talk about this data, and
25 we're always concerned about whether it's

1 proprietary or not, but we always need to go
2 back and ask the question.

3 I think, since we have a
4 number of applications that are in the works
5 right now, and many of them just like this
6 one are capacity sites, we'll have that
7 answer for you in future dockets. But we
8 will be sure to include some additional data
9 information testimony to provide you with
10 that additional information to justify the
11 capacity need, as we do with a more standard
12 coverage site, in the future to address those
13 concerns.

14 DR. BELL: Thank you. That's
15 my question, Mr. Chair.

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Mercier?

17 MR. MERCIER: Thank you.

18 Just going back, we talked
19 about the tower being constructed to support
20 a 20-foot extension potentially. If that
21 were the case, the compound would have to be
22 enlarged. What direction would that
23 enlargement go? Has that been discussed with
24 the property owner at all, any type of
25 extension of the tower and also expansion of

1 the compound lease area?

2 THE WITNESS (Carter): The --
3 we have a limited leased area in this, this
4 particular application, and if we were to go
5 beyond two carriers, then we would have to
6 try to expand that compound as well as the
7 leased area.

8 MR. MERCIER: Okay. So that
9 would be up to negotiation, I presume, which
10 way it would be expanded?

11 MR. HANNON: I guess it would
12 have to go toward the rear, because we're
13 right on the property line there.

14 THE WITNESS (Centore): There
15 you can -- there's potential for expansion
16 within the -- within the area. It would just
17 mean that the -- the property owner would
18 have to accept whatever expansion we'd -- we
19 would want to do, and that could probably be
20 negotiated, yeah.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: And you
22 definitely have to go to a shared generator
23 because that would take a lot less space than
24 three or four separate generators.

25 THE WITNESS (Centore): A

1 natural, gas --

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: So we have
3 the answer to that one.

4 THE WITNESS (Centore): A
5 natural gas generator.

6 MR. MERCIER: Thank you.

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Is there
8 anyone else?

9 (No response.)

10 If not, I declare this portion
11 of the hearing closed and we will resume
12 deliberations at 7 p.m.

13 Thank you, all.

14 (Whereupon, the witnesses were
15 excused, and the above proceedings were
16 adjourned at 4:38 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 96 pages are a complete and accurate computer-aided transcription of my original verbatim notes taken of the Council Meeting in Re: DOCKET NO. 446, CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY LOCATED AT THE PILOT CORPORATION OF AMERICA PROPERTY, 60 COMMERCE DRIVE, TRUMBULL, CONNECTICUT, which was held before ROBERT STEIN, Chairperson, at the Trumbull Town Hall, Council Chambers, 5866 Main Street, Trumbull, Connecticut on April, 29, 2014.

Robert G. Dixon, CVR-M 857
Court Reporter
UNITED REPORTERS, INC.
90 Brainard Road, Suite 103
Hartford, Connecticut 06114

I N D E X

1 WITNESSES MICHAEL LIBERTINE

2 DEAN GUSTAFSON

3 SANDY M. CARTER

4 RYAN ULANDAY

5 CARLOS F. CENTORE Page 6

6 EXAMINATION

7 Mr. Mercier Page 12

8 EXHIBITS

(Admitted in evidence.)

10	EXHIBIT	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
11	II-B-1	Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need filed by Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, received February 26, 2014, with attachments and bulk file attachments including:	12
18	a.	Technical Report, dated October 30, 2013	12
20	b.	Town of Trumbull Zoning Regulations, revision Dec. 14, 2012	12
22	c.	Town of Trumbull Inland Wetland and Watercourses Regulations, amended February 2, 2010	12
24	d.	Town of Trumbull Plan of Conservation and Development, October 10, 2006	12

25

1	I N D E X (Cont'd.)		
2	EXHIBIT	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
3	II-B-2	Certificate of Publication and	12
4		Cover letter dated March 7, 2014	
5			
6	II-B-3	Responses to Pre-Hearing	12
7		Interrogatories, dated	
8		April 22, 2014	
9			
10	II-B-4	Sign Posting Affidavit,	12
11		dated April 17, 2014	
12			
13	II-B-5	Avian Resources Evaluation,	12
14		dated April 22, 2014	
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