



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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June 24, 2014

Senator Gayle Slossberg
Legislative Office Building
Room 2000
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

DOCKET NO. 448 – 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 Orange Tax Assessor Map 77, Block 3, Lot 1, 831 Derby Milford Road, Orange, Connecticut.

Dear Senator Slossberg:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of your correspondence dated June 17, 2014 regarding the location of the public hearing venue for the above-referenced application.

Please be advised that the Town of Orange did not have a venue available to accommodate the Council's public hearing for this application due to summer camps and other programs. Enclosed please find a copy of the Draft Minutes from the Council meeting held on June 12, 2014, at which time the Council approved the schedule for this matter, clearly indicating that the Town of Orange did not have an available venue for the public hearing. Typically, the Council's public hearing process consists of a 2 PM site review, a 3 PM evidentiary hearing and a 7 PM public comment session, which requires reservation of a venue between the hours of 1 PM and 10 PM for setup and breakdown of equipment.

The City of Shelton boundary is within 2,500 feet of the proposed cell tower. Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §16-50(b), applicants for a cell tower facility are required to consult with and notify the host municipality (Town of Orange) and any municipality within 2,500 feet of the proposed cell tower site (City of Shelton) at least 90 days before an application is filed with the Council. The applicant notified both the Town of Orange and the City of Shelton of its plans to establish a cell tower facility at this particular site on January 31, 2014. The application was submitted to the Council on May 13, 2014.

Although the Council makes every effort to conduct the public hearing in the host municipality, unfortunately, in this particular case, we were not successful. The Shelton City Hall was selected as a suitable alternative given that the tower is within 2,500 feet of the Shelton city line and therefore, also affects the community of Shelton. Additionally, the Shelton City Hall is reasonably close to the tower site, being only 3 miles away.

A hearing at the Shelton City Hall location will provide the residents of both municipalities an opportunity to participate in the public hearing. If residents are unable to attend the public hearing to make oral statements, the Council accepts public comments in writing at any time up to 30 days after the close of the public hearing for the convenience of the public.

Thank you for your interest and concern in this matter.

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Bachman
Acting Executive Director

MAB/cm

Enc: Draft Council E/T Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2014

