

Docket 451 Cross Examination Questions from Intervenor Gary Wassmer

➤ AT&T/Homeland:

- Can you please explain the difference between the 700MHz and 1900 Mhz, it appears that the 700 MHz is for data transfer and 1900 Mhz is for cellular phone service? Can you please explain the difference between the green and orange. Db levels? [Pages 10-13 of the Radio Frequency Analysis]
- If yes, would you say that the green area for the majority of the post-construction coverage is the Quinnipiac Park and a farm on South Meriden Road. If the orange areas are ones of limited coverage, residents that live less than 1000' away from the tower would receive limited coverage. How limited is limited?
- Is it logical to locate the cell tower where it is proposed given that this location is one of, if not the lowest elevation in the north-eastern part of the town, requiring the tower to be unusually high and coverage to be so limited? Your testimony at the public hearing stated that the topography of the area makes getting coverage difficult, so wouldn't other locations be better – maybe much better than this location?
- On pages 13 of the Radio Frequency Analysis Report of the application to the Siting Council, the coverage with Proposed Site map shows still a significant amount of areas with no coverage, some within ½ mile of the 180' tower, can you please explain why there are so many apparent “dead zones”? Will this require a significant amount of additional towers? I count at least 10 (ten) locations in the north-eastern part of Cheshire where additional service will be required, will this mean 10 (ten) more towers in these areas? What about the rest of Cheshire? How many towers would be required to provide adequate cellular service to the entire town?
- Is there newer technology being researched or tested that makes it possible to enhance other towers with stronger signals? Is the tower in the silo at Tower Farms? Or any of the ones at the top of the ridge in Meriden? The tower in Southington across from Superior products?
- Section IV, Page 12, Site selection: “No tall structures in this area of the Town of Cheshire were deemed suitable to provide the service needed by AT&T”. Can you specify which structures were evaluated?
- The States philosophy is to have as many providers on one tower as possible but AT&T is only on 17 of the 45 towers. Why isn't AT&T on the other towers? Wouldn't this be a first step to improved coverage before a new tower is built?
- Can Homeland give us an idea of the terms of the lease with the town? Years? Money? What is the typical dollar amount for lease agreements with carriers?
- At 70 East Johnson Road, Algonquin Gas owns a parcel of over 60 Acres in size, 3 of which are in I-2 zone with an elevation around 200, was this site considered? If no why not?
- 330 Blacks Road is owned by SCCRWA, was this site considered? Low lying but still in Zone I-2. SCCRWA owns 2 parcels totaling over 65 acres in an industrial zone.
- Air Navigation, page 16: Per FAA and TOWAIR analysis, the tower will not need to be marked or lighted, can you guarantee that for an extended period of time? 10-15-20 years?
- From a noise perspective, would a dense row or three of arborvitae provide a noise cancelling buffer around the proposed generators?
- Visual Assessment, page 14: What consideration was given to add screening around the entire property? Perhaps a double layer of pine trees could help hide the view for the abutting residents.

➤ Town:

- Can the existing emergency equipment at the WWTP be upgraded without a 180-foot tower? What would be the associated costs?
- The Town and AT&T have already entered into a lease as stated on page 2 of the introduction, what are the terms of the lease? Years? Money? Can you please elaborate on the Quid-pro-quo agreement discussed during the public hearing?
- Does the Police or Fire Department use repeaters on vehicles currently to improve existing service? Wouldn't that be more prudent than erecting a 180' tower?
- Is the microwave technology absolutely necessary? Is this future technology already funded? What other technologies have been explored? If the Town of Cheshire does not get microwave technology, does it seem financially prudent to invest in new technology that requires Line of Sight from one of the higher areas (Highland Avenue) to one of the lowest areas (Cheshire Street, Quinnipiac Park)? If not, is it in a capital plan? How many years in the future?
- For planning considerations, I have researched and found that the most ideal locations for this type of technology is mountain peak or ridgeline positions, given this information, would you say that the Quinnipiac Park recreation area is the ideal location for such technology?
- Did the Town consider a lower tower in this location and use a repeater on the existing towers along the ridgeline of Meriden mountain?
- Since the greatest need here is clearly for emergency service, should the town consider building the tower themselves and leasing the space to cellular service carriers?
- Page 9 states that the proposed tower represents an opportunity for the Town to avoid its own capital costs of tower site construction and operational costs. What would the cost of that be?