



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: [siting.council@ct.gov](mailto:siting.council@ct.gov)

[www.ct.gov/csc](http://www.ct.gov/csc)

January 8, 2016

Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esq.  
Robinson & Cole LLP  
280 Trumbull Street  
Hartford, CT 06103-3597

RE: **DOCKET NO. 456** – Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 33 Keegan Road, Plymouth, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Baldwin:

At a public meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) held on January 7, 2016, the Council considered and approved the Development and Management (D&M) Plan submitted for this project on November 30, 2015.

This approval applies only to the D&M Plan submitted on November 30, 2015. Requests for any changes to the D&M Plan shall be approved by Council staff in accordance with Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section (RCSA) §16-50j-77(b). Furthermore, the Certificate Holder is responsible for reporting requirements pursuant to RCSA 16-50j-77.

Please be advised that changes and deviations from this plan are enforceable under the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes § 16-50u. Enclosed is a copy of the staff report on this D&M Plan, dated January 7, 2016.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Robert Stein  
Chairman

RS/RDM/cm

Enclosure: Staff Report, dated January 7, 2016

c: Parties and Intervenors

The Honorable David V. Merchant, Mayor, Town of Plymouth

Margus T. Laan, AICP, Director of Planning & Economic Development, Town of Plymouth



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: [siting.council@ct.gov](mailto:siting.council@ct.gov)

[www.ct.gov/csc](http://www.ct.gov/csc)

### Docket 456

### Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless Development and Management Plan

### Staff Report

January 7, 2016

On July 9, 2015, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) issued a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Cellco) for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a wireless telecommunications facility located at 33 Keegan Road in Plymouth, Connecticut. The new tower facility will replace an existing Cellco tower facility located at 42 South Street in Plymouth that needs to be removed due to the expiration and non-renewal of a lease agreement. The Council's Decision and Order (D&O), specified that the 42 South Street facility be removed within six months of the commencement of site operation of the 33 Keegan Road facility.

As required in the Council's D&O, Cellco submitted a Development and Management (D&M) Plan for the approved facility to the Council and the Town of Plymouth on November 30, 2015. The tower site is located on a wooded 12.4 acre parcel located at 33 Keegan Road. The property owner's residence is located on an abutting property to the south.

Consistent with the Council's D&O, Cellco will construct a 140-foot monopole at the site, designed to support four levels of platform-mounted antennas. The monopole will be approximately 60 inches at the base, tapering to approximately 36 inches at the top. The tower and foundation will be designed to support a 20-foot tower extension that will taper to 18 inches at the top. The tower will have a concrete pad foundation adhered to bedrock with a tower mounting pier rising through the center. Cellco will install 12 panel antennas and associated remote radio units on an antenna platform mounted at a centerline height of 140 feet above ground level.

Cellco will construct a 50-foot by 50-foot equipment compound within a 100-foot by 100-foot lease area at the site. Cellco will excavate a ledge on the east and north sides of the compound site to create a level compound and parking area. The ledge cut would vary from one to five feet. An eight-foot high chain link fence with 1.25-inch mesh will enclose the compound. Barbed wire will be installed on top of the fence for additional security. Cellco will install equipment cabinets and a diesel generator on a 12-foot by 26-foot concrete pad within the compound. Cellco's equipment cabinets will be covered with a metal canopy supported by columns. Landscaping will be installed along the south and west side of the compound to screen the facility from the property owner's residence.

Site access will require a new 12-foot wide, 465-foot long gravel access drive extending from Keegan Road. From its entrance at Keegan Road, the access drive will angle up a 20-degree slope along the edge of a steep embankment that fronts Keegan Road. Construction along the embankment will require a ledge cut of two to ten feet. To control road washouts and rutting in this area, Cellco will install a paved 25-foot long entrance apron followed by reinforcing geo-grid mesh. A 2:1 side slope that will be created to support the access drive will be stabilized with a 2,600 square-foot area of riprap. Once past the embankment area, the gravel access drive will turn eastward over moderate terrain to the tower site.



CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer

Stormwater along the access drive will be controlled by a riprap-lined swale located on the north side of the driveway. The swale will direct stormwater into a catch basin at the base of the driveway. A second catch basin will also be installed on the east side of Keegan Road to control runoff coming down the embankment area. The two catch basins will be tied into an existing catch basin on Keegan Road that discharges to the west side of the road. Stormwater in the compound area will be directed into a level spreader on the west side of the compound, dispersing runoff overland.

Underground utilities will be installed extending due east from an existing utility pole on Keegan Road. The utilities will be installed within a utility specific easement for approximately 60 feet before extending along the access drive to the compound.

The project would require the removal of 28 trees with a diameter of six inches at breast height. To reduce potential impacts to the whip-poor-will, a State bird species of special concern, Cellco will avoid construction from May 1 to July 31. Additionally, to prevent potential impacts to the State endangered long-eared bat, no tree clearing will occur from April 15 to August 31.

Consistent with the Council's D&O, the D&M Plan contains a Turtle Protection Program for the wood turtle and box turtle that incorporates Department of Energy and Environmental Protection recommended construction practices to reduce potential impact to turtle populations during the turtles' active period of April 1 to November 15. The program includes site monitoring and periodic reporting to the Council by an environmental inspector from All Points Technology Corporation.

Cellco will implement and maintain appropriate soil erosion and sedimentation control measures during construction, in accordance with the *2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control*, as amended. Cellco will use natural fiber woven erosion control mats, where necessary.

The cumulative power density from the radio frequency emissions from the operation of Cellco's antennas, as measured at the base of the tower, will be 26.7 percent of the standard for the General Public/Uncontrolled Maximum Permissible Exposure, as adopted by the Federal Communications Commission.

All of the Development and Management Plan requirements set forth in the Council's Decision & Order for Docket 456 are in compliance; therefore, Council staff recommends approval. Council staff recommends that approval of requested significant changes to the approved D&M Plan be delegated to Council staff in accordance with Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §16-50j-77(b). In accordance with that section, if advance written notice is impractical, the Certificate Holder shall provide verbal notice of the changes and shall submit written specifications to the Council within 48 hours after the verbal notice. All changes pursued without advance notification and approval shall be subject to a penalty, enforceable by the Attorney General pursuant to C.G.S. §16-50u.