In The Matter Of:

Application of American Towers, LLC

Hearing Docket No. 463 January 26, 2016

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1	STATE OF CONNECTICUT
2	CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL
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5	Docket No. 463
6	Application of American Towers, LLC, and New
7	Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, for a Certificate of
8	Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for
9	the Construction, Maintenance, and Operation of a
10	Telecommunications Facility Located at 351A Boston
11	Post Road, East Lyme, Connecticut
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14	Continued Public Hearing held at the
15	Connecticut Siting Council, Ten Franklin Square,
16	New Britain, Connecticut, Tuesday, January 26,
17	2016, beginning at 11:14 a.m.
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21	Held Before:
22	ROBERT STEIN, Chairman
23	
24	
25	

1	Appearances:
2	Council Members:
3	PHILIP T. ASHTON
4	ROBERT HANNON,
5	DEEP Designee
6	LARRY LEVESQUE, ESQ.,
7	PURA Designee
8	DANIEL P. LYNCH, JR.
9	
LO	Council Staff:
L1	MELANIE BACHMAN, ESQ.
L2	Executive Director and
L3	Staff Attorney
L4	
L5	ROBERT MERCIER
L6	Siting Analyst
L7	
L8	For American Tower Corporation and New
L9	Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC:
20	CUDDY & FEDER LLP
21	445 Hamilton Avenue
22	14th Floor
23	White Plains, New York 10601
24	BY: CHRISTOPHER B. FISHER, ESQ.
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    Appearances: (Cont'd.)
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         For the Town of East Lyme:
3
              WALLER, SMITH & PALMER, P.C.
4
              52 Eugene O'Neill Drive
5
6
              New London, Connecticut 06320
7
                    BY: TRACY M. COLLINS, ESQ.
8
9
         For BHSO Community Conservancy:
              CRAIG TOOKER
10
11
              RICHARD PERRY
12
              342 Boston Post Road
13
              East Lyme, Connecticut 06333
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THE CHAIRMAN: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. I'd like to call to order this meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council regarding Docket Number 463, today, Tuesday, January 26, 2016, at approximately 11:15. My name is Robin Stein. I'm Chairman of the Siting Council.

This hearing is a continuation of a hearing held on December 15, 2015, at the East Lyme Town Hall Upper Meeting Room in Niantic, Connecticut. It was held pursuant to the provisions of Title 16 of the Connecticut General Statutes and the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act upon an application from American Towers, LLC, and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 351A Boston Post Road, East Lyme, Connecticut. This application was received by the Council on October 6, 2015.

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

We will proceed in accordance with the

- prepared agenda, copies of which are available
 here.
- A slight change in the order. We will proceed with the appearance of the party of the Town of East Lyme first. I gather one of the individuals has other business to take care of.

 We appreciate you being here, in any case.
- So we'll now start with the swearing in
 of your witnesses, or I don't know if you're both
 witnesses or --
 - MS. COLLINS: No. I'm Attorney Tracy
 Collins, the town attorney for the Town of East
 Lyme. With me this morning is Gary Goeschel, the
 Town of East Lyme planner.
- THE CHAIRMAN: So it will be the planner who will be sworn in?
- MS. COLLINS: Correct.

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- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: In my previous life I
 19 refer to planners as planners, but go ahead.
- 20 GARY A. GOESCHEL, II,
- called as a witness, being first duly sworn
 by Ms. Bachman, was examined and testified on
 his oath as follows:
- MS. BACHMAN: Thank you.
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: Attorney Collins, can

1 you begin by verifying the exhibits you filed by the witness? 2 MS. COLLINS: Yes. The Town of East 3 Lyme filed a request for party and CEPA intervenor 4 5 status on November 19, 2015. And the Town of East Lyme responded to the BHSO's interrogatories, 6 7 dated January 19, 2016. And I ask that those be admitted as full exhibits. 8 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Do you have any corrections to what was previously submitted? 10 11 MS. COLLINS: No, I don't, sir. 12 THE CHAIRMAN: And you or your witness 13 prepared these documents? MS. COLLINS: Yes. 14 Well, I prepared 15 the documents, along with the first selectman in our motion to intervene, and Mr. Goeschel, yes, 16 17 assisted us in preparing the answers to 18 interrogatories and provided much of the 19 information that is attached to the interrogatories, all of it really. 20 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. 22 Does any party or intervenor have any 23 objection to the admission of the town's exhibits? 24 No objection. MR. FISHER:

THE CHAIRMAN:

Hearing and seeing none,

1 the exhibits are admitted. Thank you.

2 (Town of East Lyme Exhibits III-B-1 and

III-B-2: Received in evidence - described in

4 index.)

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5 THE CHAIRMAN: So we'll now begin with

6 the cross-examination by Mr. Mercier of our staff.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

MR. MERCIER: Thank you.

I just want to look at the Town of East
Lyme responses to interrogatories filed by the
BHSO Community Conservancy, specifically Question
Number 5, in regards to the Marion Road parcel.

Now, assuming for a second that the site was acceptable to AT&T for radio frequency purposes, reading this answer it states, "The town does not have the authority to 'provide the site,'" but also lists about five entities that would require approval. In order to provide the site to an entity like AT&T, could you just describe a little bit more the process that would be required if the town would be willing to provide that parcel to the applicant?

THE WITNESS (Goeschel): Sure.

Approvals would be needed for the Planning

25 Commission. There would have to be an 8-24

referral from the Board of Selectmen to the 1 Planning Commission reviewing the site for 2 3 adequacy of whether or not the public improvement or the improvement to public property would be 4 5 consistent with the plan of development. shouldn't call it "public improvement." It's 6 "private improvement" to public property. 7 8 MR. MERCIER: So the Board of Selectmen 9 would --THE WITNESS (Goeschel): 10 legislative body of the Town of East Lyme, so they 11 would be the ultimate decisionmakers as to whether 12 13 or not the parcel could be given up to AT&T or some other private entity for development. 14 15 MR. MERCIER: I'm just trying to figure out the exact steps. Would the Planning 16 17 Commission approach the Board of Selectmen or 18 vice-versa? 19 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): The Board of 20 Selectmen would approach the Planning Commission. The second step to that is that the applicant cell 21 22 company would need to apply to the Zoning 23 Commission for site plan approval, as well as the 24 Aquifer Protection Agency, which our Zoning

Commission in the Town of East Lyme also acts as

- 1 that agency. There is a large portion of the site within that aquifer protection area overlay zone.
- And then upon approvals, I believe it would have 3
- to go to also a town meeting. 4
- 5 MR. MERCIER: Is the town meeting just
- for public comment, or is it something that leads 6
- 7 to like a town vote for all the residents of the
- 8 town?

- THE WITNESS (Goeschel): It would be a 9
- town vote for all the residents of the town. 10
- MR. MERCIER: Do you have any idea, if 11
- 12 this process was undertaken, how long this would
- take? 13
- THE WITNESS (Goeschel): 14 In terms of
- 15 applications, zoning applications, maximum,
- 16 potentially just going through the Zoning
- Commission could take, I would say, 120 to 17
- 18 200-plus days. In addition to the Planning
- Commission, it could take a month or two. 19 I mean,
- 20 if you fast-tracked it, a month at best,
- but that's the best I can say there. 21
- 22 And as far as a town meeting, we'd have
- to schedule notice in the papers, so you're 23
- 24 possibly looking at another month or two months
- 25 there. I think all in all it could be another

1 year before that gets finalized. Now, regarding the 2 MR. MERCIER: 3 aquifer protection area, I noticed that just north of that parcel there's a lot of residential 4 5 development within the aquifer area. In order to build those residences and lots, do they also have 6 7 to go through the aquifer protection step-up 8 review process? 9 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): They do not, 10 as they would be considered preexisting nonconforming in that regard. The aquifer 11 12 protection area, as I recall, was adopted in 2005, 13 so that's a recently adopted overlay zone. Previously to that we had a primary and secondary 14 15 aquifer recharge area, which I believe those homes 16 did reside in, and probably was in effect when the 17 subdivisions were approved. Residential 18 development was not a prohibited use within those 19 zones. 20 MR. MERCIER: Just out of curiosity, is it prohibited today for other undeveloped parcels? 21 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): Residential 22 23 development? 24 MR. MERCIER: Yes.

THE WITNESS (Goeschel): No, it's not

1 prohibited.

MR. MERCIER: So just based on the answer to 5, and right now it says "the town doesn't have the authority to provide the site," and, again, that would be the Board of Selectman would have to make that recommendation?

THE WITNESS (Goeschel): It would have to get approved at a town meeting, as well as going through the Planning Commission and Zoning.

MR. MERCIER: Okay. I have no other questions. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: We'll now proceed with questions from the Council.

Mr. Ashton?

MR. ASHTON: Would you please describe for me qualitatively how your plan of conservation and development includes telecommunication facilities? I want to get a feel for how significant it is. Is it just a passing reference or does it really --

THE WITNESS (Goeschel): In terms of the plan of conservation and development, I would say it's more of a passing reference. We don't specifically speak of telecommunication facilities. We identify it as it's probably more

- 1 of a convenience.
- MR. ASHTON: You're not alone. Don't
- 3 worry about it.
- You mentioned 120 days, 200 days for a
- 5 zoning application. Isn't that a little bit
- 6 optimistic? It depends whether the t's are
- 7 crossed and the i's are dotted --
- 8 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): That's
- 9 correct.
- 10 MR. ASHTON: -- and what day of the
- 11 week it is, and so forth. Isn't 120 to 150 to 240
- 12 more likely?
- 13 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): More likely,
- 14 you know, you've got 65 days to hold a public
- 15 hearing, 35 days to conduct it, another 65 to
- 16 render a decision, and that's all if the applicant
- 17 doesn't grant you another 65 days' worth of
- 18 extension time.
- 19 MR. ASHTON: Good point. You can
- 20 muscle the applicant a little bit.
- 21 As I read the material here, I'd like
- 22 your opinion. There's several sites, alternate
- 23 sites, that don't quite meet the bill. They cover
- 24 a lot of the territory, but there's, I believe, if
- 25 I remember my facts, a tenth of a mile on 95

- that's omitted. What would your reaction be
 towards approving a site -- excuse me, I've got a
- 3 little personal problem -- that covers the 90
- 4 percent or 95 percent, and then put a small cell
- 5 site in to cover the 10 percent of the gap, if you
- 6 will, what's your reaction towards that?
- 7 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): Well, if you
- 8 can cover 90 percent and you have a small cell
- 9 site that covers the other 10, that's 100 percent
- 10 coverage. I think that's pretty good.
- MR. ASHTON: That doesn't give anybody
- 12 in the town a heartburn?
- 13 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): I guess the
- 14 question is is where is the alternate or the small
- 15 cell site going.
- 16 MR. ASHTON: I understand. I
- 17 understand. This is by way of background. We're
- 18 seeing a lot of applications for what I call a
- 19 small site is a single antenna array that's on the
- 20 top of a building, a false chimney, you name it
- and, quite frankly, nobody knows they're there.
- The question I have is if we can solve
- 23 90 percent of the problem with a big site, can we
- 24 solve the other 10 percent, by my terminology,
- with a small site, and the town would support

1 that? THE WITNESS (Goeschel): Right. 2 I 3 would say, yes, the town would support that. MR. ASHTON: Thank you. That's all. 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Levesque? 5 MR. LEVESQUE: I don't have any 6 7 questions. 8 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hannon? 9 MR. HANNON: Thank you. 10 You talk about the aquifer protection zone. What level mapping is that? 11 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): It's Level A 12 13 mapping. It was conducted with the Connecticut DEEP, and we employed Milone & MacBroom, and I 14 15 think the Maguire Group as well, to conduct that 16 mapping, but basically it's the direct recharge area for our town wells. 17 18 MR. HANNON: Thank you. And in terms of the length of time for the commission, is a 19 20 cell tower something that requires a public hearing under the ordinance, or is it something 21 22 that would come in under site plan review? 23 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): My 24 understanding is that to enter a lease with the 25 applicant it would require a public hearing.

terms of the zoning, I'd have to look at the zoning code specifically. I'm not sure if that would require a public hearing. I believe it may.

MR. HANNON: I'm just curious on that because, again, the site plan review versus special exception, whatever you want to label it, you're talking about two significant differences in the amount of time for any type of application that goes before any of the boards, including the material that may be required. I was just kind of curious about that.

So you think that maybe because there is a lease involved that that's something that would go through a public hearing? Because I would think that that's more an issue related to the town council rather than local boards because I didn't think something like that was under the jurisdiction of the local boards.

MS. COLLINS: Am I permitted to answer that question?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, please.

MS. COLLINS: There is a state statute, the exact citation of which is alluding me right now, but it's Section 7 of the Connecticut General Statutes that requires a town to go through a

certain process before it rents any town-owned property. And it's quite a substantial process.

It's also my understanding that to put a cell tower on the Marion Drive site, because it's in the aquifer protection area, would require zoning approval.

MR. HANNON: Okay. I'm just trying to make sure that I understand. I understand a hearing is most likely required. I'm just trying to figure out whether or not that is something that is required by the Council or by the zoning board, because my recollection would be it would not be the zoning board but rather the Council. So from that perspective, the amount of time required to go through the zoning commission theoretically could be quite a bit less.

MS. COLLINS: In order to provide the site, the town understands that the zoning rules don't apply to cell phone towers; but in order to offer up this site willingly, the town feels that it would have to go through that process.

MR. HANNON: Okay. I have no other questions.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

Mr. Mercier?

MR. MERCIER: Just a follow-up. I never even actually asked, is the town even receptive to offering the parcel to AT&T if it actually worked for AT&T's radio frequency needs?

THE WITNESS (Goeschel): The town's position is that we're actually opposed to the location of the tower wherever it would have an impact to residential neighborhoods. And as we provided in our response to these, is that we couldn't exactly provide the number of homes within 1,000 feet, but we were able to provide the number of lots. And based on the maps, you can see there's substantial neighborhoods in just about every radius.

So the town's position is that right now we're opposed to the site, only that it's in our plan of conservation and development. It was identified as a piece of existing open space, even though there is no conservation easement on it. It was planned for hiking and walking trails as well. So from that standpoint, we would be opposed.

MR. MERCIER: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Just so I'm clear on your response, the Marion Drive site would also

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impact residences?
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               THE WITNESS (Goeschel): That's
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3
    correct.
               THE CHAIRMAN:
                               Maybe a different set of
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5
    residences, but it would impact residences?
               THE WITNESS (Goeschel): That's
6
7
    correct.
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               THE CHAIRMAN: All right. Thank you.
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               We'll now go to cross by Mr. Fisher?
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               MR. FISHER: Just a couple of quick
    questions, Chairman. Thank you.
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               With respect to the existing tower site
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    that's in the Orchards Development, just a couple
    of quick questions about that. If the applicant
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15
    was able to work with the developer to modify that
16
    facility, maybe its design, its height, its
    aesthetics, work with the developer to try to
17
18
    incorporate that into the overall design for the
    development itself, is that something that you
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20
    think the town would be opposed to?
               THE WITNESS (Goeschel): I don't think
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22
         I think we'd actually be supportive of that
23
    because it's an existing tower.
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               MR. FISHER: Thank you, Chairman.
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               THE CHAIRMAN:
                               Thank you.
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Now a representative from BHSO

2 Community Conservancy, and I believe that's Mr.

Tooker. And if you could sit next to Mr. Mercier?

4 Go ahead.

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5 MS. BACHMAN: Do you have any questions

6 for the town?

MR. TOOKER: Yes, I do.

THE CHAIRMAN: Go ahead. You'll get

your chance to be sworn in later.

MR. TOOKER: We have a couple of questions, some of which may be a follow-up to

12 those responses. So I think we'll probably just

go through the questions that we had prepared.

14 With regard to the response on Question

15 3, which is talking about the different approvals

16 that the site, the Marion Drive Site 19, would

require. It seems that the one that continues to

come back is the aquifer protection area. And if

it would be all right to ask, looking at the map

20 that the town provided, it appears that the area

21 that we're talking about is about approximately

22 the northern-most parcel or the northern-most

23 portion of this parcel, and it encompasses about

25 percent of that parcel approximately. Would

25 that be accurate?

1 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): Based on the map, I would say it's about 25 percent, plus or 2 minus. 3 MR. TOOKER: It's clearly the 4 5 northern-most part? THE WITNESS (Goeschel): 6 That's 7 correct, it's the northern portion of the 8 property. 9 MR. TOOKER: If a possible tower 10 location was selected outside of that, say 500-plus feet away, whatever, but some distance 11 clearly outside of that northern-most area, would 12 13 it still fall under the protection of such a protected area? 14 15 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): So if it fell 16 outside of that aquifer protection area, they 17 wouldn't be going to zoning --18 THE CHAIRMAN: Could I just follow up I'm trying to figure out how would you, 19 on that? 20 if you were to build the tower and you could build the tower presumably maybe outside of that area, 21 22 but how would you access? I only see one. If I'm looking at the correct map, I only see one of the 23 24 streets. It's a cul-de-sac at the moment which 25 terminates at the property line. Or are there

others? Is there any -- I'm just trying to figure out.

THE WITNESS (Goeschel): Well, based on the map, I believe that's Seebeck Road, which actually terminates, the cul-de-sac itself terminates adjacent to this parcel. The Marion Drive, Jean Drive and the other third of the right-of-way, the town right-of-way, extends to the parcel, but the road hasn't been constructed, so you'd have to have additional construction of the road. That would involve, again, potentially going to the Planning Commission for subdivision or resubdivision approval because you're extending the road. And I'd have to look closer at the statute and our regulations to see if that would in fact be the case.

So aside from putting in a driveway cut off of Seebeck Road, which does cross through the aquifer protection area, that activity may in fact need to go to the Zoning Commission for approval.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you. Go ahead, continue.

MR. TOOKER: To further on that point, the address of this parcel is given as Marion Drive, correct?

THE WITNESS (Goeschel): Zero Marion

Drive. That's my understanding.

MR. TOOKER: So the intent probably when it was labeled as such was that the access would be through that town right-of-way, if it could be developed, given --

THE WITNESS (Goeschel): It would be a driveway -- well, currently this was to be built out, and the town has had it since, what, 1948, it's just remained as a forested wood lot, but I guess you could come off of Jean Drive as well because the right-of-ways extend to it.

MR. TOOKER: I guess to be clear, it would be reasonable to assume that that right-of-way could be used to access this property and not through the protection --

THE WITNESS (Goeschel): Potentially.

I mean, there's a right-of-way there, the ability
to pass and repass, but substantial construction
would have to be undertaken.

MR. TOOKER: With regard to -- and I think we've moved past this point, but just to make it clear, it's been acknowledged by the town that the open space classification was only really for tax purposes and not for zoning requirements,

1 correct? THE WITNESS (Goeschel): That's my 2 understanding. However, in our plan of 3 development we do identify it as existing open 4 5 space, and it's remained vacant in that configuration since the town acquired it in 1948. 6 7 MR. TOOKER: And it's in that plan as existing open space, not perceived open space? 8 9 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): I believe we 10 had, as part of our plan of conservation and development, we had a Land of Unique Value Study 11 conducted by Peter Miniutti from UConn, and they 12 identified it there as existing open space. 13 think there's a relatively substantial piece in 14 15 terms of its location in the center of the town 16 geographically. We submitted a copy of the map. MR. TOOKER: Yes, it's in that 17 18 attachment. 19 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): So that's 20 where we identify it as existing open space. MR. TOOKER: Just looking at that map, 21 22 right, it shows everything as open space. 23 there such a classification as "perceived open 24 space"?

THE WITNESS (Goeschel): There is on a

- 1 separate map, which we did not submit.
- 2 MR. TOOKER: Does this parcel fall on
- 3 that, or does it fall on -- and if you don't know,
- 4 that's okay.
- THE WITNESS (Goeschel): At this time I
- 6 can't answer that without looking at the other
- 7 map.
- 8 MR. TOOKER: As far as the proposal to
- 9 make it a hiking and foot path in the town's plan
- 10 of conservation and development, if a tower were
- 11 to be placed on this approximately 35-plus acre
- 12 parcel, is it reasonable to assume that the
- 13 majority of this parcel would still remain
- 14 undeveloped and could be available for such a
- 15 hiking and foot path?
- 16 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): I would say
- 17 that's probably reasonable.
- 18 MR. TOOKER: And if that was to happen,
- 19 wouldn't the town even have the added benefit of
- 20 having the money from the cell phone tower to
- 21 finance such development?
- THE WITNESS (Goeschel): I guess we
- 23 have the added benefit of income. Whether or not
- 24 it's used to fund a hiking trail --
- MR. TOOKER: Sure. Thank you.

Moving to Question 4, which was in regard to the designation -- I apologize, I've already asked that question. We can move on past that.

I guess back to Question 5 as the Siting Council's question. In regards to whether or not the town could offer this property for consideration, it had to go through the Planning Commission if it was part of the aquifer protection; did I understand that correctly, or no?

THE WITNESS (Goeschel): I'll clarify. So the Board of Selectmen would, if they have the interest to locate the cell tower on the site, they would send a referral to the Planning Commission to review the proposal for consistency with the town's plan of conservation and development, upon which we would send the referral back stating whether it was or was not. If it was inconsistent, the Board of Selectmen would have to vote, majority vote, to continue to offer the site, in which case you would then look at getting zoning approvals and then taking it to a town meeting for a vote to offer it up.

MR. TOOKER: So the first step is the

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Board of Selectmen. And who is on the Board of
1
    Selectmen in the Town of East Lyme, is it a large
2
    group, or is it just a few?
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                THE WITNESS (Goeschel): A five-member
4
            Mark Nickerson is our first selectman.
5
    board.
    Any correspondence would be addressed to him.
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7
               MR. TOOKER: So he's kind of the
8
    primary --
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               THE WITNESS (Goeschel): We would start
10
    there, yes.
11
               MR. TOOKER:
                            Does the town recognize
    that the first selectman lives within 500 feet of
12
    this parcel?
13
                THE WITNESS (Goeschel): Yes.
14
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               MR. TOOKER: And would that potentially
    influence its availability?
16
               THE WITNESS (Goeschel):
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               MR. TOOKER:
                             Moving on to the, I think,
19
    final question we have regarding the residential
    impact, I think you stated that the town is really
20
21
    concerned with finding the site with no
22
    residential impact or certainly one that has the
23
    least residential impact and probably represents
24
    all of our interests as well?
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THE WITNESS (Goeschel): Yes, that's

1 correct. MR. TOOKER: Although I understand the 2 limitations of the GIS mapping software to take a 3 40-acre parcel or 35-acre parcel and do 1,000-foot 4 5 offset substantially exaggerates the area that that encompasses; would that be accurate? 6 7 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): It does. 8 MR. TOOKER: From the map provided from 9 the town we were able to see that the nearly 125 10 homes that were generated on that list would drop down to about 17 within 1,000 feet; is that 11 12 roughly accurate? THE WITNESS (Goeschel): I'd have to, 13 based on the scale, if I had a scale, maybe I 14 15 could count them up. 16 MR. TOOKER: Sure. Okay. THE WITNESS (Goeschel): So I can't say 17 18 definitively. 19 MR. TOOKER: But you could say definitively that it's probably not the 125 that 20 21 are listed there? 22 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): Most likely, 23 that's correct. 24 MR. TOOKER: Are we allowed to contrast

that to the proposed site, would that be

appropriate for purposes of the Council? 1 THE CHAIRMAN: At the moment you're 2 supposed to be asking questions, not making 3 4 statements. RICHARD PERRY: We did ask the town to 5 do a similar mapping of the proposed site, and 6 7 they did provide a count of neighborhood residents there that listed -- I forget the number. 8 9 MR. TOOKER: A hundred and fourteen, I think it was. 10 11 MR. PERRY: A hundred and fourteen. 12 And so I guess we would --MR. TOOKER: I think we're okay. 13 THE CHAIRMAN: If you have any further 14 15 questions --16 MR. PERRY: No, we do not. THE CHAIRMAN: We have the maps, and we 17 18 have the circles. We see the houses. 19 MR. PERRY: Okay. Very good. 20 MR. TOOKER: Thank you. 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. 22 We have a follow-up question from one 23 of the members. 24 MR. HANNON: I just want to follow up

on a couple of the questions that were asked.

example, in looking at Exhibit C, I think, which
is the 1,000-foot radius at 0 Marion Drive, that's
taken from the perimeter of the property?

THE WITNESS (Goeschel): Yes.

MR. HANNON: So theoretically there could be something located on the site which may not really impact many, if any, at all residences, correct?

THE WITNESS (Goeschel): It would shrink that radius down probably significantly.

MR. HANNON: So it's conceivable that you could have very few residences involved with that.

The other question is I don't have the names of the streets on the maps, so bear with me on that. But, for example, looking at Exhibit A, on the eastern side, it's like three roads, sort of cul-de-sacs and paper right-of-ways that are associated with it. So, for example, taking the middle road, there are a couple of houses, it looks like, that are showing up as being on a cul-de-sac. But assuming there is a 50-foot wide right-of-way and the town is looking at using this property for hiking, things of that nature, would

- it make sense maybe coming in through a road like 1 that where a gravel drive goes in which people 2 would also have access to to maybe get to the site 3 theoretically? And maybe there could be some 4 5 parking put in so people could actually gain access that wanted to hike on the site. I mean, 6 7 is that a positive thing that the town would look 8 at? 9 THE WITNESS (Goeschel): I believe it
 - THE WITNESS (Goeschel): I believe it would be a positive, more specifically, if the town did not incur the construction costs.
- MR. HANNON: Understood. That's all I have.

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- THE CHAIRMAN: But you're still, I'm hearing the statement, that the town is not offering that site as a possible --
- THE WITNESS (Goeschel): At the present time that's correct.
- THE CHAIRMAN: And just so everybody is

 clear, the Siting Council cannot -- can suggest

 that an alternative site in any application might

 have less impact, but the Siting Council has no

 powers to force a property owner, whether it's a

 town or the state or a private property owner, to

 offer up their site. I just want to make that

- 1 clear.
- I think you can go back to work now.
- THE WITNESS (Goeschel): Thank you.
- THE CHAIRMAN: But Attorney Collins,
- 5 you can stay because you may want to
- 6 cross-examine.
- 7 MS. COLLINS: I'm going to stay, and
- 8 I'll sit in the back. Thank you.
- 9 (Witness excused.)
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now we're going
- 11 to go back to the first part of the agenda, which
- 12 is the appearance of the applicant, American
- 13 Towers and New Cingular Wireless, to verify new
- 14 exhibits, which I believe are marked as Roman
- 15 numeral II, Items B.9 and 10 on the hearing
- 16 program.
- 17 And Attorney Fisher, do you want to
- 18 begin by verifying the new exhibits you filed and
- 19 by the appropriate sworn witnesses?
- 20 MR. FISHER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. And I
- 21 do have information that Mr. Libertine is en
- 22 route. I just don't have an actual ETA.
- 23 HARRY ROCHEVILLE,
- 24 CAMILO A. GAVIRIA,
- 25 JENNIFER YOUNG GAUDET,

1 KEVIN MASON, 2 DAN BILEZIKIAN, 3 MARTIN LAVIN, KELLY WADE BETTUCHI, 4 5 called as witnesses, having been previously duly sworn, were examined and continued to 6 7 testify on their oaths as follows: 8 MR. FISHER: So subject to his 9 subsequent verification, because there were a few 10 questions that he responded to in providing the information to the Council, I would ask each of 11 12 the witnesses, did you prepare -- without going 13 through each one and identifying each question, there were a few though that were fairly straight 14 15 forward as to who -- would have been Mr. 16 Libertine, but subject to him later verifying those, did you prepare and assist in the 17 18 preparation of the information in response to interrogatories and also the supplemental 19 information provided to the Council? 20 THE WITNESS (Gaviria): Yes. 21 22 THE WITNESS (Rocheville): Yes. 23 THE WITNESS (Mason): Yes. 24 THE WITNESS (Bilezikian): Yes.

THE WITNESS (Lavin): Yes.

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THE WITNESS (Wade Bettuchi):
1
               MR. FISHER: And with respect to both
2
3
    of the documents, both the responses to
    interrogatories and supplemental information, are
4
5
    there any corrections or modifications in
    reviewing that in preparation for your testimony
6
7
    here today?
               THE WITNESS (Rocheville):
8
9
               THE WITNESS (Gaviria):
10
               THE WITNESS (Mason): No.
11
               THE WITNESS (Bilezikian):
                                           No.
12
               THE WITNESS (Lavin):
               THE WITNESS (Wade Bettuchi): No.
13
               MR. FISHER: And are they true and
14
15
    accurate to the best of your belief?
               THE WITNESS (Rocheville):
16
               THE WITNESS (Gaviria): Yes.
17
18
               THE WITNESS (Mason): Yes.
19
               THE WITNESS (Bilezikian): Yes.
               THE WITNESS (Lavin): Yes.
20
21
               THE WITNESS (Wade Bettuchi):
22
               MR. FISHER: And do you adopt the
23
    responses as your testimony in supplement to
24
    today's hearing?
25
               THE WITNESS (Rocheville):
                                           Yes.
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THE WITNESS (Gaviria): Yes.
1
               THE WITNESS (Mason): Yes.
2
               THE WITNESS (Bilezikian): Yes.
3
               THE WITNESS (Lavin): Yes.
4
5
               THE WITNESS (Wade Bettuchi): Yes.
               MR. FISHER: Chairman, subject to
6
7
    subsequently verifying when he's here and
8
    available the responses that were related to
9
    visual information of Mr. Libertine, with that
10
    caveat, I would ask that the documents be
11
    accepted?
12
               THE CHAIRMAN:
                               Okay. Are there any
    objection to these exhibits being submitted
13
    subject to that caveat?
14
15
               MS. COLLINS: None from the town.
               MR. TOOKER: None.
16
               THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing and seeing none,
17
18
    the exhibits are admitted.
19
                (Applicant Exhibits II-B-9 and II-B-10:
    Received in evidence - described in index.)
20
               THE CHAIRMAN: All right. So you don't
21
22
    have any idea when his ETA, as you so informed us?
23
               MR. FISHER: I just asked my colleague,
24
    Ms. Gaudet, to go see if we could find out that
25
    information. She's in the hallway now trying to
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get an ETA from him. It may be that we have to
come back to him in the proceedings, but if there
are questions that we can answer now that are
unrelated to visual, we'd like to be able --

THE CHAIRMAN: But he will be back before the end of the day?

MR. FISHER: We believe so, yes. He apparently has left. He had left on time. We're just trying to get an actual ETA for the Council.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right. So we'll cross-examine as best we can.

Mr. Mercier?

CROSS-EXAMINATION

MR. MERCIER: Thank you. I actually had no questions for Mr. Libertine. I did have a question related to the Marion Drive parcel.

Now, I understand the town is not interested in offering the parcel, so that's one of the questions. It has to do with Response 5 to the BHSO Community Conservancy interrogatory responses.

Interrogatory 5 at the last paragraph basically stated it would not work, it was "RF rejected" by AT&T, and that was based on the location in the southeast corner of the property.

- So I'm wondering why that particular location was 1 selected on the property when the highest point of 2 the property is towards the middle? 3
- THE WITNESS (Lavin): It was analyzed 4 5 for RF based on the northeast extreme corner, which is the highest point on the property. I 6 7 think the town's preference was for the southeast corner. The RF analysis was done on the extreme 8 northeast corner of the property, which is the 9
- 11 MR. MERCIER: And you just stated that 12 the town --

highest point on the property.

10

- THE WITNESS (Lavin): I believe the 13 14 town expressed a preference for the southeast 15 corner, which is much lower.
- MR. MERCIER: When did this preference 17 occur -- was indicated to you?
- 18 THE WITNESS (Bilezikian): When I spoke to the first selectman, he expressed that the town 19 20 wasn't interested in offering up the parcel, but if they were, it would be the extreme southeast 21 22 corner.
- 23 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Thank you. I have no other questions. 24
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ashton?

MR. ASHTON: Earlier on I asked the
question about a 90 percent site with a 10 percent
kicker. Is there such a 90 percent site that's
available?

THE WITNESS (Mason): Yes, the 90 percent retained the existing coverage would be the existing site, the Orchards location, something very close to that.

MR. ASHTON: I'm sorry, I'm having trouble hearing you.

THE WITNESS (Mason): To get 90 percent, if you're looking for 90 percent, the existing site that we have, as close to that as possible, would be the 90 percent site.

MR. ASHTON: And that site is not available to you?

THE WITNESS (Mason): We are working with the developer to possibly stay at that site, not the exact same site, but we have talked to the developer, we met with them last week, and it's an open dialogue of trying to stay at the site, possibly move it. While we've offered them some stealth solutions, we showed them what we can do in terms of tree poles, silos, unipoles, things like that, stealth water tanks, which I think

- you've seen, and that's our intent, to keep the
 dialogue open so that we can remain at the highest
 point of that Orchards property.
- 4 MR. ASHTON: When do you expect that dialogue to be concluded?
- THE WITNESS (Mason): I think it's

 going to take another 30 days probably to get into

 the substance. We just got the initial response

 back from them yesterday that they would entertain

 this, so now we have to get into the details of

 that.
- MR. ASHTON: Thank you. Nothing further.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
- Mr. Levesque?
- MR. LEVESQUE: I don't have any
- 17 questions.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hannon?
- MR. HANNON: I do have one. Again,
 this is based on my memory, which sometimes isn't
 all that good. At the public hearing I believe
 one of the last gentlemen to speak, who was very
 colorful that evening, brought up the issue of
 Ancient Highway. And I know, going through the
- 25 original part of the application that came in,

- 1 there were two addresses for Ancient Highway that
- 2 apparently had been given an adverse effect
- 3 determination by the Mohegan Tribe. Were those
- 4 the same locations that originally there was a
- 5 temporary solution being proposed? I'm not
- 6 certain that that's the case. I just want to
- 7 clarify that in my mind.
- 8 MR. FISHER: I can verify for the
- 9 Council that the consultations with the Mohegan
- 10 Tribe done in accordance with federal
- 11 requirements, the two addresses that were given
- 12 along Ancient Highway would have been the two
- 13 parcels, one being the site where we originally
- 14 sited and planned for a temporary facility, and
- 15 then the second being the location for the
- 16 permanent site. So essentially the Mohegan Tribe
- 17 was evaluating those two parcels and that
- 18 surrounding environment.
- 19 MR. HANNON: I just wanted to confirm
- 20 that. So thank you.
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now we'll go to
- 22 any cross-examination by the town?
- MS. COLLINS: No cross-examination by
- 24 the town.
- 25 THE CHAIRMAN: Cross-examination by --

MR. TOOKER: Yes, please.

outlined in Question 3, which had the map that you guys, I understand, generated from the best of the information that you have, which identifies the protected tribe area or the area that was given the adverse effect determination, according to that map that I think All-Points Technology prepared in Attachment 1. Is it the opinion of the applicant that the entire 35 parcel Marion Drive site falls in that restricted area?

MR. FISHER: Chairman, this is going to be one of those questions that's probably more appropriate for Mr. Libertine. And I just received a report from Ms. Gaudet who has been in contact with him, and he's to be here within the hour. So if we can defer that question and come back to it, we would like Mr. Libertine to present his testimony in response to that question.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay, I guess we'll have to wait.

MR. TOOKER: So a question regarding
Site 18, as I understand, is still not made
available. This is the water tower site. Just a
quick question about that. Our Question 4 was

asking for a coverage map, assuming that a 1 2 monopole could be co-located on that site and not just antennas on the existing water tower, which 3 we recognize would be a technical challenge. 4 5 provided attachment -- the applicant provided Attachment 3, which is a comparison of the water 6 7 tank to the existing site. Was a coverage map ran 8 against the proposed site as well or just the existing? 9 10 THE WITNESS (Lavin): I'm not exactly 11 sure. 12 MR. TOOKER: So the coverage map that's 13 attached is Attachment 3. It appears that it was ran against the existing site and not the 14 15 proposed? THE WITNESS (Lavin): Yes. 16 17 MR. TOOKER: So I'm just trying to --18 THE WITNESS (Lavin): It's just 19 intended to show -- the lighter green color is intended to show the coverage from the site that 20 people currently have now that is not recovered by 21 22 building a 199-foot tower at the water tank 23 location. 24 Was it run against the MR. TOOKER:

proposed site, the 351 Boston Post Road?

THE WITNESS (Lavin): I'm not sure what you mean by "run against."

MR. TOOKER: Instead of running it against the existing site, was it also run against the proposed site?

THE WITNESS (Lavin): It wasn't run against the proposed site. It was evaluated to see how much of the existing coverage it would recover if it were built.

MR. TOOKER: Okay. Thank you.

And if the town was to make that property available, is it technically possible to locate a monopole on that site?

MR. FISHER: Just for clarification, when you say "technically possible," do you mean from the RF engineering network service point?

MR. TOOKER: No, I'm sorry, from the space limitations, the physical size.

MR. FISHER: You're referring to the water tank site or the Marion Drive site?

MR. TOOKER: I'm sorry, the water tank site. With regard to Question 4, I think part of the response was a tower at this location would leave a significant coverage gap, which we just talked about. But it was also the town lot, the

approximately 40-foot tall water tank, is only slightly larger than the well itself, and it sounded like maybe that would -- it wasn't clear whether or not it would be possible or if it would just be an obstacle that could be overcome.

THE WITNESS (Rocheville): At this time we can't really give a conclusive answer. I mean, just looking at this aerial, it looks like we might have some possible locations in the southwest and southeast corners, but a site visit would be required in order to determine that.

THE WITNESS (Mason): There are significant other challenges there that we'd have to express and look into. The outflow of pipes from the water tanks, there's a lot of stuff going underground there not visible from the map, two carriers on there. The ground space is extremely limited on that parcel, but we also have all the leasing challenges that are applicable to Marion Drive that were detailed earlier to go through, the town meeting, all those approvals.

MR. TOOKER: The property is leased now though to carriers, so it's conceivable that that wouldn't be a limiting factor?

THE WITNESS (Mason): It's leased for

attachment to the top of the tank to Sprint now.

MR. TOOKER: Jumping back to the Marion Drive site, with respect to Question 5 in the interrogatories we were looking at the deeds, the conservation restrictions, which we talked to the town about. There was something in particular in the responses that the applicant provided that we just wanted to hit on a little bit, and that was the comments, in reviewing the town's plan of conservation, included in the applicants' bulk filing, Figure 19, Page 107, titled "Perceived Open Space," shows this parcel in green and Figure 20 on page 108 showing existing open space.

So the question specific to that is can the applicant clarify, is that an official town document that that was found on?

MR. FISHER: That's probably more a question for the town. What we were able to ascertain was that that's in their plan of conservation and development. I assume that to be an official town document. That's where that information comes from.

MR. TOOKER: Okay. Sure. That was just kind of a follow-up question. You guys cited the figures, and they weren't really sure, so

that's why I thought to ask that.

Can you confirm that the corrected application now indicates it as perceived open space? I think that was mentioned in there.

THE WITNESS (Mason): What was the question again?

MR. TOOKER: Sure. Can you confirm that the application was corrected as it was indicated to show perceived open space? I think that was part of your response that was going to be corrected.

(Whereupon, Mr. Lynch entered the hearing room.)

MR. FISHER: I think just to be technically accurate, when your question came in and the applicant looked at all the information that was available and saw the different maps, the best we could say is it's listed as perceived open space. Whatever that means for the town's purposes would be a question for them.

MR. TOOKER: Sure. Given this change -- and I think the question may have been asked, but I'll ask it again, and I apologize if it's redundant -- if the town were to make this available, would the applicant consider it?

1 THE WITNESS (Mason): I don't think we would consider it as a good candidate. 2 3 timelines for the town and the pressure that we're under to continue service here, we have an out at 4 5 that Orchards property at the end of this year. So the timelines for a town site, to lease a town 6 7 site, we've done it before, but the timelines 8 outlined -- or even optimistic from even the other 9 questions -- we would guess two years for that to 10 get that site. It just doesn't work from a timeline perspective to maintain the coverage. 11 MR. ASHTON: If it were available, 12 would it work? I'd like his question answered. 13 THE WITNESS (Mason): That's primarily 14 15 an RF question, so I'll hand it over. 16 MR. ASHTON: I understand there's a 17 problem, but problems have a way of getting solved 18 too. It's the response 19 THE WITNESS (Lavin): 20 to the Conservancy's interrogatories. There is no point on that parcel that works for RF. 21 22 northeast corner is the highest. It doesn't quite 23 That appears to be near the aguifer, which work. 24 means it would be forced downhill from there. The

town's expressed preference for the southeast

- 1 corner would make it even lower, which will only
- 2 make it even more unacceptable from an RF
- 3 standpoint. I don't think there's any viable
- 4 location on the 0 Marion Drive parcel from an RF
- 5 standpoint.
- 6 MR. TOOKER: The elevation that that
- 7 was run at, do you know that?
- 8 THE WITNESS (Lavin): I think it was up
- 9 around 270 feet. It's the extreme northeast
- 10 corner. It's right near -- there's a house just
- 11 two, three narrow parcels away. It's right up in
- 12 that northeast corner.
- MR. TOOKER: Regarding that coverage
- 14 map that was provided, was that actually run on
- 15 Site 19, Marion Drive?
- 16 THE WITNESS (Lavin): The one that we
- 17 had most recently provided was run at the extreme
- 18 northeast corner. There's no indication that
- 19 anyone has made it available to us, which is from
- 20 an RF standpoint the most advantageous location on
- 21 the parcel is where that --
- MR. TOOKER: But run on Site 19, Marion
- 23 Drive, on the perimeter or inside of the property
- 24 on the actual parcel?
- 25 THE WITNESS (Lavin): A foot inside the

- 1 extreme northeast corner of the parcel boundary.
- 2 MR. TOOKER: Does the marker on the
- 3 coverage map show the actual location, or is that
- 4 possible that the marker is maybe not in the right
- 5 place?
- 6 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Attachment 4
- 7 shows the exact location it was run from, which
- 8 was the extreme northeastern corner of the parcel,
- 9 0 Marion Drive.
- MR. TOOKER: Would you be able to
- 11 provide the coordinates of that marker where it
- 12 was run from?
- 13 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Yes. In Google
- 14 Earth you can get it yourself. It's the extreme
- 15 northeast corner of the parcel.
- 16 MR. FISHER: Just to clarify, is it on
- 17 the upper-right corner of your coverage map?
- 18 MR. TOOKER: I believe those are the
- 19 coordinates of the proposed site.
- THE WITNESS (Lavin): Proposed site,
- 21 yes. That's for reference. Those are not the
- 22 coordinates of the extreme northeast corner, but
- 23 those could be provided.
- MR. TOOKER: It's also mentioned
- 25 relative to that coverage map that one of the

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1
    things less desirable, I guess, is that it
    provides a near quarter-mile gap of coverage on
2
    Boston Post Road?
3
                THE WITNESS (Lavin): Uh-huh.
4
5
               MR. TOOKER:
                             Is that shown on the map,
    let's say, just to the southeast of Pattagansett
6
7
    Lake there on Boston Post Road, that little light
8
    green area?
9
               THE WITNESS (Lavin): We're talking
    about the --
10
11
               MR. TOOKER:
                             It says a tower at the
12
    highest point on the parcel still leaves a quarter
13
    mile gap on Boston Post Road.
               THE WITNESS (Lavin): Approximately,
14
15
    yes.
16
               MR. TOOKER: That's what we're talking
17
    about?
18
               THE WITNESS (Lavin): Yes.
                                            The roads
    are on top of the coverage, so sometimes some of
19
20
    the uncovered area is obscured by the road itself.
                             Sure. With regards to the
21
               MR. TOOKER:
22
    coverage map of the existing site or the loss, I
23
    guess, the map is really just showing the complete
24
    loss if Tower 2022 was to go off line today?
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THE WITNESS (Lavin): The light green

is the existing coverage with the current site,

and we overlay the coverage of the new site on

there, along with existing coverage from other

sites to show what's lost if we decommission the

site on the top of the hill, what we have now, and

then build the specific alternate.

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- MR. TOOKER: Doesn't that current map show about a quarter mile, approximately, gap of coverage on Boston Post Road to the existing tower? I'm referencing the coverage map from the original application that shows --
- THE WITNESS (Lavin): There's a small gap at the extreme southern end of the lake, yes.
- MR. TOOKER: Is it fair to say it's about the same size gap?
- MR. FISHER: I'm just looking as best

 17 as we can --

18 THE WITNESS (Lavin): That is coverage that we lost and not recovered, but that is based 19 20 on a very hypothetical site that is on an aquifer that we don't know if it's available. 21 It's the 22 absolutely most optimistic scenario of coverage from the 0 Marion Drive parcel, which may or may 23 24 not be the slightest bit realistic when we come 25 down to it.

MR. TOOKER: Thank you.

To the applicant, AT&T, I guess the question goes. Is there any interest in closing what appears to be about a half-mile gap of coverage on I-95 near the Society Road, has that been discussed as part of this replacement power solution?

THE WITNESS (Mason): It hasn't been identified as an objective of this particular ring. This ring has been specifically to replace existing coverage.

MR. TOOKER: Okay.

MR. ASHTON: Mr. Chairman, while they're thinking, I'd like to make a correction.

I believe I referred to a tenth of a mile gap on I-95, and obviously I think that refers to the gap on Boston Post Road, so I apologize for the misapplication.

MR. TOOKER: Jumping back to the response in Question 5, if I could just for a minute, AT&T's current site acquisition consultant did contact the town's planning director for any further information that could be supplied to the Council. AT&T then asked the first selectman if the town might propose property as an alternative

tower. No definitive response was given.

Just a follow-up to that. Has anything
else happened since that response or since that
inquiry?

THE WITNESS (Bilezikian): No.

MR. TOOKER: Further in that response
AT&T notes that this is in the area of other
properties opposed for tower siting by the group
known as East Lyme Residents for Responsible Cell
Tower Placement.

Was this Site 19 labeled Marion Drive specifically opposed to by that group?

MR. FISHER: To assist in facilitating the answers to your questions on that, I'm not sure that this site was identified specifically at that time. At that time AT&T -- and maybe Kelly Wade Bettuchi can provide some information on this, just on the timeline. When AT&T was consulting with the town in 2014, I'm not sure this site, or just generically town property, additional properties around Ancient Highway, so I don't know if I have a recollection of that.

You might share what you know.

THE WITNESS (Wade Bettuchi): No, I

don't believe so. We had met with the deputy fire

chief in town and a number of other emergency personnel back in December of 2014, and we had sat down and looked at GIS mapping for the town to see if there were any other locations that were town-owned property or even suggestions, frankly, of any other property that we may not have identified in our search, and at that time I don't recall Marion Drive being a part of those

discussions.

There were three locations that had been suggested to us. We analyzed all three of those, and those had been rejected for RF purposes. And we continued conversations. We met again with the town in June, and we had a secondary site that had also been proposed, which is close to the Ancient Highway which is part of the development, the Gateway Development, and then since then we've obviously taken any suggestions that have come through community hearings or e-mails that perhaps the town received from members of the community suggesting alternative sites, but Marion was not part of those initial discussions.

MR. FISHER: And Chairman, if I can, just a little bit of leeway for some factual

- information, when we had the -- in terms of without testifying but just providing some context -- maybe you can follow up with a question -- but when we had the technical consultation hearing in town, which was the summer of 2015, that group was present. And I did have conversations with them and then followed up with their counsel. I don't recall Marion Drive specifically being a parcel that was ever identified. I do generally recall their position was they were opposed to any setting in that vicinity around Ancient Highway and the hill
 - MR. TOOKER: We didn't pick this site. It was on the application when we were aware that a tower was going into our neighborhood. So forgive me, I don't know all the history. Was that list, that application list of the near 30 parcels, was that provided to the other group as well?

there.

MR. FISHER: Yes, that would have been in the actual technical report that was filed with the town. So it was a list of sites that -- which you can certainly follow up with Ms. Gaudet who represents American Tower, and Ms. Bettuchi was

- 1 part of the process at AT&T -- all those sites were as part of a report given to the town at the 2 time. 3 MR. TOOKER: So they would have had an 4 5 opportunity to object to that site? MR. FISHER: 6 Yes. 7 MR. TOOKER: Sorry to keep jumping back 8 to some of the RF stuff. 9 Going back to that evaluation I think we covered before that the lower-left corner, 10 which is the lowest piece on the land which 11 12 naturally wouldn't provide the best results was 13 suggested I think we said by the town, and you ran it on the highest point, which would be the 14 15 northeast corner --16 THE WITNESS (Bilezikian): Excuse me, 17 the southeast corner was what they recommended. 18 MR. TOOKER: Southwest, right.
- THE WITNESS (Bilezikian): Southeast.
- 21 The first selectman wanted it.
- MR. TOOKER: The southeast corner.
- 23 THE WITNESS (Bilezikian): Southeast
- 24 corner.

sorry.

19

25 MR. TOOKER: And that is what's here.

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1
    I apologize. The southeast corner.
               And you ran it on the northeast corner?
2
               THE WITNESS (Lavin): The plot was
3
4
    based on the analysis of the northeast corner.
5
               MR. TOOKER:
                             In there it compares it to
    another site on a higher parcel on Wilson Hill,
6
7
    but it doesn't clarify what site number the
8
    coordinates of that. Did you provide that in your
9
    comparison?
               THE WITNESS (Lavin): For the --
10
11
               MR. TOOKER: The site that it was
    compared to. It was referenced in that remark
12
13
    that this site was compared to an adjacent site
    with a higher elevation on Wilson Hill, but it
14
15
    doesn't mention specifically which site, because I
    know there were four sites out there that were
16
    considered. Was it one of the sites in the
17
18
    application that it was compared to?
19
               MR. LYNCH: Speak into the microphone.
               MR. TOOKER:
20
                             I'm sorry.
               Was it one of the sites in the
21
22
    application?
23
               THE WITNESS (Lavin): I think it was
24
    the Gateway that we're talking about.
               MR. TOOKER: Which I believe was Site
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1 22? THE WITNESS (Lavin): Yes. 2 We investigated the site, as requested, in the 3 developed area on the Gateway property. I'm not 4 5 sure if we can provide a plot, if we have not already. 6 7 MR. TOOKER: And relative to that, then 8 I think in another question, which kind of 9 supports what you're saying, Site 19 is the same 10 general topographical situation as Site 22, and that was part of the response to Question 6? 11 THE WITNESS (Lavin): 12 13 MR. TOOKER: Can you confirm that Site 19, using the coordinates from the application, is 14 15 located to the west side of Wilson Hill and is approximately 1,100 feet away from Site 22 located 16 on the east side of Wilson Hill? 17 18 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Offhand I don't know if I can confirm those distances. 19 MR. TOOKER: Could you confirm just the 20 location relative to the hill? 21 THE WITNESS (Bilezikian): It is on the 22

MR. TOOKER: Site 19?

THE WITNESS (Bilezikian):

Site 19.

west side of the hill.

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MR. TOOKER: And Site 22 is on the east 1 side of the hill? 2 THE WITNESS (Bilezikian): 3 MR. TOOKER: Thank you. 4 5 And given that AT&T is trying to replace a tower located to the northwest of Wilson 6 7 Hill, doesn't it stand to reason that Site 19 located on the western side of Wilson Hill would 8 9 provide better coverage than Site 22 on the eastern side of the hill? 10 THE WITNESS (Lavin): We're comparing 11 12 19 on the Marion Drive parcel with 22? 13 MR. TOOKER: Correct. Again, to restate the question, readdress it, wouldn't it 14 15 stand to reason that a site on the western side of 16 Wilson Hill would provide better coverage than a site on the eastern side of Wilson Hill if the 17 18 tower that we're trying to replace is northwest of Wilson Hill? And I apologize. It's a lot of 19 20 north, east, west. It would be easier with a map 21 but --22 THE WITNESS (Lavin): You would 23 naturally tend to be in that same area. We were 24 asked, I believe, by the town to evaluate Gateway.

MR. TOOKER: I believe that's correct.

THE WITNESS (Lavin): Which is the 1 reason we went over the mountain and down the 2 3 other side to evaluate that particular location. It was not because it was particularly promising, 4 5 no. Regarding the location 6 MR. TOOKER: 7 that was, I guess, recommended by the town, in 8 response to our interrogatory question we had 9 requested that the coverage be done using the coordinates of Site 19. Was that in fact what was 10 done? And again, I think I'm restating a question 11 12 I believe you've already answered, but I just want to be clear. 13 THE WITNESS (Lavin): In the latest 14

THE WITNESS (Lavin): In the latest round it was the most advantageous area on the parcel was selected and found not to be adequate in coverage. The Site 19 coordinates were also studied, which were lower and therefore would not have coverage as well.

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MR. TOOKER: Lower than the --

THE WITNESS (Lavin): In elevation than the extreme northeast corner of the parcel.

MR. TOOKER: Do you know what the elevation was at those coordinates, do you know those on the Site 19?

1 THE WITNESS (Lavin): I don't know those offhand, no. 2 3 MR. TOOKER: Thank you. One last question regarding the 4 response to Question 11. "To the extent 5 necessary, AT&T does not share the opinion 6 7 incorporated into the question regarding 'less 8 impact, '" and then it goes on. It brings the East 9 Lyme residents' group back into the response. Relative to that question, does the 10 response of AT&T indicate that their opinion is 11 that developing a new site would be less impactful 12 13 than trying to explore an existing site fully? 14 THE WITNESS (Mason): Hold on, I have 15 to read this a little bit here. You're asking 16 about "To the extent necessary, AT&T does not share the opinion incorporated into the 17 18 questioning regarding 'less impact'"? 19 MR. TOOKER: I admit it's confusing, which is why we're asking for clarification. 20 THE WITNESS (Mason): 21 Is this 22 specifically about the Stone Ranch or a specific 23 site here? 24 MR. TOOKER: No, I believe it was cited

as -- it actually brought two different locations

into question, but I believe it brought the water tower in.

MR. FISHER: Is your question does AT&T share that opinion in response to your question related to redeveloping where there's an existing tower site? Is that your question?

MR. TOOKER: Yes, sort of, yes. The question is about less impact, the less impact that AT&T took the position that they didn't share the opinion that we had in the question that these sites would have less impact, and AT&T's response was according to that.

MR. FISHER: Maybe I can help. That's probably, you know, just -- you can blame me probably as the attorney, right, for some of the words? I think just in getting interrogatory questions, which were probably facilitated by your counsel, sometimes a question has an opinion in it which may not be facts in evidence. And I think we were just sharing that we're not sure what the opinion is that's being offered that Site 19 may be less impactful. We're just saying we're not sure it is. And you'd have to compare it against a number of different variable subsets.

So if you want to ask the witnesses

- what their opinions might be about comparative impacts of site development, I'm sure they can
- 3 answer them.
- 4 MR. TOOKER: No, I think it could be
- 5 summarized that a new site would have less -- or
- 6 an existing site would have less of an impact than
- 7 a new site; is that correct?
- 8 THE WITNESS (Bilezikian): Co-locating
- 9 on an existing site has less impact than
- 10 developing a brand new raw land site.
- MR. TOOKER: That answers the question.
- 12 Thank you.
- I think we have no further questions.
- 14 Thank you. And I apologize. We really weren't
- 15 prepared to come here and ask our own questions.
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: You've done very well.
- 17 And you can stay seated.
- 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Do you have any
- 19 questions?
- MR. LYNCH: Yes, I do.
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: All right.
- MR. LYNCH: I apologize, Chairman, for
- 23 coming in late. I had a previous engagement.
- 24 My first two questions are for
- 25 Mr. Lavin, you're up.

THE WITNESS (Lavin): Okay. 1 MR. LYNCH: In Question Number 2 of the 2 3 interrogatories you talk about Legacy customers. How much longer are you going to support Legacy 4 5 customers, the G2s and G3 people? THE WITNESS (Lavin): AT&T is sunset 6 7 for GSM --8 MR. LYNCH: I can't hear you. Sorry. 9 THE WITNESS (Lavin): AT&T is sunsetting, turning off GSM or 2G coverage on 10 January 1, 2017. I believe that's the date. 11 12 MR. LYNCH: Okay. And --THE WITNESS (Lavin): There's no date 13 set for 3G. 14 15 MR. LYNCH: But it's coming? 16 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Every technology 17 some day, yes. 18 MR. LYNCH: In Question Number 7, are your sites now being built more for capacity or 19 coverage? I'm not talking about this specific 20 site. I'm talking overall. 21 THE WITNESS (Lavin): There are a lot 22 23 more capacity sites than there ever were before, 24 and balance is certainly tipping in that 25 direction.

MR. LYNCH: Now, this question is more or less a collective of a whole bunch of dockets. I was surprised to find out that how many of these sites get broken into. And is there any plan in place where the response time goes to either a police force or a private security agency to come in and check when these things are broken into, these sites?

THE WITNESS (Mason): Well, they are all tied to an alarm system. So if our shelter triggers an alarm, an open door, or something like that, the switch gets a notification.

MR. LYNCH: What's the response time?

THE WITNESS (Mason): I'd have to look

at that. I'm not sure. We have to provide the

local police numbers because they're sitting

somewhere in Atlanta or somewhere. So we provide

the local police numbers, and they call the local

police or the cell tech.

MR. LYNCH: And my last question, which is really more of an inquiry than it is a question, and I don't really need an answer right away. I want you to think about this one. And it has to concern the holy grail of 200 feet by the FAA. I don't think Moses came down from the

- 1 mountain saying, you know, the Eleventh
- 2 Commandment is you can't go above 200 feet. Now,
- 3 as someone who lives five miles from Bradley
- 4 Airport, I see red lights and strobe lights, and
- 5 when I go through Hartford I look at Brainard, I
- 6 also see them.
- My question really is, you have a
- 8 number of sites here that you have rejected
- 9 because of height limitations or blockage,
- 10 Mr. Lavin. And if you could go above 200 feet and
- 11 so it's lighted -- not marked -- I'll take lighted
- 12 with a strobe or a red light that would be further
- away from the residential areas, and could those
- 14 be done, looked at more thoroughly if you went
- 15 higher?
- 16 THE WITNESS (Lavin): We certainly did
- 17 look higher. I gave up to 400 feet --
- 18 MR. LYNCH: I saw that. I'm saying
- 19 let's go 220, 250, some of the other sites.
- 20 THE WITNESS (Lavin): That's really a
- 21 strategic question for AT&T.
- MR. LYNCH: That's what I said. I
- 23 don't really want an answer right now. I want you
- 24 to think about it and come back later or another
- 25 hearing, but it's just something that I would like

- to at least get some clarification on. And like I
 say, I don't think it's the Eleventh Commandment.
- 3 MR. FISHER: It's a good question. And
- 4 I'll work with the team to have a collective
- 5 response. I think what we've used the 200 FAA
- 6 rule as just a business judgment decision height.
- 7 As to whether or not to pursue a tower where there
- 8 would be marking lighting, there have been
- 9 projects though where the collective decision has
- 10 been to pursue them, even with marking lighting.
- 11 MR. LYNCH: That's all I'm really
- 12 looking for if we can get it out of a residential
- 13 area and further into the -- I don't think people
- 14 will mind looking at a red light or a strobe.
- 15 Thank you, Attorney Fisher.
- 16 That's all Mr. Chairman.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
- 18 Okay. We'll now go to the appearance
- 19 by the party BHSO Community Conservancy. We'll
- 20 now get to swear -- are both of you going to be
- 21 witnesses? Please stand.
- MR. TOOKER: We both took some of the
- 23 pictures. With regard to the last point, will we
- 24 have a chance to ask the question if this other
- 25 person doesn't show up?

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               MR. FISHER: Yes, we're going to come
2
    back to that.
               MR. TOOKER: Okay. So we'll come back.
3
4
    We'll table that. Thank you.
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    CRAIG TOOKER,
    RICHARD PERRY,
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7
         called as witnesses, being first duly sworn
         by Ms. Bachman, were examined and testified
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9
         on their oaths as follows:
               THE CHAIRMAN: We'll have to go through
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11
    this process of verifying the exhibits you filed.
    And did either or both of you prepare or assist in
12
    the preparation of Exhibits IV-B-1 and 2?
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               THE WITNESS (Tooker): Yes.
14
15
               THE WITNESS (Perry): Yes.
16
               THE CHAIRMAN:
                              Do you have any
    corrections or modifications of the exhibits?
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18
               THE WITNESS (Tooker): No.
19
               THE WITNESS (Perry): No.
               THE CHAIRMAN: Do you adopt these
20
21
    exhibits as your testimony?
22
               THE WITNESS (Tooker): We do.
23
               THE WITNESS (Perry):
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               THE CHAIRMAN:
                              Do the parties or
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applicant have any objection to the admission of

these exhibits? 1 MR. FISHER: No objection. 2 MS. COLLINS: No objection. 3 THE CHAIRMAN: The exhibits are 4 5 admitted. (BHSO Community Exhibits IV-B-1 and 6 7 IV-B-2: Received in evidence - described in 8 index.) 9 THE CHAIRMAN: So we'll now begin by cross-examination by staff, starting with 10 Mr. Mercier. 11 12 CROSS-EXAMINATION 13 MR. MERCIER: Thank you. I just have a quick question. 14 15 I received had three photographs with what appears to be a pool in the backyard and didn't have any 16 identifying location. Do you have that? 17 18 THE WITNESS (Tooker): Sure. The three pictures I believe you're referring to were 19 pages 8, 9, and 10 of the file that was sent and 20 progressively show a little bit more of a white 21 railing that kind of comes in. 22 23 MR. MERCIER: Yes. 24 THE WITNESS (Tooker): Those were taken from 24 Sunrise Trail which is not a direct 25

- abutter of the property. It is one property
 removed shown in the original site plan showing
 the abutters just to, I guess, it would be the
- 5 MR. MERCIER: Okay. That answers my 6 question on that one.

northeast.

Plum Hill Road.

the picture?

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And then I had I think it was the last
photograph was something that it looks like it was
taken from Plum Hill Road. There was a balloon
behind a house that fronts Plum Hill Road. Do you
have a specific location as to what that residence
is or the location in front of the specific -THE WITNESS (Tooker): Yes, that's 21

MR. MERCIER: That's the house shown in

17 THE WITNESS (Tooker): Correct.

THE CHAIRMAN: And on that last picture is the balloon visible; and if so, is it over that --

THE WITNESS (Tooker): I know it's rather small from that distance away, but it would be the one showing the balloon clearly visible over the top of the house.

25 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay, I see it. Thank

1 you. MR. MERCIER: Thank you. I have no 2 other questions at this time. 3 THE CHAIRMAN: 4 Thank you. 5 Questions, Mr. Ashton? MR. ASHTON: No questions. 6 7 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Levesque? 8 MR. LEVESQUE: No questions. 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hannon? 10 MR. HANNON: I have no questions, but just a comment. They did a good job filling in at 11 12 such short notice. You did your group proud. 13 THE WITNESS (Tooker): Thank you. Two days of nothing but this. 14 15 MR. LYNCH: No questions, Mr. Chairman. 16 THE CHAIRMAN: We'll now go to cross-examination by the applicant. 17 18 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Chairman, a few 19 questions. 20 The conservancy itself, your membership, I don't need specific addresses and 21 22 names, but could you just give me a sense of the 23 property owners, are they a combination of people 24 who have homes in the Orchards Development and

then some of the adjacent properties in and around

the area of this proposed tower site, is that the
basic composition of their group?

THE WITNESS (Tooker): Sure. Yes, primarily we're about 35 residences surrounding the proposed location. We did reach out to other members in the town. We reached out to the prior group of the East Lyme Residents for Responsible Cell Phone Tower Placement. They were not interested in aligning their efforts with us, so, again, we remain about the 35 surrounding.

The BHSO is made up of Boston Post Road, Heritage Road, Sunrise and the Orchards.

MR. FISHER: Got it.

And just a couple of follow-up questions. I know you've been focused on the Marion Drive site as a possible alternative in the town. Have you had any conversations with the town as follow-up on that particular site with the first selectman or others?

THE WITNESS (Tooker): We have not directly, but there are other members of the town that are part -- let's say they weren't part of the official BHSO, but they are in that 35 group member, and they have reached out a couple of times. I know that they were there yesterday as

well talking to the first selectman to see if, you know, kind of what had transpired and if there were any other options and would they consider

this site.

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5 MR. FISHER: And then focusing back on the existing tower site in the Orchards, maybe 6 7 something for follow-up for your group, but can 8 you give me a sense that you heard -- let me back 9 up. You heard through some of the prehearing 10 conversations that the applicants and AT&T have been trying to work with the developer at the 11 Orchards to come up with some possible 12 13 alternatives there. Is that something that you think your group would be supportive of generally 14 15 as an alternative to what's currently pending 16 before the Council?

THE WITNESS (Tooker): I believe,
depending on what the solution was, yes,
absolutely, provided it's not going in somebody's
back door, yes.

MR. FISHER: So obviously you're familiar with the existing tower site and its general location on that parcel that's up behind the common areas, the homeowners association's facilities, the tennis courts. So if it stayed in

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that general area, maybe lower in height, maybe
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    some kind of aesthetic treatment, which Mr. Mason
2
    was referencing earlier, is that a direction you
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    think that generally your group would be
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5
    supportive of?
               THE WITNESS (Tooker): Yes.
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                                             I'm not
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    sure that we like it, but there's an existing
8
    tower, and I think that we recognize that. And if
9
    the residents around there were agreeable to it,
    we would be as well.
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               MR. FISHER: Great.
                                     Thank you.
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               Thank you, Chairman.
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               THE CHAIRMAN: You just took my
    question right out of -- okay.
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               So now the town, do you have any
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    cross-examination?
               MS. COLLINS: No, I don't. Thank you.
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               THE CHAIRMAN:
                              Okay. So thank you.
    Obviously, while you may have -- if and when this
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    individual, who usually is very prompt, I don't
    know whether -- well, he apparently got lost or
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    maybe he's looking at a few of the sites up in --
    anyway, we're going to now break for lunch. So we
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24
    will continue at 1:45. So take an hour.
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MR. FISHER: Thank you, Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Take advantage of the wonderful restaurants in the City of New Britain, which there are a few. (Whereupon, the witnesses were excused and a recess for lunch was taken at 12:44 p.m.)

AFTERNOON SESSION 1 1:44 P.M. 2 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Good afternoon, ladies 4 and gentlemen. I'd like to call back to order our 5 meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council. believe any questions we'll start first with the 6 7 Council and staff on any of the, I guess, 8 visibility or any of those issues that were not 9 addressed. Mr. Mercier? 10 11 MR. MERCIER: I have no questions. 12 THE CHAIRMAN: No questions. 13 MR. LEVESQUE: No new questions. THE CHAIRMAN: I'm told we have to 14 15 verify any of the exhibits that Mr. Libertine 16 participated in. 17 MR. FISHER: Yes. Thank you, Chairman. 18 MICHAEL LIBERTINE, called as a witness, being previously duly 19 sworn, was examined and continued to testify 20 on his oath as follows: 21 MR. FISHER: Mr. Libertine, just a 22 23 couple of quick questions. The hearing program 24 lists Applicants' supplemental information and 25 also Applicants' responses to BHSO

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interrogatories. Earlier we, with the caveat,
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    noted you'd be here to verify any of the
2
    visibility information or information related to
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    the tribal consultation.
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               Did you prepare and assist in the
    preparation of the responses to those categories
6
7
    of interrogatories and information?
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               THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes, I did.
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               MR. FISHER: And in preparation for
    your testimony, are there any corrections or
10
    modifications you noted to be made?
11
               THE WITNESS (Libertine):
12
               MR. FISHER: And is the information
13
    true and accurate to the best of your belief?
14
15
                THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes.
16
               MR. FISHER: And do you adopt it as
17
    your testimony here today?
18
               THE WITNESS (Libertine): I do.
19
               MR. FISHER: Chairman, I'd ask that we
    accept the documents fully now at this time?
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21
               THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any
22
    objections?
23
               MS. COLLINS:
                              No.
24
               MR. TOOKER:
                             No.
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THE CHAIRMAN:

Okay.

The exhibits are

1 now fully admitted.

2 So I'll just go around again.

Any questions, Mr. Mercier?

MR. MERCIER: I have no questions.

MR. ASHTON: I have one, but it's not related to that document. It's unrelated. And at a convenient time I'll pose it.

8 THE CHAIRMAN: Now is a convenient 9 time.

MR. ASHTON: Okay. Thank you.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

MR. ASHTON: Probably about five years ago I raised the question in hearing over the life of the contract lease term. And if I remember right, it was four years renewable for four or five times. I'd like to pose the question now that we've had more experience with some leases being broken or terminated. Wouldn't it be prudent to consider extending the length of the lease or otherwise modifying that arrangement that we have? Cell towers and all the appurtenant facilities are deeply deeply in our society at this stage, far more than five years ago. And what concerns me is that, as you get towards the end of a lease period, we're going to find that

we're being held up and in deep trouble. I'd like
to hear the applicant comment on that because I
think the time has come for a review.

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THE WITNESS (Mason): Yes, I totally agree. It's usually four terms of five years each.

MR. ASHTON: Four times five? THE WITNESS (Mason): Yes. sometimes they're 25 years. But I totally agree with you that now is the time we're looking at these leases, and we have a complete renewal program that tries to get ahead. And we used to look ahead maybe three years, and we've since realized that's just not enough time to replace a site. You get a site like this it's difficult. This can push it out for three years. So we've pushed that back to ten years. So we're trying to look ahead ten years now. And a lot of our leases are co-locations on American Tower or Crown sites, big tower company sites. And our leases, when we look on paper, they might be good until 2036 or something, but they're only as good as the underlying ground lease. So they're also undergoing these renewal efforts.

MR. ASHTON: When are we likely to see

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the fruit of that labor? And obviously we're not
1
    looking to get into the details of the lease, but
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    rather, I certainly as a member of the Council and
3
    as somebody, a professional in the energy industry
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5
    for a long long time, would like to have an idea
    that what we're doing is heading in the right
6
7
    direction.
8
               THE WITNESS (Mason): Well, I think it
9
    is heading in the right direction. I'm not sure
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    you'll ever see any results of that. What you'll
    see is you won't see. You'll see us not coming
11
    here for these types of cases again. So hopefully
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    that will work out. But there are other tower
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    developers, smaller tower developers who focus
14
15
    exclusively on purchasing property, which is
16
    great. It gives them that stability. So there's
    some of that going on. I wish there was more.
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               MR. ASHTON:
                             Okay.
               Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.
19
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               THE CHAIRMAN:
                               Thank you.
               Mr. Levesque?
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22
               MR. LEVESQUE: No questions.
23
               THE CHAIRMAN:
                               Mr. Hannon?
24
               MR. HANNON: I do have a question,
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probably geared more towards Mr. Libertine.

I'm hoping you can explain this to me. One of the things that was discussed a little bit earlier were a couple of sites on Ancient Highway, and those were given adverse effect determinations by the Mohegan Tribe. Can you explain why? I remember being out at the site when there was a temporary location proposed on the Ancient Highway. And from being out there, it looked like it was a site that really was not visible to much of anybody or anything. So I'm just curious as to how the tribe goes about identifying what sites may or may not be applicable.

THE WITNESS (Libertine): I'm going to give it my best shot. Just before I do, I do want to go on the record and apologize for my tardiness today to the Council and staff and to the intervenors and my colleagues here for the applicant.

With respect to the tribes, they look at things certainly different than the historic preservation office does and I think most neighbors and folks who are in the general area of where a lot of the towers are proposed. The tribes focus on their particular tribal history and whether or not the land has had some cultural

significance in their history. Cultural significance can range from burials, ceremonial alters to in this case general landscapes.

This was the first time I've been involved personally in Connecticut where there has been this much discussion about the landscape, and that's really what we're talking about here. In the case of the Ancient Highway parcel originally there was the potential for the temporary tower on the parcel, and then we had a permanent location also on Ancient Highway. The permanent solution on Ancient Highway underwent the NEPA process, in this case what is called the Section 106 process, which deals with tribal consultations as well as historic issues. And so once we had in this case Mohegans involved, they wanted to do a site visit because they felt as though somewhere in their history this area was of interest to them.

So we conducted that site walk. And their contention was that they saw features in the landscape, not necessarily on the property proper, but in that general area that led them to believe that this was significant to the tribe from a historical perspective, mostly as a ceremonial area. In fact, they mentioned that the entire

route that Ancient Highway, the dirt road actually traverses, was used as a major pathway for the tribe for summer hunting grounds as well.

So we struggled with that because, from my perspective, we wanted to try to pin down what is that impact, and they felt as though a tower would have a visual impact on the landscape that they define, which was not -- it was fairly loosely defined. It was basically as far as the eye could see from this general location.

So, you're right, in terms of if I was looking at the site, I felt it was actually a very good site because it was well buffered from residences. It's very thick woods. There's not a lot of homes in the immediate area. The tribe wasn't taking that into account. They were strictly looking at some physical features they saw, again, off our property but in the general area that they felt were significant.

And one of the -- as a side note, but it is related here -- one of the things we've struggled with is that the tribes are very reluctant to put anything down in writing on maps or even wanting to again document something in writing. It's all oral history. So we're -- I

- don't want to say we're at the mercy, but

 certainly we have to respect the fact that that's

 how they operate.
- So in this case it's a little 4 5 wishy-washy from my perspective because it was very hard to pin down exactly where this fell into 6 7 the realm of a visual impact and where we were outside of it. And I know in some of the last 8 9 round of filings that we put in, there was a map 10 that I just took my best guesstimate on to try to get an extent of that landscape that they were 11 concerned about. And that did encompass almost 12 13 all of the properties directly abutting Ancient Highway. So that's the best I could tell you. 14 15 wish I could tell you a little bit more.
 - MR. HANNON: Thank you. I appreciate it. I just had a hard time trying to figure it out.
 - THE WITNESS (Libertine): I will say this with respect to the Mohegan Tribe, they are usually and always very gracious to work with.

 This is the first time we've had this type of a real -- where they drew a line in the sand.
- MR. HANNON: Thank you.

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THE WITNESS (Libertine): You're

welcome.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Lynch?

MR. LYNCH: Just as a follow-up to Mr. Hannon's question. If someone wanted to, for lack of a better word, challenge the tribe's position, would that be at a state level, federal level, or because they're a sovereign nation, you can't challenge it?

THE WITNESS (Libertine): In this case it would be at the federal level. There would be an opportunity to go in front of the FCC to see if they could intervene in some way and either broker some type of a compromise solution or essentially go toe to toe and they put on their case, we put on our case. It's a very long, tedious and very expensive process.

In this case we certainly considered all the options certainly from my perspective as the environmental consultant and what I was privy to. My recommendation to AT&T in this case was I think it would be a very tough battle and we probably would not have come out on the winning end, primarily because there were alternate sites that were feasible. And once you have feasible alternatives that can be developed, I think the

FCC would look at that and say, you know, we're 1 not going to go any deeper on this, you have 2 3 somewhere else you can go. And in this case I think we had a couple of sites so --4 5 MR. LYNCH: Thank you for clarifying. I'm all set, Mr. Chairman. 6 7 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. We'll now see if there's anymore cross-examination first by 8 9 the town, Attorney Collins? 10 MS. COLLINS: No. THE CHAIRMAN: And now by a 11 12 representative of BHSO Community. 13 MR. TOOKER: So in regard to the map, we just have a couple of quick questions, and some 14 15 of that may have changed based on your Mohegan 16 explanation, so that's appreciated. THE WITNESS (Libertine): 17 18 MR. TOOKER: So regarding that map, which you prepared and clearly stated that it was 19 20 to the best of your abilities to do so, so I don't want to be too technically critical of it, it 21 22 appears that the area you defined in relationship to Site 19, Marion Drive, it's the northeast 23 24 extent of that property, it really just, the area

you define kind of just comes in and touches that

1 upper corner; is that correct? THE WITNESS (Libertine): Correct. 2 MR. TOOKER: Do you need a second? 3 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I have an 4 5 electronic copy, but I didn't open that up. Could you just define for me? I don't have a cross 6 7 reference to Number 19? 8 MR. TOOKER: Okay. So 19 is the Marion 9 Drive -- 19 from the original application is Marion Drive, and it's a parcel. I can define it 10 by the map. Do you have it? 11 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I do. 12 MR. TOOKER: So in reference to that --13 and it's that upper right corner. It's maybe 10, 14 15 percent that you've identified kind of 15 encroaches in that area. If a site -- is that 16 consideration in that map, does that mean or 17 18 qualify that the entire parcel would be in your opinion restricted? 19 THE WITNESS (Libertine): That's a very 20 good question. I wish I could give you a totally 21 accurate answer, but I'm going to try to give 22 you -- again, this is going to be my opinion. 23 I 24 think we would have to revisit that with the 25 tribe. What I tried to do on this map was to give some, I guess, reality to the fact that if you're standing at the location of the stone pile that was the significant feature that was first identified by the tribe, they kind of made a very broad general statement that, you know, from here obviously a tower at Site A or our original Site A, they felt was going to have an impact.

So I tried to use that methodology and say, well, if we kind of use that, I kind of excluded anything off of MacKinnon Place and Seebeck Road just because those are small residential lots. So that's kind of -- that was more of a geopolitical boundary. I wanted to include this site in question because I do have a question in my mind as to what their reaction would be.

So the map itself is not intended to say that whole property is off limits, but in this case I think we would have to go back to the drawing board. And if there had been a proposal on that site, my guess is that the tribe would have fairly substantial interest in it and would want to take a much closer look. So I'm sorry that's not a real full answer yes or no, but this is what we're dealing with unfortunately with the

tribes.

MR. TOOKER: Sure. And that answer or that response is, and as well as the map, is a basis to a visual impact that they would see from the area that they said was in reference?

THE WITNESS (Libertine): That's their contention, yes.

MR. TOOKER: So if they were looking down, certainly that upper right-hand corner, which is the highest elevation of Marion Drive, it possibly could be seen, but as we go further away, say, 600-plus feet away and heading down the hill, it's very unlikely that they would be able to see that?

THE WITNESS (Libertine): That is more or less, yes, that's a very accurate statement. Again, based on what we know today and, again, using just some rules of thumb, and I think that's a good one. Once you start, even in this thick of forest, even with the leaves off the trees, once you get 600 feet or so away, you really start to lose any definition. And certainly it would not eclipse the trees because it would be buried in the trees. So again, that was more or less how I really tried to encircle this area just to give a

- 1 general idea.
- 2 MR. TOOKER: Sure. Did the Mohegan
- 3 Tribe when they filed their adverse effect
- 4 determinations, did they specifically cite Site
- 5 19? Sorry for use of the word "site" two
- 6 different ways.
- 7 THE WITNESS (Libertine): No, they did
- 8 not. We did visit what we were calling site -- we
- 9 did not visit Site 19. We visited Site A, as well
- 10 as a few other sites that day. But because we
- 11 were there and their interest in Ancient Highway
- 12 and the fact that the town had asked us to
- consider portions of that property where we're
- 14 indicating Site U, we said "We're here, do you
- 15 have a few minutes?"
- 16 So we walked down there. They also
- 17 | found other features, and I wanted to point that
- 18 out on this map. The entire road they mentioned
- 19 had been significant to tribal movements
- 20 historically. And then one of the representatives
- 21 pointed out this serpentine stone wall on the
- 22 property that is off I guess I'll call it the
- 23 southwest shoulder of the hill where we've shown
- 24 Site U.
- 25 And so they didn't absolutely rule out

Site U at that time, but they made it pretty clear that would be a pretty tough location for them. I think anything further south where it's already developed on that parcel, I think at that point they -- well, I don't want to put words in their mouth, so I'll leave it at that. My own personal feeling is something that's been developed the way that has been that they probably would not have

MR. TOOKER: Although it's fair to say from the sites they identified they would have had a visual -- there would have been a visual impact of that development?

had the same level of concern just because of its

preexisting development.

- THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes, I think that development itself is probably fairly visible from the southern portions of Ancient Highway and those properties.
- MR. TOOKER: Now, as we understand it, they were not asked their opinion on this, they were brought in?
- absolutely. And the reason it was, we have a trigger, a federal trigger through the FCC under the National Environmental Policy Act, and so any

- facility that is proposed by a licensed carrier
 goes through this particular process, unlike the
 private development that is occurring to the south
 where you don't have that regulatory threshold to
- So similarly on Mr. Drabik's property,

 if he was in position to want to develop that as a

 single-family residence, there would be no

 interaction with the tribe. That's one of the

 peculiarities of what we face versus what private

 developers face.
- MR. TOOKER: Thank you. And one last
 question. Did the applicant initiate that
 investigation, or was that investigation initiated
 outside of the applicants' control?
- THE WITNESS (Libertine): With the tribe?
- 18 MR. TOOKER: Yes.

have to go through.

- 19 THE WITNESS (Libertine): No, we
- 20 initiated that, yes.
- MR. TOOKER: No more questions. Thank
- 22 you.

- THE WITNESS (Libertine): Actually let
- 24 me just clarify that. We initiated the
- 25 consultation with the tribe and provided them the

- information. They requested the on-site meeting, which, of course, we obliged.
- MR. TOOKER: Makes more sense. Thank
 you.
- 5 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Thank you.
- THE CHAIRMAN: You were going to
 provide some coordinates. Were you able to get
- 9 THE WITNESS (Wade Bettuchi): That's what we've been trying to get from Google Maps, 10 but it's on the iPad so we're having a little 11 12 trouble. So if you'll indulge me to continue to 13 play around in here, I'll be happy to continue to do that. It won't allow you to do it from a 14 15 mobile application, so I'm going to try logging on 16 to a laptop to get it from there.
 - THE CHAIRMAN: Because otherwise, if it's going to take time to do it, I guess, as a Late-File.
- MR. FISHER: Sure.

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them?

- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: I'll give you a minute 22 or two.
- MR. MERCIER: I can ask a question to
 Mr. Libertine as we are waiting.
- Mr. Libertine, regarding the

supplemental visual analysis, there were some 1 photos taken from the Orchards Development? 2 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes, sir. 3 MR. MERCIER: I was wondering if you 4 5 had any additional identification information regarding each photo -- several of those photos, 6 7 since in two locations it's listed as Plum Tree, so I was wondering if you had any other 8 9 identifying information? THE WITNESS (Libertine): 10 Sure. And just as a precursor to this, it used to be our 11 standard methodology to actually list the 12 13 addresses. We moved away from that because we had had some folks who didn't take kindly to having 14 15 their address published into the public domain, and so that's why we have not done that. 16 did go through those, and I can give you --17 18 actually photos 11 through 23 of that supplemental filing occurred within the Orchards Development. 19 20 So if you'll indulge me, I can just go through each photo and give you more or less the 21 22 rough address, specific addresses in a lot of the 23 cases. 24 MR. MERCIER: Sure.

THE WITNESS (Libertine): Photo 11 was

- 1 located on Partridge Court between 2 and 3
- 2 Partridge Court. Again, all these were taken from
- 3 the road. Number 12 was in front of 87 Arbor
- 4 Crossing, and in the foreground is 22 Peach Lane.
- 5 Thirteen is 94 Arbor Crossing. And I can provide
- 6 you this list, if you'd like. I didn't bring
- 7 multiple copies, but I do have it, if it would be
- 8 helpful.
- Number 14 is 105 Arbor Crossing.
- 10 Number 15 is 111 Arbor Crossing. Number 16 is 35
- 11 Plum Hill. Seventeen is 31 Plum Hill. Number 18
- 12 is from 19 Plum Hill, and in the foreground is 21
- 13 Plum Hill. Number 19 is 5 Hickory Court. Number
- 14 20 is from an undeveloped parcel on Plum Hill that
- 15 I don't believe has a numerical value. It may be
- 16 0 Plum Hill on the books right now, but I'm not
- 17 sure of that, but it's an undeveloped parcel.
- 18 We're looking towards 1 Hickory Court.
- 19 Twenty-one was in front of 1 Hickory Court.
- 20 Number 22, 11 Plum Hill. We're looking towards 15
- 21 Plum Hill in that particular photo. And in Number
- 22 23 is from 375 Boston Post Road, which is the
- 23 nearest address.
- MR. MERCIER: Okay. Thank you very
- 25 much.

1 THE WITNESS (Libertine): You're 2 welcome. 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Success? THE WITNESS (Wade Bettuchi): Yes. 4 5 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. We're all ears. MR. TOOKER: Could I just ask a 6 7 follow-up question to that last one? 8 THE CHAIRMAN: Sure. Go ahead. 9 MR. TOOKER: 375 Boston Post Road you 10 say is the closest? 11 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I don't have 12 it right in front of me. I made these notes. 13 Hold on a second. That may be incorrect now that I'm looking at that. 14 15 MR. TOOKER: I believe it is. THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes, that 16 last address is incorrect. I was looking at an 17 18 abutter's map, and it does get cut off, so it's 19 another parcel. But it's essentially at what I guess I'll call the bottom or the southern end of 20 Plum Hill Road looking as you first come into the 21 22 development. So I guess it's -- I'm not sure what 23 the actual parcel designation is. That's wooded 24 next to where I took the photo. So I apologize. 25 Thank you for pointing that out.

1 MR. TOOKER: The photos that we submitted encompass four of the abutting 2 3 properties, and those are in fact the closest 4 properties. 5 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. THE WITNESS (Lavin): Northeast corner 6 of the 0 Marion Drive parcel is 41.21.28 north, 7 72.13.38 west. 8 9 MR. TOOKER: Could I just read those 10 back just to make sure I wrote them correctly? 11 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Sure. 12 MR. TOOKER: 41.21.28 north; 72.13.38 13 west? THE WITNESS (Lavin): That's correct. 14 15 MR. TOOKER: And that is where the 16 coverage study was done? 17 THE WITNESS (Lavin): For the latest 18 interrogatory, yes. 19 MR. TOOKER: For Marion Drive and the 20 comparable site location, we had also requested 21 that, just for clarification, which was the comparable site that was mentioned in the 22 23 interrogatory filing. You identified it as Site 24 22, but we had asked for clarification on where

25

that --

THE WITNESS (Lavin): I don't know exactly offhand where that was on the developed property.

(Off record discussion.)

THE WITNESS (Lavin): A comparable site was 28 Flanders Road. Coordinates are 41.21.25.7; 72.13.17 west. That's number 22 from the application.

MR. FISHER: Just to clarify, that's the site that is Site U in Michael Libertine's reference, that's something that was called at one point in time Site C. It's also referenced as Number 22 in the original application. So I just want to make sure that we're answering your question. That's not the same coordinates for the area that we studied in response to a question. I think that was further south on that parcel -- or in the cleared area on the parcel, whatever that direction may be.

Does that answer your question?

MR. TOOKER: I'm not sure that it does.

It was Question 5, and it was about -- it was a rather long response, Question 5. It was the fifth paragraph, the last paragraph in response to Question 5. It starts out, "Nonetheless, AT&T

subsequently," that paragraph. It's referenced in
there as "The highest point on that adjacent
property still did not provide adequate coverage."
There wasn't a coverage map that was provided for
that adjacent property, but we were requesting the
coordinates that the coverage was ran at to make

MR. FISHER: Okay. Martin, do you understand the nature of the question?

that comment.

THE WITNESS (Lavin): It's looking for the extreme southeast corner of 0 Marion Drive?

MR. FISHER: I think the question actually is in reference to off site, and it was when you were making a comparison in response to interrogatories to something else that you had studied.

THE WITNESS (Lavin): That reference,
near as I can tell, is in reference to the town's
expressed preference for the southeast corner of 0
Marion Drive, which Question 5 is asking about 0,
asking about Site 19.

MR. TOOKER: Do you have Question 5 in front of you? And if you would look at that last paragraph, the fifth paragraph there, that starts out "Nonetheless, AT&T subsequently evaluated."

THE WITNESS (Lavin): Yes.

MR. TOOKER: I just want to make sure
we're talking about it because I don't think we -MR. FISHER: We're not quite there, I
agree with you. So if I can just ask a follow-up

question and then I'll turn it back over to you

7 for cross-examination.

Martin, in this last paragraph in response to 5, when you say "on another nearby parcel," did you mean in the corner on the same parcel?

THE WITNESS (Lavin): I think it is. I hadn't read it that way originally, but I see what you mean now. That paragraph is referring to the extreme southeast corner because the town expressed that was where, if they were to allow or have a site at 0 Marion Drive, they would have it in the southeast corner. I don't know what the reference to the other parcel is, but this paragraph refers to the extreme southeast corner of the 0 Marion Drive parcel.

MR. FISHER: So the language here is a little confusing. So it may be that -- are you saying that you were referencing two locations that you evaluated on the Marion site?

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               THE WITNESS (Lavin): The northeast
    corner and the southeast corner.
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               MR. FISHER: And any reference you're
    making to some other parcel is to Site Number 22
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5
    or other parcels?
               THE WITNESS (Lavin): This paragraph,
6
    the "50 and 65 feet lower," refers to the
7
8
    southeast corner of that parcel. I don't know why
    it says "on another nearby parcel." This
9
10
    paragraph refers to two locations, both of them on
11
    0 Marion Drive.
12
               MR. FISHER: So maybe you want to
13
    follow up with a question, but it seems like for
    the record there needs to be a correction. It's
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15
    not "another nearby parcel." It's a location on
16
    that parcel.
17
               THE WITNESS (Lavin): It's another
    location on the same parcel, yes.
18
19
               MR. TOOKER: That answers the question.
20
               MR. PERRY: But there was only one
    reading on that parcel, right, and that's in the
21
22
    north?
23
               MR. TOOKER: At the coordinates you
    provided.
24
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THE WITNESS (Lavin): It wasn't

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1
    analyzed because it was further away and 65 feet
            If the first one did not cover, the second
2
    one would not cover.
3
               MR. TOOKER: The second one being the
4
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    one that the town recommended but not the one that
    we questioned?
6
7
                THE WITNESS (Lavin): The southeast
8
    corner.
9
               MR. TOOKER: The one that we questioned
10
    was never run?
               THE WITNESS (Lavin): The southeast
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12
    corner was never run, just due to lack of
    elevation and --
13
               MR. TOOKER: We didn't question the
14
15
    southeast corner. I'm sorry. We questioned the,
    as it was listed in the original application,
16
    those coordinates refer to a location central in
17
18
    that piece of land away from the aquifer
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MR. FISHER: I've got it now.

protection, away from --

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MR. TOOKER: It was never run in that location. That's just what we're trying to -- the town in their response to say run it at the lower right-hand corner was not part of our questioning.

MR. FISHER: Yes, I completely

understand what your question is now. And just with a little bit of leeway, I can explain, and then you can follow up with other questions for the witnesses.

So when a site search is done and coordinates that you listed in the original application, a lot of times those aren't necessarily coordinates that were evaluated by the RF engineer. They might have just been where the pin drop was made by the site consultant who identified the parcel as just a rough, those are the coordinates for the location. If they're studied by RF, then they're studied in more detail with coordinates and the line of questions you have.

so it may be in fact -- if I go back to exhibit -- the site search summary, which is behind Tab 2, those coordinates probably were just the pin drop that was the site consultant putting the pins on the map and what the coordinates were for that pin drop just for a physical reference point, not that it was the actual location studied by an RF design engineer.

MR. TOOKER: Sure. Understood. It turns out in this case it might actually be a nice

- location too, but that's just a coincidence. So it was a good pin drop.
- MR. FISHER: Understood.
- 4 MR. TOOKER: Thank you.
- So just to clarify, the highest point
 on the adjacent property, the word "adjacent"
 really shouldn't be there, and what you were
 saying is the coordinates that you provided us,
 that's what you're referring to there?
- 10 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Those are the 11 highest points on 0 Marion Drive.
- MR. TOOKER: Thank you. No more questions, Commissioner.

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and intervenors.

- THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you, all.

 Before closing this hearing, the Connecticut

 Siting Council announces that briefs and proposed

 findings of fact may be filed with the Council by

 any party or intervenor no later than February 25,

 2016. The submission of briefs or proposed

 findings of fact are not required by the Council,

 rather, we leave it to the choice of the parties
- Anyone who has not become a party or intervenor, but who desires to make his or her views known to the Council, may file written

statements with the Council within 30 days of the 1 2 date hereof. The Council will issue draft findings 3 4 of fact, and thereafter parties and intervenors may identify errors or inconsistencies between the 5 Council's draft findings of fact and the record. 6 7 However, no new information, no new evidence, no 8 argument, and no reply briefs without our 9 permission will be considered by the Council. Again, copies of the transcript of this 10 11 hearing will be filed at the East Lyme Town Clerk's Office. 12 I hereby declare this hearing 13 adjourned. And thank you all for your 14 15 participation. Drive home safely. (Whereupon, the witnesses were excused, 16 and the above proceedings were adjourned at 2:22 17 18 p.m.) 19 20 21 22 23 24

CERTIFICATE

2	I hereby certify that the foregoing 104 pages
3	are a complete and accurate computer-aided
4	transcription of my original stenotype notes taken
5	of the Siting Council Meeting in Re: DOCKET NO.
6	463, APPLICATION OF AMERICAN TOWERS, LLC AND NEW
7	CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC FOR A CERTIFICATE OF
8	ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR
9	THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF A
10	TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY LOCATED AT 351A BOSTON
11	POST ROAD, EAST LYME, CONNECTICUT, which was held
12	before ROBERT STEIN, Chairman, at Ten Franklin
13	Square, New Britain, Connecticut, on January 26,
14	2016.

Lisa Wally

Lisa L. Warner, L.S.R., 061

Court Reporter

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