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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Docket No. 482

Application from Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon
Wireless for a Certificate of Environmental
Compatibility and Public Need for the Construction,
Maintenance and Operation of a Telecommunication
Facility Located At 917 Exeter Road In Lebanon,
Connecticut

Regular Hearing held at the Lebanon Fire
Safety Complex, Community Hall, 23 Goshen Hill
Road, Lebanon, Connecticut, Tuesday, May 1, 2018,
beginning at 3:00 p.m.

H e l d B e f o r e :

ROBIN STEIN, Chairman

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

2 Council Members:

3 JAMES J. MURPHY, JR.

4 Vice Chairman

5

6 ROBERT HANNON,

7 DEEP Designee

8

9 LARRY P. LEVESQUE,

10 PURA Designee

11

12 MICHAEL HARDER

13 ROBERT SILVESTRI

14 DANIEL P. LYNCH, JR.

15 EDWARD EDELSON

16

17 Council Staff:

18 MELANIE BACHMAN, ESQ.,

19 Executive Director and Staff Attorney

20

21 ROBERT MERCIER,

22 Siting Analyst

23

24

25

1 A p p e a r a n c e s:(cont'd)

2 For the Applicant:

3 ROBINSON & COLE

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5 Hartford, Connecticut 06103

6 By: KENNETH C. BALDWIN, ESQ.

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1 THE CHAIRMAN: Good afternoon. I'd like
2 to call to order this meeting of the Connecticut
3 Siting Council today, Tuesday May, 1, 2028, at
4 approximately 3 p.m.

5 My name is Robin Stein. I'm Chairman of
6 the Connecticut siting Council. Other members of
7 the Council present are Senator Murphy our Vice
8 Chairman; Mr. Hannon, designee from the Department
9 of Energy and Environmental Protection;
10 Mr. Levesque, designee from the Public Utilities
11 Regulatory Authority; Mr. Silvestri; Mr. Edelson;
12 Mr. Harder; and Mr. Lynch.

13 Members of the staff present are Melanie
14 Bachman, our Executive Director and Staff
15 Attorney; and Robert Mercier, our siting analyst.

16 This hearing is held pursuant to the
17 provisions of Title 16 of the Connecticut General
18 Statutes and of the Uniform Administrative
19 Procedure Act upon an application from Cellco
20 partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless for a
21 certificate of environmental compatibility and
22 public need for the construction, maintenance and
23 operation of a telecommunication facility located
24 at 917 Exeter Road in Lebanon, Connecticut.

25 This application was received by the

1 Council on March 12, 2018.

2 As a reminder to all, off-the-record
3 communication with a member of the Council or
4 member of the Council's staff upon the merits of
5 the application is prohibited by law. A party to
6 the proceeding is as follows, Cellco partnership,
7 Verizon Wireless, with Attorney Baldwin of
8 Robinson & Cole.

9 We will proceed in accordance with the
10 prepared agenda, copies of which are available
11 here. Also available here are copies of the
12 Council's citizen guide to Siting Council
13 procedures.

14 At this end of this afternoon's
15 evidentiary session we will recess and resume
16 again at 6:30 for the public comment session. The
17 6:30 public comment session will be reserved for
18 the public to make brief oral statements into the
19 record. I wish to note that the applicant
20 including their representatives and witnesses are
21 not allowed to participate in the public comment
22 session.

23 I also wish to note for those who are
24 here and for the benefit of your friends and
25 neighbors who are unable to join us for the public

1 comment session, that you or they may send written
2 statements to the Council within 30 days of the
3 date hereof, and such written statements will be
4 given the same weight as if spoken at the hearing.

5 A verbatim transcript will be made of
6 this hearing and deposited with the town clerk's
7 office in Lebanon for the convenience of the
8 public.

9 I would like to start by asking if there
10 are any of the public officials, or the public
11 safety planner wish to make a statement at this
12 time? Feel free, and if you don't mind going --
13 we don't seem to have a podium, but if you go sit
14 down there.

15 And just hit the button and hopefully it
16 will turn green.

17 ROBERT CADY: My name is Robert Cady.
18 I'm past Fire Chief of the Lebanon Fire
19 Department, and still active in the fire
20 department. I'm been the communications officer,
21 and I take care of all the communications for the
22 Town of Lebanon DPW, and the fire department.

23 And I believe this tower would be a
24 great asset for improving our coverage throughout
25 the town as we have several dead areas now. And

1 I'm hoping that it will improve our communications
2 in those areas.

3 I have done several coverage maps and it
4 looks like it's going to help us out greatly. I
5 was an engineer for Motorola Communications for 26
6 years, so I'm pretty in tune to what this tower
7 will give us for coverage.

8 Thank you.

9 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

10 PHILIP CHESTER: Hello my name is Philip
11 Chester. I'm the Town Planner in Lebanon. I know
12 you have a lot of materials already. This is a
13 town map. This is the site of the proposed tower,
14 our town high school site.

15 What you see in green is lands that have
16 been permanently preserved through the State of
17 Connecticut, USDA, and the Town of Lebanon for
18 agriculture only. The white piece that is between
19 all this is a piece which is a pending offer from
20 the State of Connecticut to the property owners
21 who came to the Town for farmland preservation.

22 So you can see that the site is pretty
23 well surrounded by preserved land. And as you
24 already know, this application went before the
25 planning and zoning commission and got approval.

1 The board of selectmen held a public hearing as is
2 required by state law when they're going to lease
3 land and they voted for this as well -- and the
4 board of education as well voted for this.

5 That's it.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

7 Any other public official at this time?
8 You'll also get a chance this evening if you want
9 at the public hearing.

10

11 (No response.)

12

13 THE CHAIRMAN: I wish to call your
14 attention to the items shown on the hearing
15 program marked as Roman numeral 1D, items 1
16 through 71.

17 Does the applicant have any objection to
18 the items the Council has administratively
19 noticed?

20 MR. BALDWIN: No objection,
21 Mr. Chairman.

22 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

23 Accordingly, the Council hereby
24 administratively notices these existing comments,
25 statements and comments. Now I'll ask Attorney

1 Baldwin to present your witness panel for the
2 purpose of taking the oath.

3 MR. BALDWIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
4 My witness panel consists of the following
5 members. To my far left, your right, is Robert
6 Burn, professional engineer with All-Points
7 Technology, the project engineers for this
8 facility.

9 To my immediate left is Kelly Lemay, a
10 radiofrequency engineer with Verizon Wireless.

11 To my right is the newest member of our
12 witness panel, Mr. Andrew Candiello. He's an
13 engineer with the real estate and regulatory
14 division of Verizon Wireless taking over for Tony
15 Befera. We welcome him to our panel. You'll be
16 seeing a lot of him as projects go forward.

17 He was with us in Cromwell. So he's got
18 a bit of a sense of how things go, so we welcome
19 him to our panel.

20 To Mr. Candiello's right is Matt
21 Gustafson, a professional soil scientist with
22 All-Points technology.

23 And you know Mike Libertine to the far
24 right -- my far right of the table, the Director
25 of Siting and Permitting for All-Points

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Technology. And I offer our panel to be sworn at
this time, Mr. Chairman.

1 A N D R E W C A N D I E L L O ,
2 K E L L Y L E M A Y ,
3 R O B E R T B U R N S ,
4 M I C H A E L L I B E R T I N E ,
5 M A T T H E W G U S T A F S O N ,

6 called as witnesses, being first duly sworn
7 by the Executive Director, were examined and
8 testified under oath as follows:

9
10 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Chairman, we have four
11 exhibits to offer in this proceeding. They're
12 listed in the hearing program under Roman two,
13 section B.

14 They include the application with the
15 associated bulk file exhibits, the applicant's
16 affidavit of publication dated April 3, 2018; the
17 applicant's responses to the Siting Council's
18 interrogatories dated April 18, 2018; and the
19 applicant's signposting affidavit confirming
20 that a public notice sign was posted at the
21 property in accordance with the Council's
22 requirements.

23 I offer those for identification
24 purposes subject to verification by our witness
25 panel.

1 If our witnesses could answer the
2 following questions. Did you prepare or assist in
3 the preparation of the exhibits listed in the
4 hearing program including the application, its
5 associated exhibits, the affidavit of publication,
6 the responses to the Council's interrogatories,
7 and the signposting affidavit.

8 Mr. Burns?

9 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes.

10 MR. BALDWIN: Ms. Lemay?

11 THE WITNESS (Lemay): Yes.

12 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Candiello?

13 THE WITNESS (Candiello): Yes.

14 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?

15 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.

16 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Libertine?

17 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes.

18 MR. BALDWIN: Do you have any
19 corrections, amendments, modifications or
20 clarifications that you would like to make to any
21 of those exhibits at this time?

22 Mr. Burns?

23 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes. Under tab
24 number 1 in the design drawings, drawing R1, in
25 the lower right-hand corner there's a box that

1 reads, site areas and volumes of earthwork. If
2 you go down under stormwater volume, it says,
3 proposed impervious area. That should read
4 460 cubic feet.

5 Water quality standard volume one inch
6 should read 40 cubic feet.

7 And storage volume 6-inch 40 percent
8 void should read 410 cubic feet.

9 No other changes.

10 MR. BALDWIN: Thank you.

11 Ms. Lemay?

12 THE WITNESS (Lemay): Yes, I have two
13 corrections. The first correction is under
14 Exhibit 3, the responses to interrogatories.

15 For question 13, in the response three
16 lines down it should say, data instead of date.
17 The sentence reads dropped calls and ineffective
18 attempts data instead of date, again.

19 And my second correction is in the
20 application under tab six. We had used our old
21 standard using OPL, and I would like to make a
22 correction that the coverage maps are in neg 105
23 dB RSRP.

24 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Candiello, any
25 corrections or modifications?

1 THE WITNESS (Candiello): No, I do not.

2 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson.

3 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes, I have
4 one amendment to the application under tab eleven
5 under the wetland inspection. A follow-up vernal
6 pool inspect was conducted on April 30th yesterday
7 to determine presence or absence of obligate
8 vernal pool breeding species in the 2018 calendar
9 year.

10 It was determined that spotted
11 salamander was currently utilizing wetland two,
12 the singular vernal pool located in proximity to
13 the project. Only one egg mass was observed
14 within the pool during that inspection.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Libertine?

17 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I have no
18 corrections at this time.

19 MR. BALDWIN: And with those
20 corrections, amendments and modifications is the
21 information contained in those exhibits true and
22 accurate to the best of your knowledge?

23 Mr. Burns?

24 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes.

25 MR. BALDWIN: Ms. Lemay?

1 THE WITNESS (Lemay): Yes.

2 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Candiello?

3 THE WITNESS (Candiello): Yes.

4 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?

5 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.

6 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Libertine?

7 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes.

8 MR. BALDWIN: And do you adopt the
9 information contained in those exhibits as
10 corrected and amended as your testimony in this
11 proceeding?

12 Mr. Burns?

13 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes.

14 MR. BALDWIN: Ms. Lemay?

15 THE WITNESS (Lemay): Yes.

16 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Candiello?

17 THE WITNESS (Candiello): Yes.

18 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?

19 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.

20 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Libertine?

21 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes.

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

24 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Just as an
25 aside, someday somebody will explain why most of

1 these corrections have to be done at the 11th
2 hour. I understand some things -- you don't have
3 to answer that. It would just save us from trying
4 to go back and forth between -- okay.

5 We'll now go to cross-examination
6 starting with Mr. Mercier, our siting analyst.

7 MR. MERCIER: Thank you.

8 I just have a couple of follow-ups on
9 the corrections. Mr. Burns, I think you said
10 460 cubic feet of impervious surface?

11 THE WITNESS (Burns): Correct.

12 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Does that just
13 represent the pads, or other things in the
14 compound? Or are there others?

15 THE WITNESS (Burns): It represents the
16 concrete pads in the compound, the steel platform
17 transformer, and the tower at the base of the
18 tower itself.

19 MR. MERCIER: Thank you. And
20 Mr. Gustafson. Regarding the spotted salamander
21 is that a state listed species?

22 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): No, it is not.

23 MR. MERCIER: Thank you. And I just had
24 a couple other questions regarding the field
25 review today. And when we were out at the site

1 there was the -- as shown on the map, the existing
2 town communication tower. And I believe it was
3 stated that two antennas would be transferred over
4 from the tower. Is that correct?

5 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes.

6 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Are there other
7 antennas on the tower? And if so, what would
8 happen to those besides the two whips that are
9 going to be transferred? Are there other whip
10 antennas?

11 THE WITNESS (Burns): There's other whip
12 antennas on the tower. I do not know what the
13 Town has in store for those.

14 MR. MERCIER: Okay. So it is unknown
15 whether that tower will be dismantled?

16 THE WITNESS (Burns): The application,
17 once our tower is up and their antennas are
18 switched over, that tower is coming down.

19 MR. MERCIER: Okay.

20 THE WITNESS (Candiello): Just to add to
21 that, our lease agreement with the Town requires
22 that we dismantle that tower and return it to the
23 Town for holding, and any equipment that's not
24 transferred would also be returned to the Town as
25 well. So --

1 MR. MERCIER: Okay. I just wanted to
2 confirm that the other antennas will not be
3 relocated on the tower, just the two whips at this
4 point?

5 THE WITNESS (Candiello): Correct.

6 MR. MERCIER: Thank you.

7 One other thing that was mentioned at
8 the field review had to do with the 35-kilowatt
9 generator as shown on the plans, but I think I saw
10 a battery also. Is there a battery and a
11 generator at this site?

12 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): That is
13 correct, and that's our standard design. The
14 battery handles the electricity in between the
15 disruption from commercial power to emergency
16 power to maintain continuous electricity flow to
17 the site.

18 MR. MERCIER: Okay. So the generator is
19 the primary source of power?

20 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Correct. The
21 generator charges the batteries and the batteries
22 feed the cell site.

23 MR. MERCIER: Okay. So the generator
24 continuously charges the battery?

25 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Correct.

1 MR. MERCIER: I understand you have a
2 shared emergency power system here. Is the Town
3 hooking up at the battery level, or the generator
4 level?

5 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): They'll be
6 hooked up to our -- our PPC. I'll defer to the
7 engineer on that on exactly how they'll be wired
8 in. I can't speak to that specifically, but they
9 will be sharing our generator for emergency power
10 purposes. I -- I don't believe that they would be
11 tying into our batteries as well.

12 MR. MERCIER: Okay.

13 THE WITNESS (Burns): My understanding
14 is they're tying directly into the generator.

15 MR. MERCIER: Thank you. Just a couple
16 other questions I had. You know, I understand on
17 page 16 of the application it stated that you
18 submitted a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
19 Service. Have they ever responded, or are they
20 just doing the normal we're not going to respond
21 and follow the typical procedure?

22 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): That's
23 correct. The latter is correct, their typical
24 lack of response.

25 MR. MERCIER: Thank you. Did the State

1 Historic Preservation Office ever comment on your
2 submittal?

3 THE WITNESS (Libertine): No, they have
4 not. We have not submitted formally to the SHPO.

5 Just as a matter of getting it on the
6 record, we spoke in the last docket in Cromwell to
7 this. Verizon has a protocol in place where they
8 do not initiate the National Environmental Policy
9 Act consultations or compliance program until
10 they're at a point where they're confident that
11 the tower has a relatively good chance of moving
12 forward, but particularly they're more concerned
13 to make sure that things don't change during the
14 siting or zoning process.

15 So it's -- we're probably talking,
16 providing things move forward positively here,
17 they probably will not initiate that for another
18 30 to 60 days. It's just their policy.

19 So what we have been doing is reviewing
20 existing historic data that both the SHPO
21 maintains so that we can get an understanding of
22 whether or not we may have potential conflicts
23 in -- in the event that we would have that
24 potential.

25 We don't have that here. There are no

1 resources within more than a half-mile in terms of
2 national register sites, or even state listed
3 sites. We would then probably do an informal
4 consultation. So we can at least respond to you
5 folks with an idea of whether or not we're going
6 to have to do some type of mitigation.

7 MR. MERCIER: Now that you've mentioned
8 the National Environmental Policy Act procedure,
9 is this site within the Last Green Valley Heritage
10 Corridor?

11 THE WITNESS (Libertine): It is. The
12 Last Green Valley is actually the current name of
13 what was formerly known as Quinnebog and Shetucket
14 Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor and that
15 was established in the mid-nineties, but recently
16 renamed in 2014. And it involves about -- I want
17 to say 26. I have it in my notes here -- 26
18 Connecticut municipalities.

19 Lebanon is about in the southern end of
20 that. It goes all the way into the Massachusetts
21 border, and beyond there are actually 25, or 23
22 municipalities in Massachusetts that are also part
23 of that.

24 MR. MERCIER: Now being Lebanon, the
25 sites within the heritage corridor, is there any

1 other type of analysis you have to do specific to
2 the corridor manager or the National Park Service?

3 THE WITNESS (Libertine): No, it's not.
4 It's -- the National Park Service is actually a
5 consulting party, but they don't manage this
6 particular program. And the program itself
7 doesn't inhibit any private property rights.

8 But to your point we don't have
9 necessarily to go through any additional federal
10 or even state regulatory reviews, but the idea of
11 the national heritage corridor is to combine or to
12 balance out the heritage conservation recreational
13 opportunities and economic development.

14 And as Mr. Chester had indicated
15 earlier, one of the heritage conservation programs
16 in place here is the farmland preservation which
17 we're surrounded by. I do as a matter of course
18 take a look at what the recreational opportunities
19 are in the area and can certainly speak to those
20 and what impact, or in this case, no impact to
21 those.

22 We have a few state parks. We have the
23 airline trail as well that runs through Lebanon.
24 So there are several open space and state forest
25 areas that are used by the public, but we don't

1 have any visibility from any of those areas.

2 MR. MERCIER: Besides recreational, do
3 they identify certain historic sites or other
4 types of cultural features? And if so, would this
5 tower be visible for those and somehow impact the
6 values of those resources?

7 THE WITNESS (Libertine): It's a yes and
8 a no answer in this case. Yes, they do. It's a
9 consortium. It's basically volunteers who will
10 work within the communities to try to establish
11 those areas or points of interest.

12 Certainly, although it's not listed, per
13 se, I would think that the town green which is
14 just to our north of where we are now is certainly
15 a well-known resource. There we did take a very
16 hard look at that when we did our balloon float
17 back over a year ago.

18 There are some areas on the west side of
19 the green, that looking between a few homes you
20 would have a very fleeting glimpse just above the
21 trees. And I think that's represented in the
22 visibility report.

23 I can tell you those exact numbers, but
24 for the most part the visibility does not really
25 extend into the center of town, but those views

1 are actually represented by views one through
2 three on the pullout map, behind tab nine in the
3 application.

4 I will say that that area of visibility,
5 the footprint we've shown up there is quite
6 generous, or I guess I would use the word
7 "conservative" in the sense that we basically
8 all -- we just included everything along the green
9 as a potential, depending on where you're
10 standing. But having -- I actually walked the
11 area when we had the balloon in the air and we had
12 a perfect day for it.

13 I think it's probably over predicting
14 what is there, and certainly you can see the
15 characteristics of the views in photos one through
16 three.

17 MR. MERCIER: Thank you. You know
18 looking at some of your photos I know you flew two
19 balloons, one to represent the whip antennas and
20 obviously it's not discernible at some distances.

21 In general, for these two whips is there
22 a certain distance away from the tower where, you
23 know, it becomes almost invisible, like a half
24 mile or anything of that nature, a quarter mile?

25 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yeah,

1 generally a quarter-mile is about the rule of
2 thumb. There may be a few spots where it extends
3 a little bit more, but typically a quarter mile or
4 less is where you -- and you'd have to have a
5 pretty good set of eyes at a quarter mile.

6 I know for myself I need binoculars when
7 I'm looking for whips at the distance. But yeah,
8 I'd say as a general rule of thumb I would use a
9 quarter mile.

10 MR. MERCIER: The tower is just
11 galvanized steel. Is that correct?

12 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes.

13 MR. MERCIER: It's not painted or
14 anything? Okay. I just had one other question
15 that had to do with the coverage maps.

16 In tab 6, the 700 megahertz. I was
17 looking at this as an extremely large area that
18 the site covers. And I'm just curious. I see
19 down below south of Route 2 there's some sporadic,
20 non-connected coverage to the main cell coverage,
21 I'll call it.

22 Is that new coverage down south of Route
23 2 by the Colchester east site? Would that connect
24 back to this site, this proposed cell site? Or is
25 that just kind of once they optimize it, it's not

1 going to come into play as actual real service
2 from this site?

3 THE WITNESS (Lemay): It probably
4 wouldn't come into play. Your cellphone would
5 most likely connect to the towers surrounding that
6 more than it would connect to this proposed site.
7 So --

8 MR. MERCIER: No, I know. I think in
9 the interrogatories, or maybe it was in the
10 application you gave a square mile accounting of
11 what the site would cover. I was just wondering
12 if that includes all this purple shaded area,
13 bright purple?

14 THE WITNESS (Lemay): Yes.

15 MR. MERCIER: Okay. So in reality the
16 cell site would probably cover a little bit less?

17 THE WITNESS (Lemay): Correct.

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

20 THE CHAIRMAN: I'll now go to questions
21 from the members of the Council.

22 Senator Murphy?

23 SEN. MURPHY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
24 Just a few things.

25 Mr. Libertine, if the Town goes up

1 20 feet, any appreciable difference in the view?

2 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Well, at
3 another 20 feet we'd start to open up some further
4 distant views. There's some fairly consistent
5 rolling hills as we get out from the immediate
6 area of the site.

7 So I'd say, yeah. If another 20 feet
8 came into play we would start to break the
9 treeline from some of the areas.

10 And again, I'd point you to the map
11 behind tab nine at the end of the visibility
12 report. Essentially if we were to look to the
13 south southwest where the viewpoint number 22 is
14 shown, I think a 20-foot increase would probably
15 open it up along that entire road.

16 Similarly, I think a 20-foot increase
17 would push things to the northeast towards the
18 green where you would start to see it well above
19 the tree line. We're probably talking 15 or
20 20 feet above the treeline, as opposed to at the
21 treeline. So yeah, when we start talking about
22 20 feet that typically starts to open views up.

23 SEN. MURPHY: For viewshed purposes,
24 this is probably the height it should be at?

25 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I'd say, yeah.

1 150 is a pretty good sized tower. And again,
2 we've got pretty good topography here. So there's
3 areas where it's nearly or just about invisible,
4 but some of those higher points where you have
5 that vista you see across the -- the valleys and
6 are able to see it eclipse the tree.

7 I would agree. I'd say at 150 is a
8 pretty good -- pretty good height.

9 SEN. MURPHY: Curiosity. This is
10 probably for you, Mr. Baldwin.

11 The arrangement for the Town to go on
12 moving its whips over and sharing generators and
13 what have you, is that done by a separate
14 agreement other than this lease that's before us?

15 How do you work that?

16 THE WITNESS (Candiello): It was
17 negotiated as part of the -- of the lease for the
18 site as a paragraph in the lease that addresses
19 that.

20 SEN. MURPHY: Okay. Well, I guess I
21 didn't find it, because I looked for it -- but I
22 think I'll look again.

23 And I probably answered my own question
24 when I came up here today, but the facility at 16
25 Waterman Road, which I did a field review with

1 Mr. Mercier a long time ago, how far is that from
2 this tower as the bird, the crow flies, if you
3 know?

4 MR. BALDWIN: I'm sorry. Senator
5 Murphy, which tower site was that?

6 SEN. MURPHY: It's not one of your
7 towers listed, but it's referred to in
8 interrogatory 16. It's a facility that's on,
9 like, nursery producing products that sends them
10 out by truck.

11 THE WITNESS (Lemay): Yes. I'm sorry.
12 What was your question for that site?

13 SEN. MURPHY: How far is it from the
14 site of this tower as the crow flies? Because
15 actually I thought it was closer, because I paid
16 attention when I came up here today -- and I think
17 I'm wrong. It's hard to tell.

18 MR. BALDWIN: Can we take that as a
19 homework assignment. We'll have that scaled out,
20 Senator Murphy.

21 Thank you.

22 SEN. MURPHY: Sure. And I assume from
23 reading, the applicant and so forth, that your
24 answer is going to come back that it really
25 doesn't do the job for you.

1 And so I assume the answer, that that
2 facility was not investigated at all as a
3 possibility for the location of this tower,
4 whoever did the --

5 THE WITNESS (Lemay): No. I would say
6 no, because that site was looked at as a capacity
7 to site for that farm due to an exhausting sector
8 on Franklin North which faces that way.

9 So the primary purpose of designing that
10 site was just to cover that farm. Again, a
11 capacity site, instead of where this one has more
12 of a dual purpose. It's a coverage and it's a
13 capacity site.

14 SEN. MURPHY: I think, Mr. Chairman,
15 that does it for me -- at least right now. Thank
16 you.

17 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

18 Mr. Edelson?

19 MR. EDELSON: So just to get on the
20 record with regard to the location of the gravel
21 drive that you're going to put in, you're trying
22 to maneuver between two wetlands.

23 And when I look at the bottom of page 21
24 the numbers there kind of implied that it wasn't
25 down the middle. It says 109 feet from one,

1 26 feet from the -- 109 feet from wetland one,
2 although a portion is 26 feet away, and then
3 107 feet.

4 So the 26 feet made it sound like it was
5 closer to wetland one than wetland two, but if you
6 could put on the record what was the thinking
7 about the location of the access drive?

8 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): The purpose of
9 pushing it closer to wetland one and pushing it
10 farther away from wetland two is wetland two hosts
11 in its interior a vernal pool resource.

12 And to get it outside of the 100-foot
13 vernal pool envelope -- which is pretty much, you
14 know, the non-disturb zone buffer for vernal pools
15 as set up by Calhoun and Klemens -- in his BDP
16 recommendations it needed to be within 26 feet of
17 wetland one. So we are just outside that
18 hundred-foot, which pushes us, obviously like you
19 said, within 26 feet of wetland two.

20 MR. EDELSON: Was it also done to
21 minimize the number of trees that would need to be
22 taken down? Or it was really more the vernal pool
23 and trying to keep that distance?

24 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): It was solely
25 for keeping it outside the hundred-foot vernal

1 pool envelope buffer.

2 MR. EDELSON: Okay. In terms of the
3 generator -- and we kind of had this discussion
4 whenever it was when we were up in Cromwell a
5 couple weeks go. If I've got my number correct --
6 I've just misplaced it -- with the thousand-gallon
7 propane tank I think it indicated to be 132 hours
8 of continuous operation of the backup generator.

9 At Cromwell I believe the number was
10 sized for 76 hours. So I'm trying to
11 understand -- or actually I think it was in the
12 sixties.

13 But regardless I'd ask the question of,
14 does Verizon have a standard? And I think the
15 answer was no. So now I'm sort of trying to
16 figure out why at one location do you have a
17 certain number, and here we're almost twice as
18 much -- which sounds good to me, but I'm trying to
19 understand why it seems almost arbitrary?

20 THE WITNESS (Candiello): At the
21 Cromwell location that was a diesel -- diesel fuel
22 generator with a belly tank. Those are a much
23 lower profile. Here, this is a propane fuel
24 generator with a -- with a large thousand-gallon
25 tank attached to it.

1 So it's a sizable tank and different --
2 the difference in fuel is a significant difference
3 in the amount of fuel that's stored there for the
4 generator.

5 MR. EDELSON: Again, it occurs to me
6 that you'd be targeting a criteria. We want
7 backup capability for so much time, not oh well,
8 we bought this unit and the unit is going to
9 dictate how much time we're going to have.

10 If I'm buying something I look for it to
11 sort of fit certain criteria, but you're making it
12 sound like it's, if we buy diesel this is the way
13 the diesel comes. I mean, you can always put in
14 another tank. I mean, tankage is available.

15 So again, I'll just make my same plea,
16 because I don't think you're going to change it
17 and we don't have a requirement, but 132 hours
18 sounds a lot better to me for having what are
19 becoming critical infrastructure for the Town.

20 They're going to have their, I guess,
21 emergency system is going to be dependent on this
22 tower once they take the other one down. That
23 should be, to me, setting the criteria not just
24 the fact that one, you know, what the tank size is
25 should come from that.

1 And with that, Mr. Chairman, those are
2 my only questions.

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you.

4 Mr. Hannon, you're on the other side
5 today.

6 MR. HANNON: It surprised me, too. But
7 thank you.

8 I was going to start with Mr. Burns, but
9 I want to go back. A question dealing with
10 wetland two. If I'm not mistaken, I think the
11 closest distance to wetland 2 is 70 feet to the
12 point of the driveway. Correct?

13 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Sixty-eight, I
14 believe, but yes to your point.

15 MR. HANNON: I just wanted to make sure
16 that that's also part of the record. Now I'll go
17 back to Mr. Burns. Map R1, this is the map R1,
18 but also if you can get your figure on page 5
19 behind tab one. Just the questions are related.

20 Okay. So on map R1 the site area in
21 volumes of earthwork. There's a statement that
22 says approximately 60 cubic yards of fill will be
23 required for the site. The next sentence is,
24 compound and roadway will require approximately
25 200 cubic yards of clean, broken fill. How do you

1 get 60 cubic yards and 200 cubic yards?

2 THE WITNESS (Burns): The -- the site
3 will be an excess fill site. I don't know if you
4 noticed when we went out there it kind of drops
5 down so that area would have to be filled, but the
6 top four inches, six inches in the compound, four
7 on the driveway will be the gravel. So the fill
8 is actually the layer under the gravel to get us
9 up to grade.

10 MR. HANNON: Okay. And then it talks
11 about excavating approximately 590 cubic yards of
12 material for the trench. I don't see any details
13 in here about what the trench design would be.
14 I'm assuming that there's some crushed stone
15 around the pipe itself and then you backfill.

16 So my question is, what do you do with
17 the 500 cubic yards of material you're taking out?
18 Where do you store it while you're trying to get
19 the conduits in, the crushed stone in?

20 Because there's nothing on the plans
21 that show where you might be doing any soil
22 stockpiling.

23 THE WITNESS (Burns): Typically when we
24 put together the D and M set we'd show a stockpile
25 area. They'll putting that trenching in,

1 excavating and backfilling the same day. So that
2 nothing -- there's no open trench at the end of
3 the day, but there will be times where we need to
4 stockpile and we will have a stockpile area
5 specified that's surrounded by a silt fence, all
6 of that.

7 MR. HANNON: And then going behind tab
8 one, page 5, under Roman numeral three,
9 facilities, section F. The third sentence down,
10 the site improvements would require approximately
11 600 cubic yards of fill imported to this site, and
12 60 cubic yards. Is that just a typo?

13 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes.

14 MR. HANNON: So it is just the 60 cubic
15 yards?

16 THE WITNESS (Burns): Correct. What's
17 on the drawings is correct.

18 MR. HANNON: Okay. On map SP-1. I
19 didn't see any notes at all in terms of the
20 surfaces of the compound area. Will it be gravel?
21 Is it going to be natural soil?

22 THE WITNESS (Burns): It will be gravel.

23 MR. HANNON: About how deep?

24 THE WITNESS (Burns): In the compound we
25 go six inches deep with gravel.

1 MR. HANNON: Okay. And then looking
2 here, based on conditions at the site today and
3 where you're proposing to put in the trench what
4 are the chances that the utility trench might be
5 intercepting groundwater and diverting it away
6 from wetland one?

7 THE WITNESS (Burns): I would say that
8 there's a pretty good chance we're going to hit
9 groundwater out there, but diverting it away from
10 wetland one? I don't know the answer to that.

11 Where the utility trench is shown now is
12 a bit schematic in nature, and going forward we
13 could flop it to the other side of the road to get
14 further away.

15 MR. HANNON: I think more of what my
16 issue would be that when you're doing the D and M
17 plan, assuming this goes forward, that's something
18 I think that needs to be addressed.

19 THE WITNESS (Burns): Understood.

20 MR. HANNON: And then also based on site
21 conditions today I'm wondering if you have to do
22 any additional work for the road construction
23 based on the soils that are out there, because I'm
24 not sure that six inches of gravel is going to get
25 you where you need to go with the weight of some

1 of this equipment coming out of the site.

2 THE WITNESS (Burns): We typically
3 specify for the driveway a four-inch gravel
4 surface, six inches of a base material and then
5 ten inches of a subbase. More than likely what we
6 try and do is -- is specify what's in place if it
7 meets the spec, but if it doesn't then they are
8 going to have to bring the material.

9 MR. HANNON: Okay. On map C1, sort of a
10 general comment. This is my own personal issue on
11 this. So it's not the siting Council's issue.
12 But when you have construction areas going on near
13 wetlands -- and I'm not sure how fine the material
14 is here.

15 I'm not sure they're just going in with
16 silt fence works. I think you'll probably need to
17 be looking at something like silk socks or
18 something along those lines to make sure you're
19 not getting any erosion materials outside the
20 boundaries of the structure. That's a D and M
21 issue.

22 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): If I may
23 respond to that? We do have a wetland and vernal
24 protection plan in place with a monitor that will
25 be on-site that can make calls in the field to

1 that point with finer materials or focused flows,
2 or making its way to a silt fence. It appears
3 that it's at a risk of impacting the wetland --
4 recommending and requiring additional
5 reinforcement to those parameter controls.

6 MR. HANNON: Thank you. I'm not sure if
7 this is a question that you can answer, but I'll
8 ask it anyway. Behind tab ten on the November 8,
9 2017, letter that the department sent to Dean
10 Gustafson.

11 Down towards the last bullet on that
12 first page I think there's a period that's missing
13 behind the i-n, because I think what they're
14 saying is the exclusionary fencing must be at
15 least 20 inches tall. And I'm assuming that's
16 also part of the reason why the silt fence is
17 being incorporated into the overall design.

18 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): I believe
19 you're correct.

20 MR. HANNON: Staying behind tab ten.
21 And again, this may be a D and M issue, but the
22 petroleum storage and spill prevention item in
23 here talks about -- well, I-1 talks about fueling
24 vehicles or machinery shall occur at a minimum 100
25 feet from wetlands or watercourses and take place

1 on an impervious path.

2 So I'm assuming that if you go with
3 what's existing that's going to be some of the
4 existing asphalt that is somewhere on site, but
5 that's something that will probably need to be
6 delineated in the D and M plan.

7 I actually saw out of the site where
8 some of these things were on one of the photos, so
9 I don't have to ask that question.

10 I believe that does it.

11 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Hannon.

12 Mr. Levesque?

13 MR. LEVESQUE: Mr. Burns, the tower or
14 the foundation you built to accommodate it, can it
15 reach the height of the tower?

16 THE WITNESS (Burns): Typically, yes.
17 It's a Verizon requirement, but yes, it's usually
18 designed for the extra 20 feet.

19 MR. LEVESQUE: Does the lease with the
20 Town restrict the height of the tower, the 150?

21 THE WITNESS (Candiello): There is a
22 depiction of the tower at it's current height in
23 the lease. So a modification to that would --
24 would require an amendment.

25 MR. LEVESQUE: A picture, but not a

1 written statement, is that what you're saying?

2 THE WITNESS (Candiello): Yeah, there's
3 no restriction, but it would be a modification to
4 the lease exhibit that we would need to have them
5 agree to.

6 MR. LEVESQUE: And you would have to
7 make an application?

8 THE WITNESS (Candiello): Correct.

9 MR. LEVESQUE: How about Mr. Burns, do
10 you know if you have to do any blasting for the
11 compound?

12 THE WITNESS (Burns): No geotech
13 investigation has been done yet, but my gut says
14 by walking up there we're not going to hit a lot
15 of rock. So I don't think so. Every precaution
16 is taken. If we do hit rock we'll see if we can
17 excavate it without blasting.

18 MR. LEVESQUE: For this site, or any
19 region, would you try to schedule it outside of
20 school session, the noise?

21 THE WITNESS (Burns): Oh, yes.

22 MR. LEVESQUE: Not with the drilling.
23 But does that make a lot of noise, by the blasting
24 rigs?

25 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes, if -- if we

1 have to blast, yes, but I don't see that as
2 happening.

3 MR. LEVESQUE: Thank you very much.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Silvestri.

5 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 I want to go back to the emergency
7 generator for a moment. And the emergency
8 generator and propane tank are sized to provide
9 both backup power to the Town's equipment and
10 Cellco's. We stated that before.

11 Could there be an instance where power
12 to the Town's equipment would be lost, but not
13 Cellco's, such that the generator would feed the
14 Town's equipment or vice versa?

15 THE WITNESS (Candiello): I think if it
16 were to run out of fuel and not be refilled in
17 time, yes.

18 MR. SILVESTRI: Actually, my question
19 was the Town has equipment. You folks have
20 equipment. If either one went out the generator
21 would go on. Is that correct? Or both of them
22 have to go out?

23 THE WITNESS (Candiello): If the
24 commercial power fails to the property the
25 generator has an automatic transfer switch to turn

1 on.

2 MR. SILVESTRI: And if commercial power
3 fails both would go out. Both the town and
4 Cellco's equipment?

5 THE WITNESS (Candiello): Would be
6 powered, correct.

7 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. Thank you. Is
8 natural gas available to power the generator
9 instead of propane?

10 THE WITNESS (Candiello): I do not know
11 that, sir.

12 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Not to the
13 best of my knowledge. There's no natural gas in
14 town.

15 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. So that's going
16 to lead to my next question for you.

17 Located to the south on York Road is the
18 Millstream Hunting Preserve. It's approximately
19 300 acres of land. And from what I've read, it's
20 apparently used by people that have gun permits
21 and people that don't have gun permits.

22 While I don't know the specifics on how
23 that land is situated, did you examine its
24 proximity in relation to your propane tank?

25 THE WITNESS (Candiello): I don't

1 believe so, sir.

2 MR. SILVESTRI: Again, I'm not sure
3 where everything is set up, but it might be
4 something to look at to see if that tank really
5 needs to be protected?

6 THE WITNESS (Candiello): Something we
7 can definitely look into.

8 MR. SILVESTRI: If I could have you look
9 back at Council interrogatory number eight. The
10 response stated that two alternative tower
11 locations were investigated on the subject
12 property and subsequently rejected. The site
13 schematic in attachment one to the interrogatory
14 response depicts the locations.

15 If you look at that schematic, right in
16 the middle is the words "alternate one driveway,"
17 and we were kind of standing on the hill very
18 close to that.

19 Could that area be used to the south of
20 those words for the location of the cell tower?

21 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): While that
22 location is currently open it is actively used by
23 the high school's agricultural program, and siting
24 a facility there would impede their use of those
25 areas.

1 THE WITNESS (Libertine): But accessing
2 through that field -- are you -- just for
3 clarification, are you asking if the ultimate
4 location --

5 MR. SILVESTRI: The ultimate location of
6 the cell tower. We were standing on the hill, and
7 looking straight ahead was where the access road
8 was laid out. But if you look to the left of
9 where we were standing you have an open area.
10 That's -- I'm questioning if it could be an
11 alternate?

12 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): That little
13 tiered pad they had up there?

14 MR. SILVESTRI: Exactly, yeah.

15 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yeah. Again,
16 that's an area they use actively. So it would
17 impede there, their use of those areas.

18 MR. SILVESTRI: All right. Stay with
19 that drawing, if you will. And it also goes back
20 to the application in section eight on page 2.

21 Is there room to install this tower
22 between the existing lattice tower for the Town
23 and the garage building near where we were
24 gathered today?

25 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): To answer your

1 question, yes, there is room. That location
2 was -- all locations along the total of that slope
3 were evaluated during the original process and
4 were subsequently eliminated.

5 Part of the process on moving to the
6 location we are currently proposing was the
7 benefit of pushing it away from both the school
8 facility and the recreational facilities, and
9 added -- are minimizing the visual impacts
10 associated with those two pieces of
11 infrastructure.

12 MR. SILVESTRI: A visual impact for the
13 compound? For the tower?

14 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): For the tower
15 and compound.

16 MR. SILVESTRI: I might come back to
17 that in a moment. Let me hold my other thought on
18 that.

19 Moving on in my list, it's my
20 understanding that Lyman Memorial High School has
21 a very large agricultural program. Was any
22 consideration given to designing a silo instead of
23 a traditional cell tower to kind of blend in with
24 the agricultural purpose of the school?

25 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yeah, it -- it

1 wasn't considered seriously here only because of
2 the height that we needed. Height is really the
3 factor.

4 I'd say from my perspective keeping
5 things in relative context, if we had a tower at
6 the 80 to 90-foot level that probably would have
7 been something we would have had to take a hard
8 look at knowing that the Council may have asked
9 that question and would want to know why we
10 wouldn't do it.

11 Here when we're talking about 150 feet,
12 that's for this area. I think if we were in the
13 Midwest that might work, but here 150 feet, that
14 would be one heck of a -- and it would be tall and
15 it would be wide. It would be about 20 feet in
16 diameter or so to accommodate these arrays.

17 So I think that might start to work
18 against what we might ultimately be trying to do
19 to make it blend in. It might just do the
20 opposite at that type of height. So height was
21 really the restrictive factor here first. We also
22 have the issue of the town antennas.

23 They certainly -- the whips could
24 certainly be on top of a silo, but again at that
25 scale I think that we just really didn't want to

1 go down that road just because of the height.

2 MR. SILVESTRI: Just to satisfy my
3 thought process on the visual aspect of it, any
4 consideration for a watchtower or a fire tower?

5 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Again, no.
6 I've been a big proponent of looking into those in
7 the right context. Typically if we were on a
8 remote hill and we were, again just eclipsing the
9 trees or maybe even a little bit, 20 feet above
10 the treeline, I think it would work really well
11 and contextually it would be great.

12 Here, again at 150 feet it just seemed
13 to be a little bit just out of scale for that type
14 of an option. When we get to that height,
15 anything above, you know, 130 feet typically --
16 unless you have an opportunity to do a tree, which
17 again we really don't here just because of the mix
18 of the existing forest around it at the height
19 above the treeline.

20 My personal opinion is a slim pole is
21 the way to go because it's going to be about the
22 least obtrusive when you get to those type of
23 heights. But certainly in the right setting I
24 would love to see some type of a fire tower. It
25 was certainly part of the heritage of Connecticut.

1 MR. SILVESTRI: The last question I have
2 is on the visual aspect of it. And you mentioned
3 a slim pole. Any consideration to a -- I don't
4 know what you call it -- a unipole or a flagpole
5 without a flag?

6 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I'm going to
7 let -- I think that's probably an RF issue more
8 than anything else.

9 But from my aesthetic standpoint I -- I
10 like the idea of the unipoles. If you can do
11 internal arrays they certainly maintain -- or
12 limit the -- the actual overall top of the tower's
13 impact.

14 But what we -- what I have found, and
15 I'll let Kelly speak to this because she's
16 certainly more -- it's her bailiwick, but my
17 experience has been when we start looking at
18 unipoles, we typically have to go up to
19 accommodate multiple carriers. So that's always
20 that balancing act as well.

21 THE WITNESS (Lemay): For this design I
22 would not want to do a flushmount antenna just
23 like normal designs, because it really needs
24 further advancements and further designs.

25 We really need the platform because it

1 really allows us to achieve the specific azimuths
2 that we want and we want to make modifications
3 that way. So for the particular design I would
4 not want to flushmount the antennas. It would be
5 very difficult. It would make it harder to
6 achieve.

7 We like to have the antennas at a
8 certain spacing, and with that we wouldn't be able
9 to achieve that spacing which would have issues
10 with our LIMO. So I would like to keep it like
11 this. It would not be ideal to have flushmount
12 antennas.

13 MR. SILVESTRI: Would a flushmount also
14 impede other potential carriers from coming onto
15 that pole?

16 THE WITNESS (Lemay): Yes.

17 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. Thank you. Thank
18 you, both.

19 Looking at the access road, and again
20 viewing it from where we stood at the top of the
21 hill, we're looking down towards the proposed
22 access road. And the road kind of bends to the
23 right first before it then circles around and goes
24 back to where the proposed compound would be.

25 Would moving that slightly more to the

1 left give you more of a buffer than the 26 feet
2 from wetland one?

3 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): It would. One
4 of the considerations when we proposed the routing
5 of this access road was to keep it out of the
6 agricultural classrooms usages of that area.

7 So by putting it on the very outside of
8 their cleared areas, you know, within that 26 feet
9 of wetland one we minimized the impacts to the
10 areas they use. So that was the thought process
11 behind that tight to wetland one on the edges.

12 MR. SILVESTRI: Staying again with the
13 access road, it will go downhill to some degree.
14 I guess, even with -- Mr. Burns, what you
15 mentioned, whatever type of fill that you're going
16 to put it there.

17 What's the prediction for stormwater
18 runoff? We mentioned groundwater before, but for
19 stormwater runoff and how that might affect either
20 of the two wetlands?

21 THE WITNESS (Burns): The design of the
22 access drive will maintain the existing drainage
23 patterns as much as possible. There will be some
24 areas that, with the fill, may cut off. It's a
25 fairly flat area so we knew we were going to be

1 slowed down and may -- not trapped, but give you a
2 path of the water along the toe of slope.

3 In addition, the road itself is gravel
4 which tends to be permeable. So any stormwater
5 from that would -- would trickle into the ground
6 that way. So I don't -- it's not that big of an
7 area as well that I think it would affect.

8 MR. SILVESTRI: When you mentioned
9 trenches before when you were discussing with
10 Mr. Hannon it was only trenches to put in the road
11 then. You're not looking at any type of
12 perforated pipe or anything like that underneath
13 the road.

14 Is that correct?

15 THE WITNESS (Burns): That's correct.

16 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. Last question I
17 have for you. How many trees are anticipated to
18 be removed?

19 THE WITNESS (Burns): Twelve.

20 MR. SILVESTRI: And that's for both the
21 access road and the compound?

22 THE WITNESS (Burns): Correct.

23 MR. SILVESTRI: That's all I have for
24 now, Mr. Chairman.

25 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Harder?

1 MR. HARDER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 First, I had a point of clarification
3 just from the correction Mr. Burns gave us on the
4 stormwater volume. You mentioned the value for
5 the proposed impervious area should be 400 and
6 some cubic feet.

7 Should that be square feet, or are we
8 talking about something other than an area? Or
9 did I misunderstand?

10 THE WITNESS (Burns): It's square feet.

11 MR. HARDER: Okay. So the correct
12 number is what you meant, 400 and some square
13 feet.

14 THE WITNESS (Burns): Square feet,
15 correct.

16 MR. HARDER: Okay. Thank you.

17 The only, I guess, significant issue I
18 have concerns one of the issues raised by
19 Mr. Silvestri and that is the alternatives that
20 were evaluated. I guess a couple preliminary
21 questions first. How tall is the existing tower
22 that the Town uses out there?

23 THE WITNESS (Candiello): Approximately
24 80 feet.

25 MR. HARDER: Eighty?

1 THE WITNESS (Candiello): Yes.

2 MR. HARDER: Okay. Thank you. And I
3 guess referring again to question number eight in
4 the response to interrogatories, you mentioned for
5 alternative one, the first two reasons that that
6 site was rejected was proximity to the
7 recreational fields and the lack of screening to
8 the high school.

9 Why are those real issues? Why are
10 those problems in terms of, you know the use of
11 the athletic fields and I guess the educational
12 experience for the students and anyone in school?

13 THE WITNESS (Candiello): Yeah, in
14 putting the tower where it is currently
15 proposed removes it from the other areas of the
16 property that are already being used to avoid any
17 interference for future expansions.

18 Near that where some of the vehicles
19 were parked there, there was an orchard that was
20 developed, and there's some other areas there
21 that, you know, they want to maintain for any
22 future, you know, projects or -- or plans they
23 might have?

24 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): And if I may?
25 You know, to your question from a visual

1 standpoint, that was at a request from personnel
2 from the Town and the school. So that's -- that's
3 really where the driving force came from.

4 MR. HARDER: Right. Understood. I
5 guess I'm skeptical that those are significant
6 enough reasons to avoid those areas and put the
7 facility where it's proposed, especially running
8 the access road right down -- I mean, technically
9 it's not wetland, but as we saw today it meets
10 probably most people's definition of a wetland.

11 It's mucky and it's wet. And it would
12 be, I mean, you're talking about filling it with
13 an access road. The proximity to the vernal pool
14 and to the other closer wetland is a concern.

15 You know, concerns about proximity to
16 the athletic fields to me don't seem to be that
17 legitimate a reason, I guess, considering that
18 there's a wind power generator out front smack in,
19 you know, in the middle of the athletic fields out
20 in front of the school.

21 You've got an existing tower there that,
22 you know, that sticks up above the treeline to
23 some extent. Granted, it's not as high as the
24 proposed tower. And especially if you're going to
25 be replacing the existing tower, I guess, I'm very

1 skeptical that locating it out in the middle of
2 the woods where you've got to take some trees down
3 and put the access road through where it's
4 proposed -- even if the tower was not put where
5 the existing tower is located this is a huge piece
6 of property.

7 There's other -- other pieces to me
8 where, again assuming that the effects of athletic
9 activities and school activities, you know, just
10 wouldn't be that great. Visually, sure it's an
11 issue.

12 You know, I think about urban situations
13 where, you know, towers and other facilities are
14 put much closer to schools and other, you know,
15 residential facilities, residents, you know,
16 houses and whatever. The expectation is that
17 those people put up with those locations and life
18 goes on.

19 And I don't know. I just don't see it
20 as, you know, as an appropriate -- the proposed
21 location as an appropriate place, but anyway
22 that's my opinion at this point.

23 So that's really the only question I
24 have, the only issue I had, Mr. Chairman.

25 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Lynch?

1 MR. LYNCH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
2 I'm getting to enjoy going after my colleague, Mr.
3 Silvestri, who asked most of my questions -- but I
4 do have a couple that relate basically to the
5 propane fuel tank.

6 I'm looking at diagram A1 and I have a
7 couple questions.

8 Now it's been told to me, and I'll will
9 put this out here, that weather can impact the
10 regulators on propane fuel tanks. Does Verizon,
11 or when their maintenance people go out there, do
12 they check on this?

13 Cold weather can freeze them and, I
14 guess, hot weather can expand the regulator.

15 THE WITNESS (Candiello): So we do an
16 annual maintenance, full maintenance on all of our
17 generators at all of our cell sites. And in
18 addition to that it's a weekly cycling that we --
19 we do.

20 And if the generator failed to cycle on
21 a particular week, if there was an issue with the
22 regulator like you're suggesting, we would be
23 notified through an alarm that there was -- the
24 generator failed to cycle that week and there was
25 a problem that we would have to go look at it.

1 MR. LYNCH: So whosoever inspecting them
2 finds a fault, would they be able to correct it
3 right there and then? Or would they have to call
4 somebody?

5 THE WITNESS (Candiello): I think it
6 depends on what the fault is. I think in most --
7 in most situations, you know, a plumbing company
8 or a generator company would be able to repair it.

9 MR. LYNCH: And also regarding the tank,
10 I know the manufacturers of the tank -- and in
11 some towns -- I didn't see it in the town
12 regulations for Lebanon -- have a setback for any
13 facility for a propane tank. Is that being
14 applied here?

15 THE WITNESS (Candiello): It is a
16 ten-foot spark radius -- is what we utilize.

17 MR. LYNCH: Is that the safe zone, ten
18 feet for a thousand gallon tank?

19 THE WITNESS (Candiello): Yes.

20 MR. LYNCH: And also -- and at our last
21 hearing -- I think it was brought up before --
22 Mr. Befera mentioned that fuel cells could not be
23 used with propane -- although natural gas -- at a
24 site. Since then I objected and they are used as
25 backup facilities on cell sites.

1 I was just wondering if a fuel cell
2 could be implemented here rather than, you know,
3 with a generator rather than a propane tank?

4 THE WITNESS (Candiello): I would have
5 to investigate that, Mr. Lynch. I don't -- it's
6 not something that we propose as part of our
7 standards.

8 MR. LYNCH: I've asked this question.
9 Mr. Baldwin can tell you. I have asked this
10 question all the time, but I do know that some --
11 it may not be Verizon's -- that some telco
12 facilities do use fuel cells as a backup. Some
13 even use it as, you know, a baseload.

14 THE WITNESS (Candiello): I can't speak
15 to what our competitors utilize at their cell
16 sites.

17 MR. LYNCH: Ms. Lemay, I don't have any
18 questions for you.

19 But this is an aside from this actual
20 hearing -- but in the proposed merger for T-Mobile
21 and Sprint they talked about one of the reasons
22 for it is for the upcoming, you know, federal, you
23 know, spectrum auction.

24 And my question is, when is it and what
25 frequencies are being auctioned off? You know,

1 just in general. If you do know, that's fine. If
2 you don't, that's fine too.

3 MR. BALDWIN: I'm not sure any of our
4 witnesses can answer that question, Mr. Lynch.
5 I'm not sure our witnesses can answer that
6 question at this point.

7 MR. LYNCH: You know, I figured I would
8 just throw it out. If someone could, they could.

9 Those are my questions, Mr. Chairman.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Just a
11 couple. One is on the zoning. It's the first
12 time I've seen residential agriculture. Do you
13 know what the density or lot size is?

14 I know the gentleman in the back of the
15 room -- a two-acre zone? And any other providers
16 expressed any interest in collocating?

17 THE WITNESS (Candiello): No. No, sir.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: If they were to, how
19 many? What would be the number that could
20 theoretically collocate?

21 THE WITNESS (Candiello): The tower is
22 planning to accommodate four carriers. So three
23 additional to Verizon.

24 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you.

25 If the tower were to be moved as

1 suggested by, I guess, maybe a couple of the
2 members of the Council, would that require
3 renegotiating the lease with the Town and school?

4 THE WITNESS (Candiello): Yes, it would.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you.

6 I want to support your use of the shared
7 generator. We've been struggling to get some
8 interest in doing that. So we welcome your and
9 the Town's willingness to do that. We think that
10 makes a lot of sense.

11 Just, I guess, we want to get into the
12 record Mr. Libertine's favorite question is -- you
13 want to describe the balloon flight and the
14 diameter of the string you used, and the amount of
15 pounds per, whatever it is, cubic inch of
16 inflatable helium, and whether or not that will
17 have an adverse impact on -- go ahead?

18 THE WITNESS (Libertine): We have had an
19 approximately four-foot diameter red weather
20 balloon floating since about quarter to eight this
21 morning. It will be up until 6 p.m. tonight.

22 And actually, it was very calm this
23 morning. The windiest that we'd seen it was
24 towards the second half of the field review.

25 But as of leaving the site we have not

1 lost a balloon and we've had beautiful blue skies
2 with great visibility today. So overall it's been
3 a very good day for being able to view that.

4 So if you've had a chance to drive some
5 of the road that surrounds the property -- I had a
6 chance before I came up to the site and it was
7 very much similar to what's presented in our
8 report.

9 The one thing I will say is because it
10 was bouncing around a little bit, some of the
11 further distant views that are just the treeline I
12 was not able to see today, but it is documented in
13 the report where some of those views are.

14 I'm sorry. It was also tethered
15 150 feet. So the bottom of the balloon
16 represented the top of the main tower. And of
17 course, we did not fly a second balloon today to
18 demonstrate the top of the antennas, but that is
19 represented in the report.

20 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay.

21 Mr. Baldwin?

22 MR. BALDWIN: We were able to come up
23 with that distance for Senator Murphy and thought
24 if we had a moment before the break we could do
25 that.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: You want to let us know?

2 MR. BALDWIN: Ms. Lemay, can you respond
3 to that question?

4 THE WITNESS (Lemay): Sure. The
5 proposed small-cell facility at Lebanon Prides
6 Corner is approximately 1.5 miles from the
7 proposed Lebanon center site.

8 SEN. MURPHY: And they were approached,
9 or were they not interested in a tower of this
10 type, if anyone on the panel knows?

11 THE WITNESS (Lemay): Again, this site
12 was very specific for the 350-acre farm parcel
13 and, this was too far to the south for this
14 particular search area.

15 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Lynch?

16 MR. LYNCH: Just one simple comment,
17 Mr. Chairman. I would like to support
18 Mr. Silvestri's idea or comment on protecting that
19 propane tank. A long-gun projectile could do some
20 serious damage to the tank.

21 THE CHAIRMAN: It makes a lot of sense.
22 I think I also saw -- not too far, a pistol, an
23 NRA pistol range or something. I guess, pistols
24 don't have quite the distance, but yes. I support
25 that.

1 Yes?

2 MR. MERCIER: Thank you. I just had a
3 quick follow-up that had to do with the DEEP
4 letter in tab ten. In just reading through it at
5 the end, it basically said, you know, they
6 identified eastern box turtle, but then at the end
7 they did mention two other species, wood and
8 spotted turtles.

9 Are those also located at the site? Or
10 is that just maybe an error on their part? That
11 was the Dawn McKay Letter of November 8th.

12 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): She specifies
13 in her letter that any confirmed sightings of those
14 turtles that you mentioned, wood or box spotted
15 turtles should be recorded.

16 Without being able to speak for this
17 location in the state -- there's not generally a
18 lot of records that the NEB had. So my assumption
19 is that that is a catchall for a species that
20 could be in this area of the state and is not
21 documented. So to my feeling, that's probably a
22 catchall statement.

23 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Thank you.

24 And one other question I had, had to do
25 with the plan platforms proposed. I saw that it

1 was a square platform and I really haven't seen
2 one of those since Docket 405. And volume is
3 down, so I was wondering why are you using that
4 here at this location?

5 THE WITNESS (Burns): The square
6 platform is to accommodate the azimuths. They
7 are -- a triangle platform wouldn't work because
8 the azimuths are too close together from an angle
9 standpoint and they'd be shooting into each other.
10 So we had a square platform in Cromwell as well, I
11 believe. But --

12 MR. MERCIER: Is this a new thing going
13 forward? Or are those two, Cromwell and this one,
14 unique cases?

15 THE WITNESS (Burns): It's site
16 dependent depending on what, what areas they need
17 to cover. They are not typical, but they're not
18 atypical.

19 MR. MERCIER: Is there a certain
20 direction you're trying to prevent the coverage
21 from going to, I guess? Is that what's it's for?

22 THE WITNESS (Lemay): It's dependent on
23 where I would like to face the majority of the
24 coverage. So basically I orient them where I want
25 the coverage to go, but that's why. And to his

1 point, we can't utilize a triangular platform for
2 those specific azimuths.

3 MR. MERCIER: All right. So it's like
4 more control at this site.

5 THE WITNESS (Lemay): Just depending on
6 where the woods are, where the town center is and
7 those kind of factors that go into determining the
8 azimuth.

9 MR. MERCIER: All right. Thank you.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: The Council will now
11 recess until 6:30, at which time we will commence
12 the public comment portion of this hearing.

13

14 (Whereupon, the above proceedings were
15 concluded at 4:12 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 66 pages are a complete and accurate computer-aided transcription of my original verbatim notes taken of the Regular Hearing in Re: DOCKET NO. 482, APPLICATION FROM CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITY LOCATED AT 917 EXETER ROAD IN LEBANON, CONNECTICUT, which was held before ROBIN STEIN, Chairman, at the Lebanon Fire Safety Complex, Community Hall, 23 Goshen Hill Road, Lebanon, Connecticut, May 1, 2018.



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My Commission Expires: 6/30/2020

