

OPTASITE TOWERS LLC

TECHNICAL REPORT

PROPOSED GROTON TOWER FACILITY

GROTON, CONNECTICUT

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Introduction

Optasite Towers LLC ("Optasite") hereby submits this Technical Report to the Town of Groton and the Town of Ledyard pursuant to Section 16-50*l* of the Connecticut General Statutes. Optasite proposes to install a wireless telecommunications facility (the "Facility") on a 3.66 acre parcel owned by JFM Enterprises LLC located at 1294 Pleasant Valley Road North, Groton. This Facility is being proposed to allow Omnipoint Communications, Inc. ("T-Mobile") and other federally licensed wireless carriers to provide service in this area. The purpose of this Technical Report is to provide the Towns of Groton and Ledyard with information concerning the need for the proposed Facility (Section 1), the site selection process (Section 2), the Facility design and any environmental effects associated with the proposed Facility (Sections 3, 4 and 5).

SECTION 1

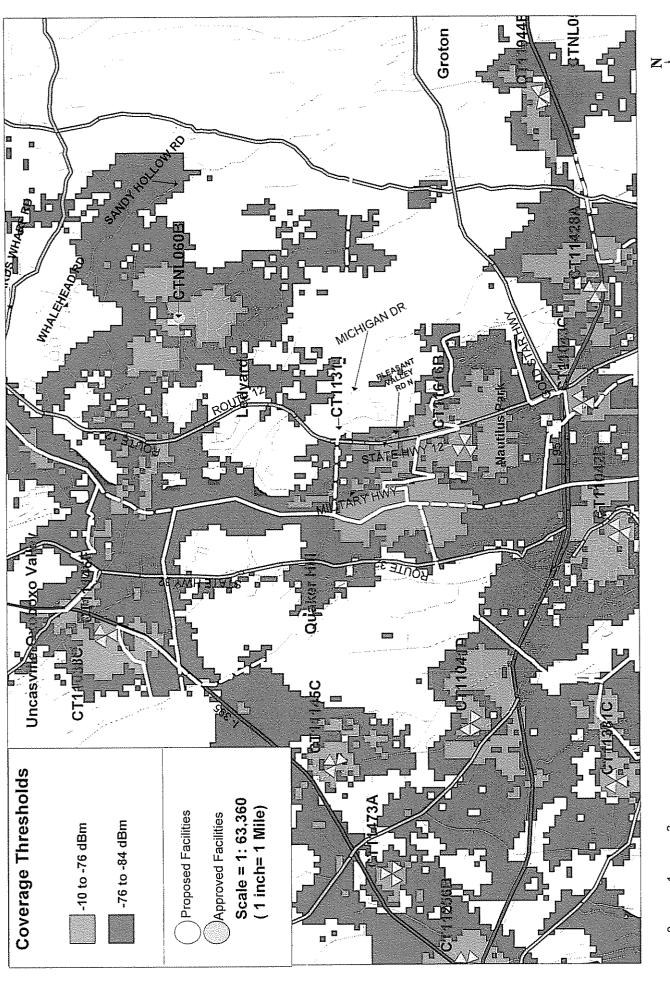
Site Justification

This Section provides information regarding the identification of a specific need for the proposed Facility.

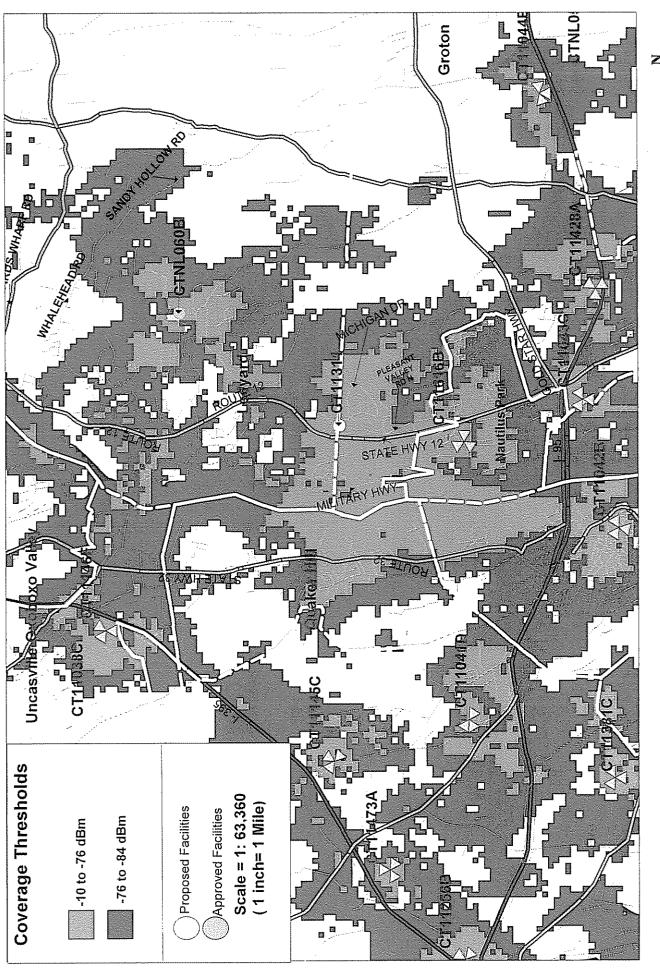
The Groton site is necessary to provide wireless coverage in the northern section of Groton and southern section of Ledyard, specifically along Route 12 and State Highway 32.

Included herein are coverage propagation plots prepared by T-Mobile (1) existing coverage from surrounding sites; (2) predicted coverage from the proposed site with antennas mounted at a minimum centerline height of 137' above grade level ("AGL"); and (3) coverage from the proposed site with existing and approved sites.

Together, these propagation maps confirm the need for a site in the area and the effectiveness the proposed site in meeting the coverage needs for the area. These propagation plots clearly demonstrate a need for the proposed Facility in Groton.



Existing On Air and Approved T-Mobile Coverage



T-Mobile Existing and Approved Coverage with proposed CT11311 Groton at 137' AGL (Model Tuned with drive data to show coverage on Navy base)



SECTION 2

Site Search Process

Section 16-50j-74(j) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies requires the applicant to submit a statement that describes "the narrowing process by which other possible sites were considered and eliminated." In accordance with this requirement, the descriptions of the general site search process, the identification of the target search area and the alternative locations considered for development of the proposed Groton Facility are provided below.

As a tower developer, Optasite bases its decision to seek out a site in an area based on its knowledge and understanding of existing weaknesses in the systems of the several wireless carriers operating in the area and/or consultation with individual carriers. A target area is chosen central to the area in which the coverage and/or capacity needs have been identified. The area targeted is the geographical location where the installation of a site would, based on general radio frequency engineering and system design standards, be likely to address the identified problem. Optasite's goal is to locate sites that will provide for orderly integration into the existing wireless systems of multiple carriers.

Optasite is sensitive to State and local desires to minimize the construction of new towers, and does not initiate searches in areas with known acceptable structures. In the northern Groton area, there are no existing towers or transmission line structures with sufficient height. Any existing towers are too far from the target area to provide adequate coverage or the owners have rejected Optasite's solicitations.

In general, Optasite first studies the area to determine whether industrial or commercial areas or areas which have appropriate environmental and land use characteristics are present. Potential locations are studied by radio frequency engineers to determine whether the locations will meet the technical requirements for a site in the area. The list of potential locations is further refined based on the willingness of property owners to make their property available. Analysis of potential environmental effects and benefits may further narrow the alternatives. In each site search, the weight afforded to relevant factors may vary depending on the nature of the area and the availability of potential sites.

Optasite investigated numerous properties in the area of the JFM Enterprises property at 1294 Pleasant Valley Road North. Optasite discussed locating the tower on an adjoining parcel owned by the same owners as JFM Enterprises at 1276 Pleasant Valley Road North. However, since this property is currently residential, the facility was better sited on the parcel that was commercially developed. Optasite also investigated locating the property at 336 Briar Hill Road. However, that property is listed in the Groton Assessor's Office as "undevelopable" and, therefore, Optasite ceased its investigation. The property investigated at 103 South Road, currently houses a 45' guyed latticed tower that had been used for a two-way trucking radio system in the past. The owners have repeatedly declined offers to locate a tower on their property. When approached for this tower, they declined again. Optasite investigated a site at 0 Pleasant Valley Road North which is the Trident Park Navy Housing property. The property does not have sufficient room available for the construction of a new tower. Finally, Optasite considered the

property at 0 Route 12. This property is the Navy Sub Base also housing an existing water tank. T-Mobile attempted to collocate at this location and they were denied.

The property on which the proposed sites are located is superior to all others reviewed. Owned by JFM Enterprises, it is approximately a 3.66 acre parcel that is largely wooded. Based on its elevation and location, a Facility within the property would provide adequate coverage along Route 12 and State Highway 32. The site is remote from surrounding properties. Topographical features and vegetation afford significant screening of the proposed site. In addition, Optasite will utilize an existing asphalt and gravel driveway to access the site so that all of the natural screening provided by the trees in the front of the Property on Pleasant Valley Road North will remain.

SECTION 3

PROPOSED SITE

1294 PLEASANT VALLEY ROAD NORTH Groton, Connecticut

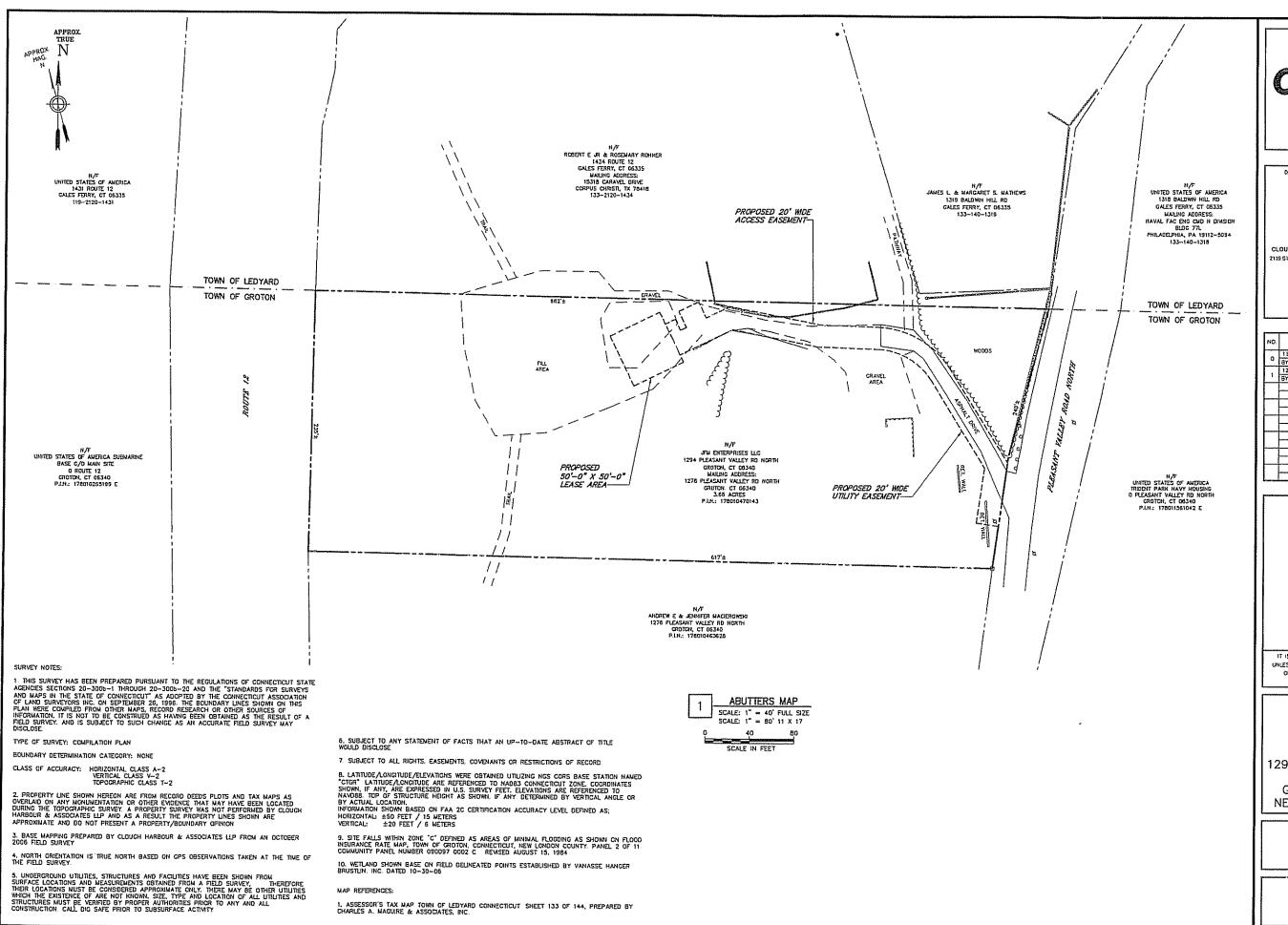
Land of JFM Enterprises

Assessor's Identification Number: 1780104701431

3.66 Acres

GENERAL FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The proposed Groton Facility is a 50' x 50' leased area located in the north-central portion of an approximately 3.66 acre parcel at 1294 Pleasant Valley Road North in Groton ("Site"). The parcel is currently used as dog boarding and grooming business as well as a horse paddock. The Site would consist of a 140-foot self-supporting monopole tower designed to accommodate four sets of antennas and a 50' x 50' site compound designed to accommodate the related equipment either in single-story equipment buildings or on concrete pads. Initially, antennas and related equipment for T-Mobile's use would be installed. The tower and equipment buildings would be enclosed by an 8-foot high security fence and gate, which could be screened. Vehicle access to the Site would extend from Pleasant Valley Road North along an existing asphalt driveway continuing over an existing gravel driveway through a new gravel driveway. Underground utility connections would extend from existing utility service along Pleasant Valley Road North.



Optasite

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> CHA PROJECT NO: 15363 - 1006 - 1601

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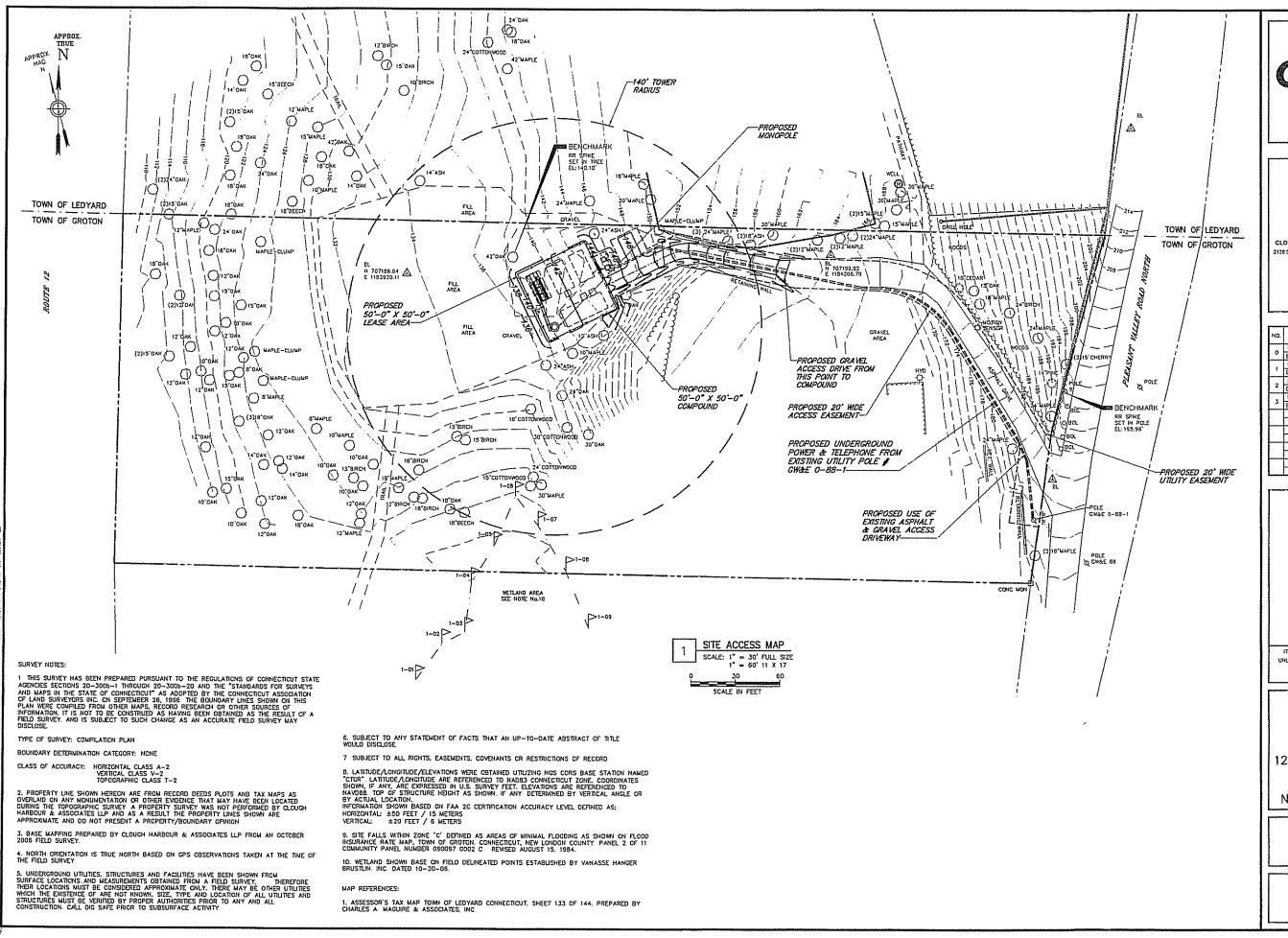
SITE ID:
CT-999-0108
SITE NAME:
NEW LONDON
SITE ADDRESS:
1294 PLEASANT VALLEY
ROAD NORTH
GROTON, CT 06340
NEW LONDON COUNTY

SHEET TITLE

ABUTTERS MAP

SHEET NUMBER

A01



Optasite

GPTASITE, INC. 1 RESEARCH DRIVE: SUITE 200C WESTBORGUGH, MA 01581

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| | 12/08/06 | CHANGED TOWER HEIGHT | | |
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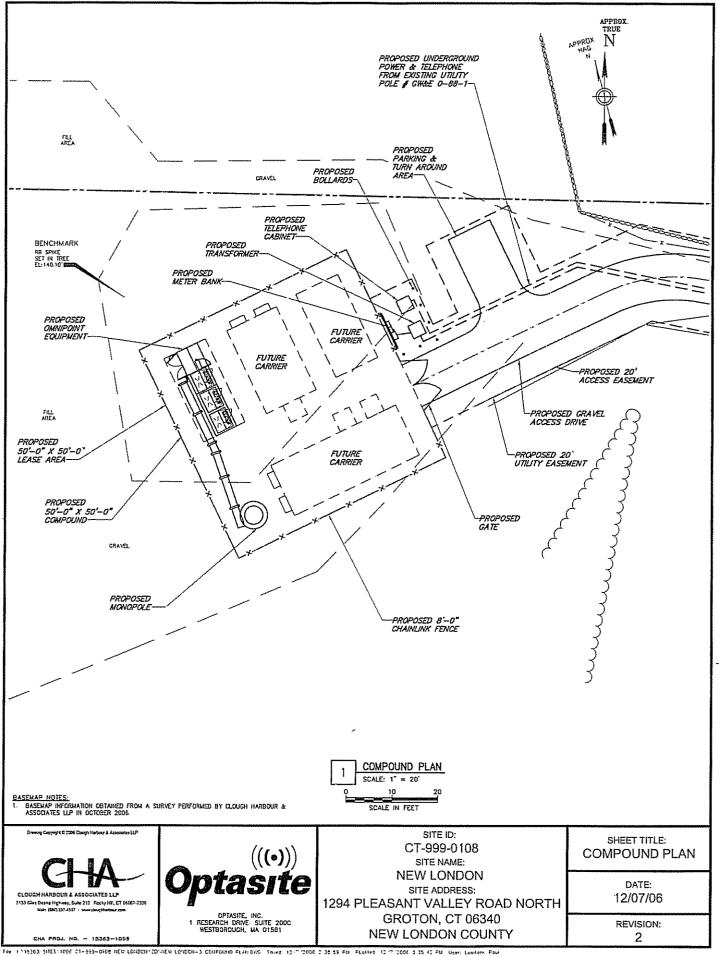
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CT-999-0108
SITE NAME:
NEW LONDON
SITE ADDRESS:
1294 PLEASANT VALLEY
ROAD NORTH
GROTON, CT 06340
NEW LONDON COUNTY

SHEET TITLE

SITE ACCESS MAP

SHEET NUMBER

A02



SITE EVALUATION REPORT

I. LOCATION

- A. COORDINATES: 41°-23'-59.9" N, 72°04'45.2" W
- B. **GROUND ELEVATION:** 142' AMSL
- C. USGS MAP: New London, CT and Uncasville, CT
- D. <u>SITE ADDRESS:</u> 1294 Pleasant Valley Road North, Groton, CT
- E. ZONING WITHIN ¼ MILE OF SITE: Land within ¼ mile of the proposed site is zoned RU 20.

II. DESCRIPTION

A. <u>SITE SIZE:</u> 50' x 50'

LESSOR'S PARCEL: 3.66 acres

- B. TOWER TYPE/HEIGHT: Monopole/140' AGL
- C. <u>SITE TOPOGRAPHY AND SURFACE</u>: The site topography is relatively flat, however the access road is steep. The proposed site is located in the north-central portion of the parcel.
- D. <u>SURROUNDING TERRAIN, VEGETATION, WETLANDS, OR WATER:</u>
 The lessor's parcel is largely undeveloped except for a dog kennel and grooming facilities. There is a small portion of wetlands 105 feet south of the Site.
- E. <u>LAND USE WITHIN ¼ MILE OF SITE</u>: Some of the ¼ mile radius surrounding the site is residential. To the west of the Site is a submarine base owned by the United States Navy and to the east is a United States Navy housing facility.

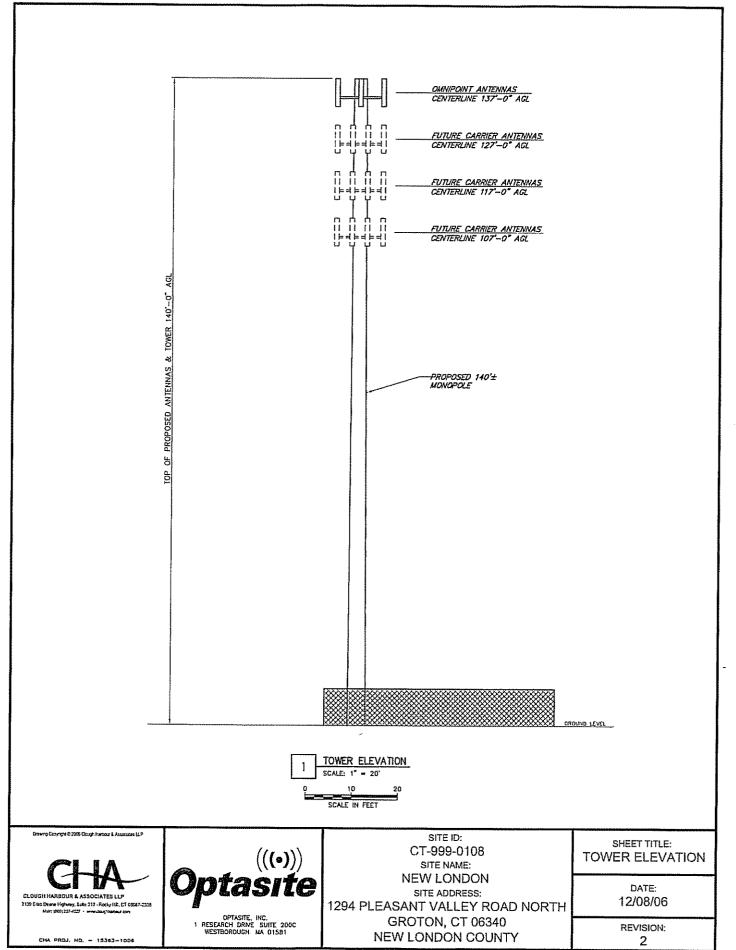
III. FACILITIES

- A. <u>POWER COMPANY:</u> Connecticut Light and Power
- B. <u>POWER PROXIMITY TO SITE:</u> Power is available from a distribution line that runs along Pleasant Valley Road North to a point on the property near the proposed site.
- C. <u>TELEPHONE COMPANY</u>: AT&T and SNET.

- D. <u>PHONE SERVICE PROXIMITY:</u> same as power.
- E. <u>VEHICLE ACCESS TO SITE:</u> Vehicular access to the Site would utilize existing access from Pleasant Valley Road North, then extend along an existing asphalt driveway 180 feet, then extend along an existing gravel driveway 60 feet, then end along a new gravel driveway a distance of approximately 130 feet.
- F. OBSTRUCTION: None.
- G. <u>CLEARING AND FILL REQUIRED</u>: Minimal clearing and minimal grading would be required for development of the access drive. No trees larger than 6" diameter would be removed. The site only requires a 130 foot addition to an existing gravel driveway. Development of the site compound will require minimal clearing and minimal grading. Detailed plans would be provided to the Connecticut Siting Council in a Development and Management Plan after Council approval of the proposed Facility.

IV. <u>LEGAL</u>

- A. PURCHASE [] LEASE [X]
- B. OWNER: JFM Enterprises, LLC
- C. ADDRESS: 1276 Pleasant Valley Road North, Groton CT 06340
- D. DEED ON FILE AT: New London County Registry of Deeds Vol. 774, page 624



FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATION (NEW TOWER & EQUIPMENT)

I. TOWER SPECIFICATIONS:

A. MANUFACTURER: TBD

B. TYPE: Monopole

C. HEIGHT: 140' DIMENSIONS: Approx. 5' diameter at base

Approx. 1 ½' diameter at top

II. TOWER LOADING:

A. T-MOBILE – up to 12 panel antennas

1. MODEL: Panel antennas, model TBD

2. DIMENSIONS: Approximately 5' in length

3. POSITION ON TOWER: Antenna centerline of 137' AGL on full platforms

4. TRANSMISSION LINES: up to 18 internal to the monopole

B. Future carriers - TBD

III. ENGINEERING ANALYSIS AND CERTIFICATION:

In accordance with Electronic Industries Association Standard EIA/TIA-222-E "Structural Standards for Steel Antenna Towers and Antenna Support Structures" for New London County, the tower would be designed to withstand pressures equivalent to a 115 MPH wind with three-quarter inch solid ice accumulation. The foundation design would be based on soil conditions at the site.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STATEMENT

I. <u>PHYSICAL IMPACT</u>

A. WATER FLOW AND QUALITY

No water flow and/or water quality changes are anticipated as a result of the construction or operation of the Facility. The equipment used will discharge no pollutants to wetland and watercourse areas or to area groundwater. Best management practices will be used during construction to control storm water and erosion.

B. <u>AIR QUALITY</u>

Under ordinary operating conditions, the equipment that would be used at this Facility would emit no air pollutants of any kind. For limited periods during power outages, a portable generator might be utilized.

C. LAND

Minimal clearing and minimal grading would be required for development of the access drive. Development of the site compound will require minimal clearing and grading. The remaining land of the lessor would remain unchanged by the construction and operation of the Facility.

D. NOISE

The equipment to be in operation at the proposed site after construction would emit no noise other than the installed heating, air conditioning and ventilation systems. A generator would be employed during power outages. Some noise is anticipated during cell site construction, which is expected to take approximately four to six weeks.

E. POWER DENSITY

The worst-case calculation of power density for operation of T-Mobile's antennas at the Facility would be approximately 2.6431% of the applicable FCC/ANSI standards.

F. <u>VISIBILITY</u>

The potential visibility of the proposed Facility was assessed using a viewshed map (attached) with an approximate two-mile radius. As shown, the primary areas of visibility would be to the west of the Site. Most of the areas of year-round visibility would be over open water of the Thames River in the area of the submarine base.

II. SCENIC, NATURAL, HISTORIC & RECREATIONAL VALUES

The parcel on which the site is located appears to exhibit no scenic, natural or recreational characteristics that would be affected by the proposed site. Review under the National Environmental Policy Act, including the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Natural Diversity Data Base and the State Historic Preservation Officer, is pending.

Proposed Telecommunications Facility CT-999-0108 1294 Pleasant Valley Road North **Groton, Connecticut**

- Viewshed analysis conducted using ESRI's Spatial Analyst.
- Proposed Facility height is 140 feet.
- Existing tree canopy height estimated at 65 feet.Preliminary analysis to be finalized pending balloon float and in-field reconaissance.

DATA SOURCES:

- -7.5 minute digital elevation model (DEM) with 30 meter resolution produced by the USGS, 1982
- Forest areas derived from 2004 digital orthophotos with 0.5-foot pixel resolution, respectively; digitized by VHB November, 2006
- Base map comprised of Uncasville and New London USGS Quadrangle Maps
- Protected properties data layer provided CTDEP, 2003
- Scenic Roads layer derived from available State and Local listings.

Map Compiled December 2006

| Legend | | |
|--|--|--|
| Proposed Monopole Location (Includes area of visibility approximately 500 feet around facility) | Protected Properties (CT DEP) | |
| The state of the s | State Forest | |
| Photographs - To be determined | State Park | |
| Photographic Locations (Color coded to | DEP Owned Waterbody | |
| correspond to areas of visibility) | State Park Scenic Reser | |
| 그리스 그를 가는 하시 아들은 말이 그릇을 다. | Historic Preserve | |
| *Year Round Visibility | Natural Area Preserve | |
| (Approximately 584 Acres; Results to be finalized pending balloon float and in-field | Fish Hatchery | |
| reconnaissance) | Flood Control | |
| | Other | |
| | State Park Trail | |
| Anticipated Seasonal Visibility | Water Access | |
| (To be determined pending balloon float and in-field reconnaissance) | Wildlife Area | |
| | Wildlife Sanctuary | |
| Protected Properties (Municipal) | | |
| Cemetery | DEP Boat Launches | |
| Preservation | The state of the s | |
| Conservation | Scenic Road (State and L | |
| | Town Line | |
| Existing Preserved Open Space Recreation | Protected Properties (Fed | |
| General Recreation | | |
| School | | |
| Uncategorized | | |
| Ottografin Kan | | |
| *Note: Approximately 495 acres of the total year-round visibility | | |

