

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

136 Main Street, Suite 401 New Britain, Connecticut 06051-4225 Phone: 827-7682

June 21, 1995

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

Re: Metro Mobile CTS of New Haven, Inc. request for an order to approve tower sharing at an existing telecommunications facility located on the roof of a building at 38 Elm Street, Meriden, Connecticut.

## Dear Attorney Baldwin:

At a meeting held June 20, 1995, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) ruled that the shared use of this existing tower is technically, legally, environmentally, and economically feasible and meets public safety concerns, and therefore, in compliance with General Statutes § 16-50aa, the Council has ordered the shared use of this tower to avoid the unnecessary proliferation of tower structures.

The proposed shared use is to be implemented as specified in your letter dated June 6, 1995. Please notify the Council when all work is complete. A copy of the staff report on this request is enclosed for your information.

Very truly yours,

Mortimer A. Gelston

Chairman

MAG:FOC:mmb

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Joseph J. Marinan, Jr., Mayor, City of Meriden

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Metro Mobile CTS of New Haven, Inc. Request for Order to Approve Tower Sharing Meriden, Connecticut June 20, 1995

On June 6, 1995, Metro Mobile CTS of New Haven, Inc. (Metro Mobile) submitted to the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) a request for the Council to order shared use of an existing tower pursuant to General Statutes \$\mathbf{1}\$ 16-50aa which states, "An owner of a facility which agrees to the shared use of the facility pursuant to this section may request in writing that the Council approve the proposed shared use of the facility. If the council finds that the proposed shared use of the facility is technically, legally, environmentally, and economically feasible and meets public safety concerns, the council shall issue an order approving such shared use."

On June 16, 1995, Mortimer A. Gelston, Chairman of the Council, William J. Huber and Joel M. Rinebold inspected the site. Fred Cunliffe of the Council staff met with Sandy Ranciato and Mark Gauger to review the proposed site.

The existing tower site is located on the roof of a 19-foot building at 38 Elm Street, Meriden, Connecticut, owned and operated by John Arnold. A 45-foot self-supporting lattice tower is supported by a three-foot high steel support structure attached to the roof. Presently, a single whip antenna is attached to the top of this tower creating an overall height of 80 feet above ground level. Metro Mobile will forward a structural analysis of the existing tower with Metro Mobile antennas on it when it becomes available.

Metro Mobile would install 15 four-foot by one-foot antennas with the center of radiation at the 68-foot level of the existing tower. Metro Mobile would construct a 21-foot by 30-foot equipment shelter to the rear of Mr. Arnold's building. On October 11, 1994, Mr. Arnold received a building permit from the City of Meriden for the construction of the tower. Metro Mobile would obtain a building permit for its equipment shelter subsequent to Council approval. Surrounding land use is commercial and residential.

The addition of the cellular antennas to the existing tower would not increase the tower's height, extend the boundaries of the site, increase noise levels at the site boundaries by six decibels or more or increase the total radio frequency electromagnetic radiation power density to or above the State standard (28.5% of the State standard) pursuant to General Statutes \$\mathbf{1} 22a-162\$. In addition, there is no expectation that this facility would cause local radio interference. No waste or sanitary facilities would be required, and no air pollutants would be emitted.

Metro Mobile contends the sharing of this tower is technically, legally, environmentally, and economically feasible and meets public safety concerns. Therefore, Metro Mobile requests the Council approve the proposed shared use of the facility and issue an order approving such shared use under General Statutes \$\mathbf{1}6-50aa\$.

Fred O. Cunliffe Siting Analyst

FOC:mmb

Hartford • Stamford • Boston • New York

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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June 6, 1995

Kenneth C. Baldwin 203-275-8345

Internet: kbaldwin@rc.com

Mortimer A. Gelston, Chairman Connecticut Siting Council 136 Main Street, Suite 401 New Britain, Connecticut 06051

Re: Request by Metro Mobile CTS of New Haven, Inc. for Order to Approve Shared Use of Tower Facility, 38 Elm Street, Meriden, Connecticut

Dear Chairman Gelston and Members of the Council:

Pursuant to Public Act 93-268, as modified by Public Act 94-242, Metro Mobile CTS of Hartford, Inc. ("Metro Mobile" or the "Applicant") hereby requests an order from the Siting Council to approve the proposed shared use by the applicant of an existing tower facility located at 38 Elm Street, Meriden, Connecticut. The facility is owned and operated by Mr. John Arnold. Metro Mobile proposes to install antennas on the Arnold tower, and to locate an approximately 21' x 30' single-story equipment shelter elsewhere at the site. The Applicant requests the Council to find that the proposed shared use of the tower facility satisfies the criteria stated in Public Acts 93-268 and 94-242, and to issue an order approving the proposed shared use.

### Background

Metro Mobile CTS of New Haven, Inc. is licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to provide cellular telephone service in the New Haven Connecticut New England County Metropolitan Area (NECMA), which includes the area to be served by the Applicant's proposed installation.

The existing tower facility is located on an approximately 1.08-acre parcel at 38 Elm Street, Meriden, and is owned by Mr. John Arnold. The tower is a 45-foot self-supporting lattice tower, and is located on top of a steel tower support structure attached to the roof of the building on the property. The total height of the building, steel tower support structure and tower is 70 feet above-ground level ("AGL").

The tower currently supports a single whip-type antenna mounted at the top of the tower, and is operated by Mr. Arnold

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for use in his plumbing supply business, located on-site. The height of the tower with this antenna is approximately 80 feet AGL. Several other businesses lease office space elsewhere in the building. The property is located within the densely developed downtown area of Meriden, with a mixture of industrial, commercial and residential uses.

Metro Mobile and the tower owner have agreed to the proposed shared use of the tower facility pursuant to mutually acceptable terms and conditions. The tower owner has also authorized Metro Mobile to act on his behalf to apply for all necessary local, state and federal permits, certificates, and authorizations which may be required for the proposed shared use of his facility. See January 13, 1995 letter from Mr. Arnold, at Attachment A. This letter is the basis of the applicant's present request for approval of the proposed shared use.

Metro Mobile proposes to install fifteen (15) Swedcom Model ALP-9212 antennas at the top of the tower with their center of radiation at 68 feet AGL. Radio transmission equipment associated with these antennas will be located in an approximately 21' x 30' single-story equipment shelter to be set on a concrete slab within a 25' x 35' leased parcel at the rear of the property. The equipment shelter would be located approximately 84 feet east of the existing building, and would set back approximately 27 feet from the nearest property boundary. See plans of tower facility at Attachment B.

Public Act 94-242 amended the tower sharing provisions of Public Act 93-268 to provide that, upon written request for approval of a proposed shared use, "if the council finds that the proposed shared use of the facility is technically, legally, environmentally and economically feasible and meets public safety concerns, the council shall issue an order approving such shared use." Pub. Act 94-242, § 6(c).

## Discussion

The shared use of the existing Arnold tower satisfies the criteria stated in Public Acts 93-268 and 94-242 as follows:

A. <u>Technical Feasibility</u>. The existing tower will not require any structural modification to support the proposed antenna installations. A copy of Structural Date Sheet for the existing tower with the proposed Metro Mobile antennas will be forwarded to the Council as soon as it is available. In addition, Metro Mobile engineers have determined that the proposed antenna installations present minimal potential for

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interference to or from existing radio transmissions from this location. Metro Mobile is not aware of any occasion where its operations have caused interference with AM, FM or television reception. The proposed shared use therefore is technically feasible.

B. <u>Legal Feasibility</u>. Under Public Acts 93-268 and 94-242, the Siting Council has been authorized to issue an order approving the proposed shared use of a tower facility such as the Arnold facility. P.A. 93-268, § 2; P.A. 94-242, § 6(c). This authority complements the Council's prior-existing authority under C.G.S. § 16-50p to issue orders approving the construction of new towers that are subject to the Council's jurisdiction. Section 7(a) of Public Act 94-242 also directs the Council, in ruling on requests for shared use of facilities, to "give such consideration to other state laws and municipal regulations as it shall deem appropriate". This directive mirrors the prior-existing directive to the Council in C.G.S. § 16-50x(a) with regard to applications for certificates to construct new tower facilities.

On October 11, 1994, Mr. Arnold received a building permit (No. 04024) from the City of Meriden Building Official for the construction of the existing tower facility. Metro Mobile's proposed equipment shelter as shown on the attached plans would be set back 27 feet from the nearest property line, and therefore complies with the building setback requirement provided in Section 213-12B of the Meriden Zoning Regulations for structures in the Central Commercial (C-1) zone district. Metro Mobile has entered into a lease with the facility owner for space to install its antennas and equipment shelter. Through conversations with City officials and by providing a copy of this submittal to the City, Metro Mobile has notified the City of its intent to seek Council approval of the proposed shared use of the facility, in order to avoid construction of a new tower in this area. Under the authority vested in the Council by Public Act 94-242, an order by the Council approving the shared use would permit the applicant to obtain a building permit for the proposed installations.

- C. <u>Environmental Feasibility</u>. The proposed shared use will have a minimal environmental effect, for the following reasons:
  - 1. The tower proposed to be shared is located on a developed parcel within the densely developed downtown area of Meriden. The proposed installation of additional antennas on the existing tower and an equipment shelter at the rear of the parcel will have

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an insignificant incremental visual impact, and will not cause any significant change or alteration in the physical and environmental characteristics of the existing site. Because the site has already been cleared and developed, the proposed installations will require minimal site preparation work.

- 2. The proposed installations will not extend the boundaries of the site, since the proposed equipment shelter will be located within a leased area at the rear of the tower owner's property, or increase the height of the existing tower.
- 3. The proposed installations will not increase the noise levels at the existing facility by six decibels or more, and in fact will not emit any noise other than from air-conditioning units associated with the equipment shelter when in use.
- 4. Operation of the additional antennas will not increase the total radio frequency electromagnetic radiation power density, at the tower site, to a level at or above applicable American National Standard Institute ("ANSI") standards. "Worst-case" exposure calculations for a point at the base of the building in relation to operation of the proposed Metro Mobile antennas and the tower owner's existing antennas are as follows:

<u>Operator</u>	Frequency (MHz)	Applicable ANSI Stnd.	<u>Calculated</u> "Worst-Case"	Percentage of Stnd.
Metro Mobile	875	$0.583 \text{ mW/cm}^2$	$0.148 \text{ mW/cm}^2$	25.3%
Tower Owner	152	0.2 mW/cm <sup>2</sup>	$0.006 \text{ mW/cm}^2$	3.2%

The collective "worst-case" exposure would be only 28.5% of the ANSI standard, as calculated for mixed frequency sites. Power density levels from shared use of the tower facility would thus be well below applicable ANSI standards.

or sanitary facilities and will not require any water or sanitary facilities and will not produce air emissions from any combustion source. After construction is complete (approximately four weeks), the proposed installations will not generate any traffic other than periodic maintenance visits.

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The proposed shared use will therefore have a minimal environmental effect, and is environmentally feasible.

- E. <u>Economic Feasibility</u>. As previously mentioned, the tower owner and Metro Mobile have entered into a mutual agreement to share use of the existing tower facility on terms agreeable to all parties, and is thus economically feasible.
- F. <u>Public Safety Concerns</u>. The provision of new or improved cellular phone service in the Meriden area through shared use of the existing facility is expected to enhance the safety and welfare of area residents. The public safety benefits of cellular service are illustrated by the recent decision of local authorities in the Town of Stafford, Connecticut to provide cellular phones to residents to improve local public safety and emergency communications. The proposed shared use of the Arnold facility will likewise improve public safety in the Meriden area.

## Conclusion

For the reasons discussed above, the proposed shared use of the Arnold tower facility satisfies the criteria stated in Public Acts 93-268 and 94-242, and advances the General Assembly's and the Siting Council's goal of preventing the proliferation of towers. Metro Mobile therefore requests that the Siting Council issue an order approving the proposed shared use.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,

Kenneth C. Baldwin

#### Attachments

cc: Hon. Joseph J. Marinan, Jr. - Mayor, City of Meriden



CONNECTICUT
SITING COUNCIL

January 13, 1995

Mr. David S. Malko, P. E. General Manager of Engineering Bell Atlantic Mobile 20 Alexander Drive Wallingford, Ct. 06492

Re: Tower Sharing

Dear Mr. Malko:

This letter will verify that Metro Mobile CTS of New Haven, Inc. has executed an agreement for the leasing of antenna space on my tower and an area for your associated radio equipment building on my property located at 38 Elm Street, Meriden, Connecticut.

This letter authorizes you to act for me and on our behalf to apply for all necessary local, State and Federal permits, certificates and authorizations which may be required for your use of this location.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me. I look forward to the sharing of this tower space.

very truly yours,

John Arnold

