



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

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

E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov

www.ct.gov/csc

December 17, 2015

Kri Pelletier
SBA Communications Corporation
33 Post Road West, Suite 320
Marlborough MA 01752

RE: DOCKET NO. 329 -- SBA Infrastructure LLC Certificate of Environmental
Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a
telecommunications facility at Paddock Avenue in Meriden, Connecticut.

Dear Ms. Pelletier:

During a public meeting held on December 10, 2015, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) by its
Decision and Order dated December 10, 2015, modified the Certificate of Environmental
Compatibility and Public Need (Certificate) for the construction, maintenance and operation of a
telecommunications facility at 651 Paddock Avenue in Meriden, Connecticut and reissued the
Decision and Order in Docket 329 issued on August 29, 2007 thereby eliminating the requirement
that all antennas on this telecommunications facility be flush-mounted.

Therefore, the Council hereby approves the installation of T-arm mount kits to support three new
panel antennas, three relocated existing antennas and three remote radio units at the 117 foot level of
the tower consistent with EM-T-MOBILE-080-151014 - T-Mobile notice of intent to modify an
existing telecommunications facility located at 651 Paddock Avenue, Meriden, Connecticut with the
following conditions:

- Any deviation from the proposed modification as specified in this notice and supporting
materials with the Council shall render this acknowledgement invalid;
Any material changes to this modification as proposed shall require the filing of a new
notice with the Council;
Within 45 days after completion of construction, the Council shall be notified in writing that
construction has been completed;
Any nonfunctioning antenna and associated antenna mounting equipment on this facility
owned and operated by T-Mobile shall be removed within 60 days of the date the antenna
ceased to function;
The validity of this action shall expire one year from the date of this letter; and
The applicant may file a request for an extension of time beyond the one year deadline
provided that such request is submitted to the Council not less than 60 days prior to the
expiration.

Enclosed are the Council's Staff report, Modified Certificate, and reissued Decision and Order.

Very truly yours,

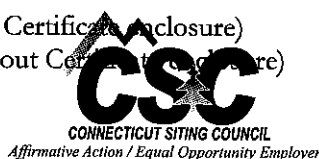
Melanie A. Bachman signature

Melanie A. Bachman
Acting Executive Director

MAB/FOC/cm

Enclosures

c: Parties and Intervenors (without Certificate Enclosure)
State Documents Librarian (without Certificate Enclosure)



STATE OF CONNECTICUT )

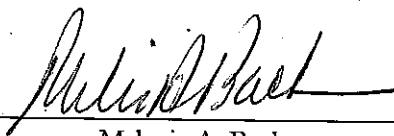
ss. New Britain, Connecticut :

December 17, 2015

COUNTY OF HARTFORD )

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the modified Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need and reissued Decision and Order by the Connecticut Siting Council, State of Connecticut.

ATTEST:



Melanie A. Bachman  
Acting Executive Director  
Connecticut Siting Council

I certify that a copy of the modified Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need and reissued Decision and Order in Docket No. 329 have been forwarded by Certified First Class Return Receipt Requested mail on December 17, 2015, to all parties and intervenors of record as listed on the attached service list, dated November 6, 2015.

ATTEST:



Carriann Mulcahy  
Secretary  
Connecticut Siting Council

**LIST OF PARTIES AND INTERVENORS**  
**SERVICE LIST**

<b>Status Granted</b>	<b>Status Holder (name, address &amp; phone number)</b>	<b>Representative (name, address &amp; phone number)</b>
<b>Certificate Holder Transfer Approved 10/16/2008</b>	SBA Infrastructure LLC	Kri Pelletier SBA Communications 33 Boston Post Road West Suite 320 Marlborough MA 01752 (508) 251-0720 x3804 <a href="mailto:kpelletier@sbsite.com">kpelletier@sbsite.com</a>
<b>Party</b> (granted on May 1, 2007)	City of Meriden	Deborah L. Moore, Esq. Legal Department Meriden City Hall 142 East Main Street Meriden, CT 06450 (203) 630-4045 (203) 630-7907 <a href="mailto:Dmoore@meridenct.gov">Dmoore@meridenct.gov</a>



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December 17, 2015

TO: Classified/Legal Supervisor  
**329151217**  
The Record Journal  
11 Crown Street  
Meriden, CT 06450

FROM: Carriann Mulcahy, Secretary 

RE: **DOCKET NO. 329** – SBA Infrastructure LLC Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility at Paddock Avenue in Meriden, Connecticut.

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Please publish the attached notice as soon as possible, but not on Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday.

Please send an affidavit of publication and invoice to my attention.

Thank you.

CM



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### NOTICE

Pursuant to General Statutes § 4-181a(b), the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) announces that, on December 10, 2015, the Council modified the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need and reissued the Decision and Order in Docket 329 dated August 29, 2007 thereby eliminating the requirement that all antennas on this telecommunications facility be flush-mounted in DOCKET NO. 329 - SBA Infrastructure LLC Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility at 651 Paddock Avenue in Meriden, Connecticut. This record is available for public inspection in the Council's office, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut.

**DOCKET NO. 329** – SBA Infrastructure LLC Certificate of }  
Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, }  
maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility at }  
Paddock Avenue in Meriden, Connecticut. }

Connecticut

Siting

Council

December 10, 2015

### Decision and Order

In response to the Connecticut Siting Council's (Council) reopening of the record in this docket on December 10, 2015 to consider whether changed conditions exist that would warrant a modification to the original Decision and Order's Condition 2 eliminating the requirement that all antennas on this telecommunications facility must be flush-mounted, the Council hereby rescinds the Decision and Order in Docket 329 issued on August 29, 2007 and issues this new Decision and Order for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 651 Paddock Road, Meriden, Connecticut.

The facility shall be constructed, operated, and maintained substantially as specified in the Council's record in this matter, and subject to the following conditions:

1. The tower shall be designed as a steel monopole and shall be constructed no taller than 120 feet above ground level to provide telecommunications services to both public and private entities.
2. The Certificate Holder shall prepare a Development and Management (D&M) Plan for this site in compliance with Sections 16-50j-75 through 16-50j-77 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. The D&M Plan shall be served on the City of Meriden and all parties and intervenors, as listed in the service list, and submitted to and approved by the Council prior to the commencement of facility construction and shall include:
  - a) a final site plan(s) of site development to include specifications for the tower, tower foundation, color of the tower (to be determined after consultation with the property owner and the City of Meriden), antenna mountings, equipment building, access road, utility line, and landscaping; and
  - b) construction plans for site clearing, water drainage, and erosion and sedimentation control consistent with the 2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, as amended.
3. The Certificate Holder shall, prior to the commencement of operation, provide the Council worst-case modeling of electromagnetic radio frequency power density of all proposed entities' antennas at the closest point of uncontrolled access to the tower base, consistent with Federal Communications Commission, Office of Engineering and Technology, Bulletin No. 65, August 1997. The Certificate Holder shall ensure a recalculated report of electromagnetic radio frequency power density is submitted to the Council in the event other carriers locate at this facility or if circumstances in operation cause a change in power density above the levels calculated and provided pursuant to this Decision and Order.
4. Upon the establishment of any new state or federal radio frequency standards applicable to frequencies of this facility, the facility granted herein shall be brought into compliance with such standards.

5. The Certificate Holder shall permit public or private entities to share space on the proposed tower for fair consideration, or shall provide any requesting entity with specific legal, technical, environmental, or economic reasons precluding such tower sharing.
6. The Certificate Holder shall provide reasonable space on the tower for no compensation for any City of Meriden public safety services (police, fire and medical services), provided such use can be accommodated and is compatible with the structural integrity of the tower.
7. Unless otherwise approved by the Council, if the facility authorized herein is not fully constructed and providing wireless services within eighteen months from the date of the mailing of the Council's Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order (collectively called "Final Decision"), this Decision and Order shall be void, and the Certificate Holder shall dismantle the tower and remove all associated equipment or reapply for any continued or new use to the Council before any such use is made. The time between the filing and resolution of any appeals of the Council's Final Decision shall not be counted in calculating this deadline.
8. Any request for extension of the time period referred to in Condition 7 shall be filed with the Council not later than 60 days prior to the expiration date of this Certificate and shall be served on all parties and intervenors, as listed in the service list, and the City of Meriden. Any proposed modifications to this Decision and Order shall likewise be so served.
9. If the facility ceases to provide wireless services for a period of one year, this Decision and Order shall be void, and the Certificate Holder shall dismantle the tower and remove all associated equipment or reapply for any continued or new use to the Council before any such use is made.
10. The Certificate Holder shall remove any nonfunctioning antenna, and associated antenna mounting equipment, within 60 days of the date the antenna ceased to function.
11. In accordance with Section 16-50j-77 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the Certificate Holder shall provide the Council with written notice two weeks prior to the commencement of site construction activities. In addition, the Certificate Holder shall provide the Council with written notice of the completion of site construction and the commencement of site operation.

We hereby direct that a copy of the Staff report and reissued Decision and Order be served on each person listed in the Service List, dated November 6, 2015, and notice of issuance published in Meriden Record Journal.

By this Decision and Order, the Council disposes of the legal rights, duties, and privileges of each party named or admitted to the proceeding in accordance with Section 16-50j-17 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.



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Docket No. 329

SBA Communications Corporation

651 Paddock Avenue, Meriden

Request to Reopen and Modify the Certificate

Staff Report

December 10, 2015

On August 29, 2007 the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) granted a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (Certificate) to Optasite Towers LLC (Optasite) and Omnipoint Communications, Inc. for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility at Paddock Avenue, Meriden, Connecticut.

SBA Communications Corporation (SBA) acquired Optasite in September 2008 and subsequently the Council granted a transfer of Certificate on October 16, 2008.

SBA owns a 120-monopole (brown in color) within a 45-foot by 50-foot fenced compound on property that hosts a church and abuts Wilbur Cross Parkway. This site and abutting properties are zoned residential.

Once the facility became operational the Council has acted on the following requests:

Type of request	Town	Location	Carrier/Tower Management	Proposed Action	Council Decision Date
Docket 329	Meriden	651 Paddock Avenue	T-Mobile	flush mount 3 panel antennas @ 117 feet	08/29/07
Exempt Mod			Verizon	flush mount 3 panel antennas @ 107 feet	05/08/08
Transfer			SBA	Transfer of Certificate	10/16/08
Exempt Mod			T-Mobile	remove 3 existing flush mount TMAs; install 6 new flush mount TMAs @ 117 feet	06/10/09
Exempt Mod			Clearwire	Flush mount 3 panel antennas, 3 microwave dishes, and 3 TMAs @ 97 feet	12/14/09
Exempt Mod			Verizon	replace 3 flush-mount antennas with 9 clustered flush-mount antennas	11/01/12
Exempt Mod			T-Mobile	replace 3 existing flush mount antennas with 3 new flush mount dual-band antennas @ 117 feet	03/21/14
Exempt Mod			Verizon	replace 3 existing flush mount antennas with 3 new AWS flush mount antennas @ 107 feet	06/18/14
Exempt Mod			T-Mobile	Relocate three existing panel antennas and install three LTE antennas on a T-arm mount kit @ 117 feet	11/16/2015 DENIED



CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer



On November 5, 2015, SBA filed a Request to Reopen and Modify the Council's issuance of said Certificate. Specifically, the request relates to the removal of Condition No. 2 of the Certificate that requires "All antennas installed by commercial wireless telecommunications providers shall be flush-mounted." Due to advancements in technology and increased consumer demand, SBA is requesting use of T-arm antenna mounts rather than flush antenna mounts on this existing tower to avoid increasing the height of the tower to comply with the flush antenna mount condition.

During the 2000s, the Council balanced wireless carriers' needs to provide service to their customers with potential visibility of the antennas and supporting structure. This precipitated consideration of mounting antennas flush to the tower and in some instances painting the tower and antennas to minimize the presence of the facility.

SBA respectfully requests the Council remove the requirement that all antennas be flush mounted on this facility for the following reasons:

- T-Mobile proposes to add three new antennas together with three existing antennas to meet increased consumer usage and demand including enhanced wireless services and E911. T-arm mounts would be needed to support the antennas at the top of the tower. It has become commonplace for carriers to require more tower and ground space for equipment utilizing multiple frequency licenses supporting 2G/3G legacy technologies and newer LTE/4G systems. Installation of flush mount antennas at a lower height would reduce coverage. Installation of flush mounted antennas at a higher height would require an increase in tower height. Neither of these options are reasonably practicable and functionally equivalent alternatives. Furthermore retaining the flush mount antenna condition may have the effect of precluding tower sharing by other carriers.
- T-Mobile's proposed work will not present any change to the environmental conditions. No material changes to environmental conditions are expected from those presented in the original Docket 329 Findings of Fact. The anticipated composite radio frequency maximum permissible exposure for the proposed work will be 15.4 percent of the allowable Federal Communications Commission general public limit.
- T-Mobile's proposed work will not present any significant adverse visual impact on the surrounding area. The T-arm mounting configuration will result in a marginal additional visibility from areas that already view the structure. The T-arm mount is approximately five feet on the horizontal plane which maintains a four-foot separation between antennas. The T-arm mount would extend 32-inches from the tower.
- T-Mobile's proposed modification is consistent with necessary changes being made to existing site configurations. It is known that flush mount configurations limits future capacity demand that may require additional antennas and technological advances might not be deliverable with flush mount antennas.

SBA provided its request to parties and intervenors to the original docket proceeding, as well as abutting property owners.

Per a Council memo dated November 6, 2015, parties and intervenors were requested to submit comments or statements of position in writing to the Council with respect to whether the Request to Reopen and Modify the Certificate should be granted or denied and **whether a public hearing should be held on this request** by the close of business on or before December 7, 2015.

As of December 4, 2015 no comments have been received.