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
Web Site: portal.ct.gov/csc

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

September 16, 2021

MJ Umali
Site Acquisition Consultant
c/o Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
Centerline Communications, LLC
750 West Center Street, Floor 3
West Bridgewater, MA 02379
mumali@centerlinecommunications.com

RE: **EM-VER-153-210805** - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless notice of intent to modify an existing telecommunications facility located at 655 Bassett Road, Watertown, Connecticut.

Dear Ms. Umali:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) hereby denies your request to modify the above-referenced existing telecommunications facility, pursuant to Section 16-50j-73 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

The requested modification, as proposed, would load the tower to a maximum of 102 percent of its capacity, which is above the 100 percent limit established by the Council under guidance from the Connecticut State Building Inspector. Please see attached Council memo on Acceptable Overstress for Communications Towers.

Thus, the proposed modification is not in compliance with the exemption criteria in Section 16-50j-72 (b) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and is hereby denied.

Sincerely,

Melanie Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/CW/emr

enclosure

c: Mark Raimo, Town Manager, Town of Watertown

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**MEMORANDUM**

Date: November 6, 2017

To: Telecommunications Carriers and their Representatives

From: Melanie Bachman, Executive Director MAB

Re: Exempt Modification/Tower Share Filing
Acceptable Overstress for Communications Towers

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The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) has received requests for exempt modifications to existing jurisdictional towers that include statements relating to allowable potential "overstress" in the structural analysis reports submitted with exempt modification filings. Given the statement in the Connecticut State Building Inspector's April 27, 2017 correspondence to the Council, a copy of which is attached, indicating that "the State Building Code would allow limited overstresses under certain conditions for existing towers," the Council will accept such filings if the filing is accompanied by a formal opinion from the Connecticut State Building Inspector specifically regarding the structure in question stating that such overstress of the specific structure is allowable. If the exempt modification filing with an overstress situation does not include this formal opinion specific to the structure, the filing will be denied.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

MAB/CMW/laf

Enclosure: State Building Inspector Letter, dated April 27, 2017

c: Joseph V. Cassidy, P.E., State Building Inspector

**DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

April 27, 2017

Melanie A. Bachman, Esq.
Executive Director/Staff Attorney
Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Interpretation of 2016 CT State Building Code IBC Section 3404
Acceptable Loading of Existing Structures

Ms. Bachman,

In your email of March 24, 2017 you requested an interpretation regarding the structural stresses allowed during an alteration of an existing communication tower, specifically whether an overstress up to 5% would be allowed by the State Building Code.

Answer:

These alterations are regulated by chapter 34 – Existing Buildings and Structures of the 2012 IBC portion of the 2016 State Building Code. Section 3404.3 discusses gravity loading and states in salient part "Any existing gravity load-carrying structural element for which an alteration causes an increase in design gravity load of more than 5 percent shall be strengthened…". Section 3404.4 discusses lateral loads and includes an exception which states in salient part "Any existing lateral load-carrying structural element whose demand-capacity ratio with the alteration considered is no more than 10 percent greater than its demand-capacity ratio with the alteration ignored shall be permitted to remain unaltered." This exception continues to require that the effects of all additions and alterations must be included in this analysis.

Therefore, the State Building Code would allow limited overstresses under certain conditions for existing towers.

Sincerely,

Joseph V. Cassidy, P.E.
State Building Inspector