



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

September 12, 2003

Christopher B. Fisher, Esq.
Cuddy & Feder LLP
90 Maple Avenue
White Plains, NY 10601-5196

RE: **PETITION NO. 626T** - AT&T Wireless PCS, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed construction, maintenance and operation of a wireless telecommunications facility at 111 Middle Turnpike, Mansfield, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Fisher:

At a public meeting held on September 9, 2003, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) considered and ruled that this proposal would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect, and pursuant to General Statutes § 16-50k would not require a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need with the condition that a Development and Management Plan be submitted for the Council's review and approval prior to the commencement of construction.

This decision is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Council and is not applicable to any other modification or construction.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Findings of Fact on this project.

Very truly yours,

Pamela B. Katz, P.E.
Chairman

PBK/laf

Enclosure: Findings of Fact dated September 9, 2003

c: Honorable Elizabeth Patterson, First Selectman, Town of Mansfield
Gregory Padick, Town Planner, Town of Mansfield
Mr. Martin H. Berliner, Town Manager, Town of Mansfield

PETITION 626T – AT&T Wireless PCS, LLC d/b/a AT&T	}	Connecticut
Wireless petition for a Declaratory Ruling that no Certificate of	}	
Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required to	}	Siting
construct a 55-foot tower facility at 111 Middle Turnpike,	}	
Mansfield, Connecticut.	}	Council

September 9, 2003

Findings of Fact

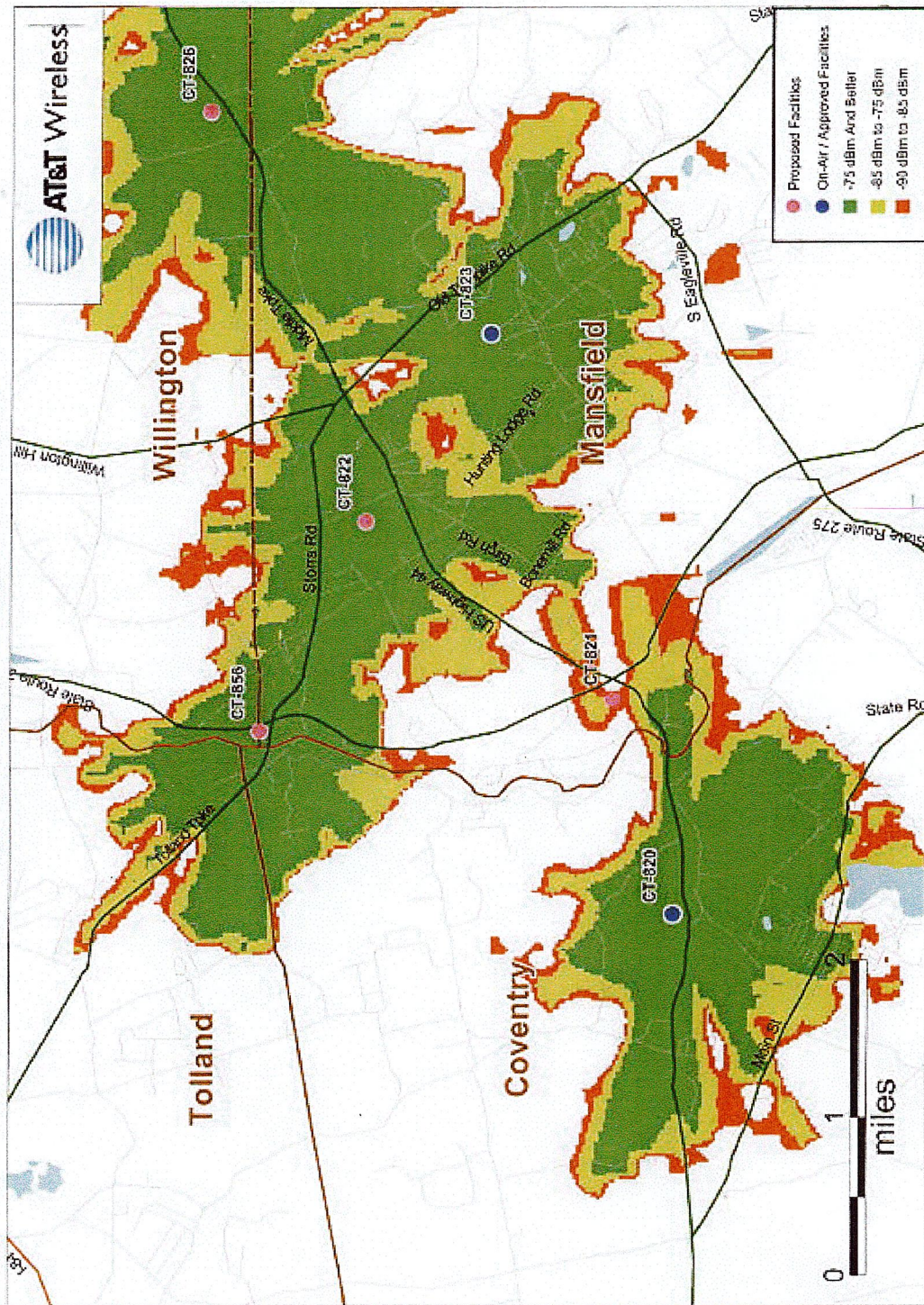
1. Pursuant to Sections 16-50j-38 and 16-50j-39 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies ("RCSA"), AT&T Wireless PCS, LLC d/b/a AT&T Wireless ("AT&T") petitioned the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council") on April 30, 2003 for a declaratory ruling that a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need ("Certificate") is not required under the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes ("CGS") Section 16-50k to construct a tower at 111 Middle Turnpike, Mansfield, Connecticut. (AT&T Petition, p. 1)
2. AT&T is licensed by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") to provide PCS services in the area of Connecticut that includes Mansfield. (AT&T Petition, p. 3)
3. The Council, after giving due notice thereof, held a public hearing on this petition in conjunction with the public hearing on the related Docket 247 on June 17, 2003, beginning at 3:00 p.m. and continuing at 7:00 p.m. in Mansfield, Connecticut. (Transcript, June 17, 2003, 3:00 p.m. [Tr. 1], p. 6)
4. The tower AT&T seeks to construct would be located on property known as 111 Middle Turnpike and owned by Burnham and Megan Thompson. The property is located near the intersection of U.S. Route 44 and State Route 32 near the University of Connecticut's ("UCONN") Depot Campus. There are a residence, a garage, and a barn on the 10 acre property that includes a field interspersed with trees. Mature trees surround much of the property along the property lines. (AT&T Petition, p. 2)
5. At this site, AT&T would install one 55-foot tall, wood laminate pole in the northern corner at the rear of the property. AT&T would flush-mount three antennas on the pole with a centerline of 52.5 feet. (AT&T Petition, p. 3)
6. The pole would be located at latitude 41° 48' 14.14" N and longitude 72° 18' 18.07" W. (AT&T Petition, Site Access Map)
7. The closest residence to the proposed tower is 320 feet away. There are 11 residences within 1,000 feet of the tower. (Pre-Hearing Interrogatory, AT&T Response No. 4)
8. The purpose of the tower would be to provide coverage for an approximately half mile distance on both Route 44 and Route 32 in the vicinity of their intersection. This coverage gap is caused by a dip in topography and AT&T's low position on the facility on Riley Mountain in Coventry. (Tr. 1, pp. 57, 61)

9. Associated ground equipment would be installed on a 7-foot by 13-foot concrete pad near the base of the tower. The tower and equipment pad would be surrounded by an 8-foot high chain link fence. (AT&T Petition, p. 3)
10. AT&T sought permission from UCONN officials to install its antennas on smokestacks that are on the UCONN Depot Campus. UCONN officials denied AT&T permission to use the smokestacks because they had other plans for the Depot Campus. (AT&T Petition, p. 3; Tr. 1, p. 55)
11. AT&T sent a letter discussing its tower proposal and a copy of the petition submitted to the Council to abutting property owners, other than the State of Connecticut. (AT&T Petition, p. 4)
12. The proposed facility is not inimical to the planning program of the Connecticut Department of Transportation. (Facsimile transmission received from ConnDOT on June 24, 2003)
13. During a field review of the proposed site held on June 17, 2003 before the public hearing in conjunction with Docket 247, the applicant flew a balloon to simulate the height of the proposed tower. At the time of the site inspection, the winds were light, and the balloons flew perpendicular to a height of 55 feet. The balloons were in the air by about 11:30 a.m. and were flown until 7:00 p.m. (Tr. 1, p. 19)
14. Access to the tower would be via the property owners' existing driveway and along the edge of a cleared field. Utilities to the tower site would run underground along the access drive. (AT&T Petition, p. 4)

Area Coverage without Petition Site

111 MIDDLE TURNPIKE

PROPOSED SITE A NEIGHBOR RF COVERAGE; ANTENNA CENTERLINE: 52.5 FT



Map 2:
Area Coverage with Petition Site

AT&T WIRELESS SERVICES
111 MIDDLE TURNPIKE

PROPOSED SITE A COMPOSITE RF COVERAGE; ANTENNA CENTERLINE: 52.5 FT

