

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

IN RE: :
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 A PETITION FOR A DECLARATORY : PETITION NO. 1470
 RULING ON THE NEED TO OBTAIN A :
 SITING COUNCIL CERTIFICATE FOR THE :
 INSTALLATION OF A TEMPORARY :
 TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY AT :
 SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY, 5151 PARK :
 AVENUE, FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT : NOVEMBER 24, 2021

**RESPONSES OF CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS
TO CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL INTERROGATORIES**

On November 17, 2021, the Connecticut Siting Council (“Council”) issued Interrogatories to Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC and T-Mobile Northeast, LLC (“Applicants”), relating to Petition No. 1470. Below are Applicants’ responses.

Question No. 1

What is the height above ground level (AGL) of the Pierre Toussaint Hall roof?

Response

The Pierre Toussaint Hall roof height is approximately 56 feet AGL.

Question No. 2

At what heights AGL are each of the Petitioners’ existing non-tower antenna arrays?

Response

Cellco

Two sectors of Cellco’s antennas are at a height of 65 feet AGL. The third sector Cellco antennas are at a height of 70 feet AGL.

AT&T

AT&T antennas are at a height of 61'-3" AGL.

T-Mobile

T-Mobile antennas are at a height of 68' AGL.

Question No. 3

Referencing Attachment 2, the Site Plan on Sheet L-2 defines the lease area as 1,776 square feet. The Compound Plan on Sheet L-2 defines the fenced compound area as 2,456 square feet. Please clarify.

Response

The 1,776 square foot reference on Sheet L-2 is incorrect. The temporary facility compound size is 2,456 square feet.

Question No. 4

Referencing Attachment 2, the Compound Plan on Sheet L-2 depicts a proposed retaining wall along the north, west and south sides of the compound area. What is the height, composition and purpose of the proposed retaining wall? Is it temporary or permanent?

Response

The area near the designated temporary tower location maintains some relatively steep terrain, sloping down to the west. Cellco intends to install a temporary five-foot-high retaining wall along the north, west and south sides of the compound area to laterally support and restrain the proposed fill needed to establish a level compound area. The temporary retaining wall will consist of concrete block units and a geosynthetic grid (with a horizontal length of five (5) feet)

to anchor the system into the grade. Adding a temporary retaining wall at this location will also reduce the overall ground disturbance needed to install the temporary tower site improvements.

Question No. 5

Referencing Attachment 2, the Site Plan on Sheet L-1 depicts a proposed utility pole.

Please explain.

Response

Teleco service to the temporary tower facility will extend from existing overhead service along the north side of Jefferson Street (Pole No. 296) to a new utility pole on the northwest corner of the SHU campus parcel, along the south side of Jefferson Street. From this new utility pole, telco service will be placed in a steel conduit that will be placed on the ground. The steel conduit will be tied to the ground using steel anchors.

Question No. 6

Would installation of the temporary facility require any grading? Please explain.

Response

See Cellco's response to Question No. 4 above regarding the grading required for the temporary tower compound. No grading will be required for the installation of the above grade telco conduit.

Question No. 7

How would construction equipment access and install the proposed underground utility connection?

Response

Construction equipment would access the teleco service route from existing parking areas and driveways near the Valentine Recreation Center and the Scholars Commons residence

buildings to the north of the Valentine Center. All improvements will be completed while students are on winter break.

Question No. 8

Referencing Attachment 1, is excavation of the entire 5-foot wide utility easement depicted on the Site Schematic proposed at this time? If not, what portion of the utility easement at what length would be excavated to interconnect the proposed temporary facility?

Response

As described on the project plans included in Attachment 2 of the Petition, the northerly portion of the utility service will extend from existing service on Jefferson Street overhead to new pole installed in the northwest corner of the SHU parcel. (See Plan Sheet L-1). Due to the tight construction window associated with the installation of the temporary tower, Cellco intends to modify its utility run and install the "Telco Service" in a steel conduit which will lay upon and be tied to the ground using metal anchors. Only that portion of the telco service between the new utility pole shown on Sheet L-1 and the temporary tower compound (approximately 865 feet) will be installed at this time. The permanent utility service to the new tower location will be the subject of a future filing with the Council.

Question No. 9

What is the distance and direction of the proposed temporary facility location from the approved permanent facility location?

Response

The permanent tower site approved by the Council in Docket No. 495 is located approximately 700 feet to the northwest of the proposed temporary tower.

Question No. 10

What is the distance and direction of the proposed temporary facility location from the nearest off-site/off-campus residence?

Response

The nearest off-site/off-campus residence is located approximately 850 feet to the southwest of the temporary tower at 360 Autumn Ridge Road, Fairfield, CT.

Question No. 11

What is the distance and direction of the on-site wetland described in Finding of Fact No. 109 in Docket No. 495 from the proposed temporary facility location?

Response

The wetland area referenced in the Docket No. 495 Finding of Fact No. 109 is a small manmade pocket used as a stormwater basin, located approximately 520 feet to the northwest of the temporary tower location.

Question No. 12

What is the total length of the proposed access to the temporary facility?

Response

The length of the proposed accessway from Park Avenue is approximately 2,578 feet. The accessway to the temporary facility will utilize existing roadways and parking areas on the SHU Main Campus.

Question No. 13

Is the temporary facility and associated equipment expected to meet applicable noise standards at the property lines?

Response

Yes.

Question No. 14

Since the filing of notice, did Petitioners receive any comments on the proposed temporary facility location? If so, please provide a summary of the comments received.

Response

Other than the letter the Council received from the Fairfield First Selectwoman supporting the Petition for the temporary tower, Cellco has received no comments.

Question No. 15

Would any of the Petitioners maintain backup power at the proposed temporary facility site? If so, please provide the type of backup power and hours of run time.

Response

Neither Cellco nor T-Mobile intend to install any type of backup power at the temporary tower facility. AT&T will install a backup battery cabinet which will provide approximately three (3) hours of backup power to the temporary facility.

Question No. 16

What is the estimated cost of the proposed temporary facility installation?

Response

Cellco estimates that the total cost for the temporary facility to be approximately \$380,000.

Question No. 17

If the temporary facility is approved, when would construction commence and approximately how long would construction take to complete?

Response

Construction of the temporary facility will commence immediately following approval of this Petition. Cellco estimates that the installation of the temporary facility will be completed in approximately four to six weeks.