



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

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VIA ELECTRONI MAIL

November 28, 2022

Paul J. Melanson
Chief of Police
Town of Avon
60 West Main Street
Avon, CT 06001-3719
pmelanson@avonct.gov

RE: **PETITION NO. 1547** – SBA Communications Corporation petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed replacement and extension of an existing telecommunications facility located at 277 Huckleberry Hill Road, Avon, Connecticut.

Dear Chief Melanson:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of the Town of Avon's correspondence dated November 23, 2022 concerning the above-referenced petition. Thank you for taking the time to provide the Council with the comments.

This petition will be placed on a future Council meeting agenda for discussion and decision. Please note that you can view all of the documents related to this petition on our website at portal.ct.gov/csc under the "Pending Matters" link. You may also keep apprised of Council events on the website calendar and agenda.

Before reaching a final decision on any petition, the Council carefully considers all of the facts contained in the record that is developed by the Council, the petitioner, parties and intervenors to the petition, and all of the concerns received from members of the public who submit written statements to the Council.

Copies of your correspondence will be distributed to the service list for the petition.

Thank you for your interest and concern in this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/laf

c: Service List, dated November 9, 2022
Council Members



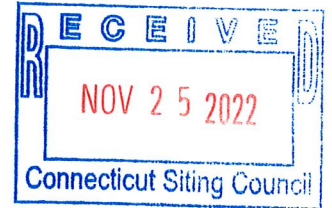
Avon Police Department

60 West Main St., Avon, CT 06001
Telephone (860) 409-4200 Facsimile (860) 409-4206

Paul J. Melanson, Chief of Police

"To Protect and To Serve"

November 23, 2022



Ms. Melanie Bachman
Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, Connecticut 06051

RE: Petition No. 1547 - SBA Communications Corporation petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 4-176 and 16-50k, for the proposed replacement and extension of an existing telecommunications facility located at 277 Huckleberry Hill Road, Avon, Connecticut.

Dear Ms. Bachman:

As Chief of the Avon Police Department, I am committed to providing progressive and professional police services to the residents for which we proudly serve. As part of this commitment, I am writing to express my support of the above referenced Petition.

The backbone of any public safety agency is an effective communications system. Currently, the Town of Avon Public Safety Communications system relies on an outdated infrastructure consisting of equipment that has exceeded the limit of its useful life. The system has not received a major upgrade in over 25 years. Our communications system is based on conventional analog technology that lacks the security, functionality and sustainability of a modern communications system. As it stands, the system does not allow for interoperability and is plagued by severe coverage gaps, especially in the western-most portion of town, which negatively impacts emergency personnel communications on a daily basis.

Following the overall assessment of the radio communications system and recommendations of an outside consultant, The Town of Avon sought to implement a Project 25 (P25) Phase 2 compliant simulcast trunked radio system, to replace the existing system. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was generated based upon the Town's needs and public safety standards. Part of the deliverables specified within the design process stipulated that the system would meet 95% Service Area Reliability with an additional 12db loss applied for building penetration at a Delivered Audio Quality (DAQ) of 3.4 or greater. Motorola Solutions has generated a proposal which both meets these coverage needs and incorporates a collaborative partnership with the State of Connecticut. The current design calls for the implementation of a "two-site" add-on to Connecticut Land Radio



NATIONALLY ACCREDITED SINCE 1993

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Ms. Melanie Bachman
November 23, 2022

Mobile Radio Network (CLMRN). One of the two (2) identified sites is the SBA Communications Tower located at 277 Huckleberry Hill Road, Avon, CT (the subject of this Petition). This site will be used to house communications equipment which will effectively expand the CLMRN H simulcast subsystem to provide radio communications for Avon public safety personnel, as well as other users of the CLMRN. This location is integral to the overall design, and without it, the radio coverage, particularly in areas located in the western portion of town, would fall well below the stipulated 95% Service Area Reliability.

Motorola Solutions has indicated that they will not guarantee coverage from sites where transmit and receive antennas are knowingly installed at or below (tree) clutter. The site (and/or sites) is typically removed from coverage predications, and any remaining sites are used to determine the level of coverage Motorola would be able to guarantee. In this case, the current SBA tower structure at 277 Huckleberry Hill Road does not have the space available to co-locate Town communications equipment at a height above known clutter, thereby necessitating tower expansion.

The Coverage Guarantee Statement provided by Motorola Solutions as part of their proposal is predicated upon the Town of Avon antenna heights being mounted at the top of the new 130-foot tower structure. These antenna heights are required to provide the previously stipulated level of portable radio coverage at the required delivered audio quality and minimum reliability.

In summary, Motorola Solutions has indicated they will guarantee a Delivered Audio Quality (DAQ) of 3.4 or greater Channel Performance Criteria (CPC) within 95% or more of the Town of Avon jurisdictional boundary for both transmit and receive, with an additional 12 dB loss applied for building penetration. This guarantee, as specified within the original project Request for Proposal (RFP), is based upon utilizing the proposed tower locations, including the site subject of this Petition, and system parameters as described within the current Motorola design.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for this Petition. Please feel free to contact me at (860) 409-4213, or pmelanson@avonct.gov with any questions.

Sincerely yours,



Paul J. Melanson
Chief of Police

PJM:cmz