

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL & CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

June 23, 2023

Denise Sabo Northeast Site Solutions 54 Main Street, Unit 3 Sturbridge, MA 01566 denise@northeastsitesolutions.com

RE: **PETITION NO. 1568** – Verizon Wireless, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for proposed modifications to an existing telecommunications facility located at 440 Hayden Station Road, Windsor, Connecticut.

Dear Denise Sabo:

At a public meeting held on June 22, 2023, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) considered and ruled that the above-referenced proposal would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect, and pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 16-50k, would not require a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need with the following conditions:

- 1. Approval of any project changes be delegated to Council staff;
- 2. Radio frequency access restriction and caution signage shall be installed at the site in compliance with FCC guidance;
- 3. Deployment of any 5G services must comply with FCC and FAA guidance relative to air navigation, as applicable;
- 4. The Council shall be notified in writing at least two weeks prior to the commencement of site construction activities;
- 5. Unless otherwise approved by the Council, if the facility authorized herein is not fully constructed within three years from the date of the mailing of the Council's decision, this decision shall be void, and the facility owner/operator shall dismantle the facility 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 decision shall not be counted in calculating this deadline. Authority to monitor and modify this schedule, as necessary, is delegated to the Executive Director. The facility owner/operator shall provide written notice to the Executive Director of any schedule changes as soon as is practicable;
- 6. Any request for extension of the time period to fully construct the facility shall be filed with the Council not later than 60 days prior to the expiration date of this decision and shall be served on all parties and intervenors, if applicable, and the Town of Windsor;

- 7. Within 45 days after completion of construction, the Council shall be notified in writing that construction has been completed **along with a representative photograph of the facility modification;**
- 8. Any nonfunctioning antenna and associated antenna mounting equipment on this facility owned and operated by Verizon Wireless shall be removed within 60 days of the date the antenna ceased to function;
- 9. The facility owner/operator shall remit timely payments associated with annual assessments and invoices submitted by the Council for expenses attributable to the facility under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v;
- 10. If the facility ceases to be used for signal transmission or reception in the electromagnetic spectrum pursuant to a Federal Communications Commission license for a period of one year, the facility owner/operator shall dismantle the tower and remove all associated equipment or reapply for any continued or new use to the Council within 90 days from the one year period of cessation of signal transmission or reception. The facility owner/operator may submit a written request to the Council for an extension of the 90 day period not later than 60 days prior to the expiration of the 90 day period; and
- 11. This Declaratory Ruling may be transferred or partially transferred, provided both the facility owner/operator/transferor and the transferee are current with payments to the Council for their respective annual assessments and invoices under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v. The Council shall be notified of such sale and/or transfer and of any change in contact information for the individual or representative responsible for management and operator/transferor and the transferee shall provide the Council with a written agreement as to the entity responsible for any quarterly assessment charges under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v(b)(2) that may be associated with this facility, including contact information for the individual acting on behalf of the transferee.

This decision is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Council and is not applicable to any other modification or construction. All work is to be implemented as specified in the petition dated April 11, 2023, and additional information received April 18, 2023, May 5, 2023, and May 30, 2023.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the staff report on this project.

Sincerely,

Maluikhael

Melanie A. Bachman Executive Director

MAB/IN/laf

Enclosure: Staff Report dated June 22, 2023

c: Peter Souza, Town Manager, Town of Windsor (souza@townofwindsorct.com)



STATE OF CONNECTICUT *CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL* Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950 E-Mail: <u>siting.council@ct.gov</u> Web Site: portal.ct.gov/csc

> Petition No. 1568 Verizon Wireless, LLC 440 Hayden Station Road Windsor, Connecticut

> > Staff Report June 22, 2023

> > > Notice

On April 13, 2023, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received a petition from Verizon Wireless LLC (Verizon) for a declaratory ruling pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) §4-176 and §16-50k for the proposed modifications to an existing telecommunications facility located at 440 Hayden Station Road, Windsor, Connecticut (Petition or Project). Specifically, Verizon proposes to co-locate antennas on the existing monopole and install ground equipment within an expanded compound/lease area at the site.

Pursuant to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) §16-50j-40, on or about April 12, 2023, Verizon provided notice to abutting property owners and Town of Windsor (Town) officials, respectively. No comments from the Town or abutting property owners were received.

On April 17, 2023, the Council sent correspondence to the Town stating that the Council has received the Petition and invited the Town to contact the Council with any questions or comments by May 13, 2023. No comments were received.

The Council submitted interrogatories to Verizon on May 5, 2023. Verizon submitted responses to the Council's interrogatories on May 30, 2023.

Pursuant to CGS §4-176(e) of the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act, an administrative agency is required to take an action on a petition within 60 days of receipt. On May 11, 2023, pursuant to CGS §4-176(e), the Council voted to set the date by which to render a decision on the Petition as no later than October 10, 2023, which is the 180-day statutory deadline for a final decision under CGS §4-176(i).

Project Development

The Project is needed to improve Verizon's signal strength within the existing coverage area and provide capacity relief to its adjacent sites at 1000 Old County Circle and 33 South Center Street, both in Windsor Locks. Areas that would benefit from the improved capacity include but are not limited to portions of Interstate 91, State Route 20, Kennedy Road, Hayden Station Road and the surrounding businesses.

The estimated cost of the Project is \$55,000.

Neither the Project, nor any portion thereof, is proposed to be undertaken by state departments, institutions or agencies, or funded in whole or in part, by the state through any contract or grant. Verizon is a private entity.

Petition No. 1568 Page 2 of 8

Existing Facility

The Town approved the facility in 1996. The Council approved shared use of the tower for telecommunications carriers beginning in 1999.

The existing facility is owned by Crown Castle and consists of a 96-foot monopole located on an approximately 3.76-acre industrially zoned parcel that is developed with a warehouse building, a driveway and parking lot. The host parcel is owned by CB Baggs LLP and is used as a warehouse. The parcel is bounded by Hayden Station Road to the south and other industrial properties to the north, east and west. Further north and east from the parcel are State Route 20 and Interstate 91 respectively.

The tower is located in the northeastern portion of the parcel and is enclosed within a 37 foot 4 inch by 41 foot (1,517 square foot) fenced compound.

The tower hosts AT&T at the 92-foot level, Sprint/T-Mobile at the 83/79/73-foot levels and Dish Wireless at the 65-foot level. The square shaped fenced equipment compound consists of one existing shelter, an existing platform and existing equipment pad, which support cabinets and associated ground equipment of the telecommunications carriers.

Proposed Modifications

Verizon proposes to install nine 700/850/1900/2100/3550/3700 MHz antennas and nine remote radio units on a low profile platform antenna mount at a centerline height of 50 feet above ground level (agl). The proposed 850 MHz and 3600 MHz frequency bands would be capable of providing 5G services. Verizon intends to include the other frequency bands within the 5G spectrum as the technology and equipment become available.

Verizon also proposes to expand the existing compound/lease area by approximately 360 square feet and install two equipment cabinets and other ground level associated equipment on a new 12 foot by 20 foot concrete pad with a 12 foot by 14 foot canopy. The expansion area would be a rectangle-shaped area in the northern part of the compound and would be enclosed by a fence that matches the existing fence.

Underground utilities would be installed within new conduits and would extend from Verizon's utility H-frame to a utility room within the CB Baggs building.

Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) providers are licensed by and are under the jurisdiction and authority of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). At present, no standards for backup power for CMRS providers have been promulgated by the FCC.

The project would take approximately three weeks to complete. Typical construction hours and workdays of the week are as follows: Monday through Saturday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Environmental Effects and Mitigation Measures

Construction would occur within a previously disturbed area. No trees or other vegetation would be removed to develop the site. Views of the southern portion of the compound are screened by existing landscape trees and shrubs.

The site is not located within a flood zone or proximate to any wetlands. The nearest wetland is located off site approximately 740 feet (0.14 miles) north of the compound.

The Project site is not located within a Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Natural Diversity Database buffered area. The proposed facility is not within a DEEP designated Aquifer Protection Area.

There would be no increase in tower height. The proposed expansion would impact a small portion of the existing site perimeter. Thus, no substantial adverse environmental or visual impact is expected from the proposed installation.

Public Safety

The Project would be constructed in accordance with the current Connecticut State Building Code, Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) 222-H Structural Standards for Steel Antenna Towers and Antenna Supporting Structures using a maximum wind speed of 116 miles per hour, the National Electrical Code, the Connecticut State Fire Safety Code, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards.

Verizon would also install a battery cabinet within its equipment lease area which would be capable of supplying power for approximately 8 hours before recharging is necessary. A flood light with a shut-off timer would be installed on the utility H-frame to provide illumination during nighttime emergency maintenance.

Expansion of the existing compound would not impact or interfere with any existing nearby public utilities. Prior to commencement of construction, all existing utilities and infrastructure locations will be identified to ensure that proper construction measures can be incorporated to avoid impacts and interference.

A Professional Engineer duly licensed in the State of Connecticut has certified that the tower is structurally adequate to support the proposed loading.

The calculated cumulative worst-case power density after Verizon's installation would be 42.9% of the applicable exposure limit established by the Federal Communications Commission at ground level using a far field approximation.

Petition No. 1568 Page 4 of 8

Conclusion

If approved, staff recommends the following conditions:

- 1) Approval of any project changes be delegated to Council staff;
- 2) Radio frequency access restriction and caution signage shall be installed at the site in compliance with FCC guidance; and
- 3) Deployment of any 5G services must comply with FCC and FAA guidance relative to air navigation, as applicable.

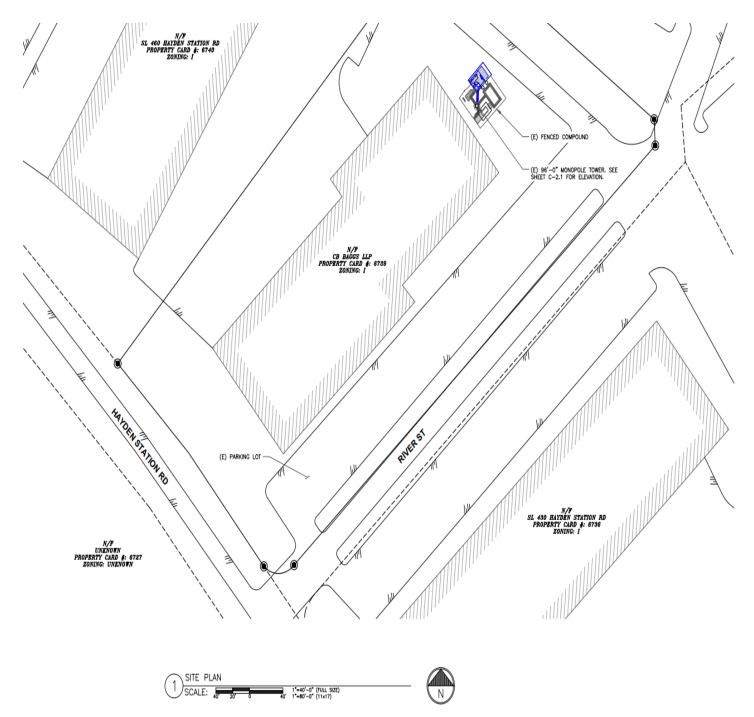


Figure 1 - Proposed Facility Location

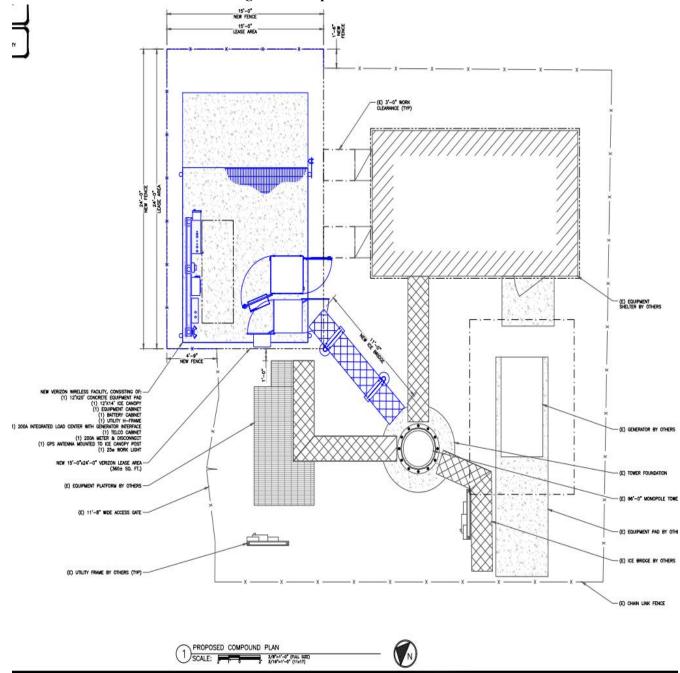
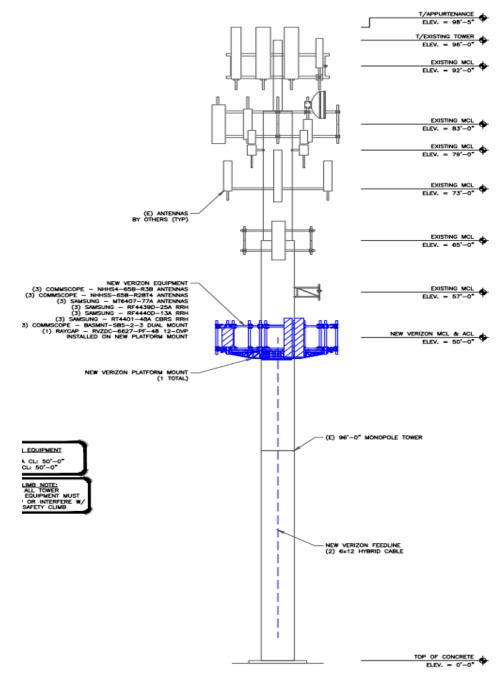


Figure 2 - Proposed Site Plan

Figure 3 - Tower Elevation



TOWER FLEVATION

Petition No. 1568 Page 8 of 8

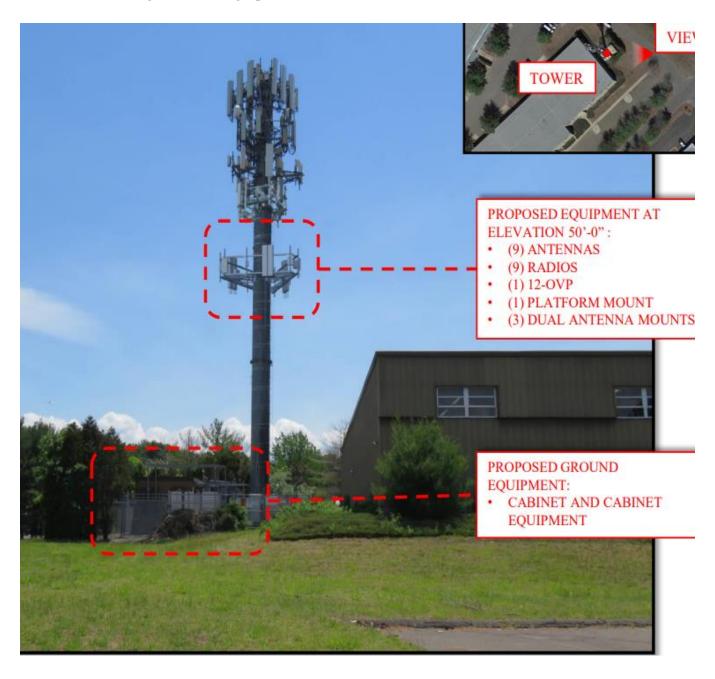


Figure 4 - Photographic Simulation of Tower Post-Modification

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

: ss. Southington, Connecticut June 23, 2023

COUNTY OF HARTFORD

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Decision and Staff Report in Petition No. 1568 issued by the Connecticut Siting Council, State of Connecticut.

)

)

ATTEST:

Milinkhael

Melanie A. Bachman Executive Director Connecticut Siting Council

STATE OF CONNECTICUT)	
	: ss. New Britain, Connecticut	June 23, 2023
COUNTY OF HARTFORD)	

I certify that a copy of the Connecticut Siting Council Decision and Staff Report in Petition No. 1568 has been forwarded by Certified First Class Return Receipt Requested mail, on June 23, 2023, to each party and intervenor, or its authorized representative, as listed on the attached service list, dated April 13, 2023.

ATTEST:

Jia a. Jontain

Lisa Fontaine Fiscal Administrative Officer Connecticut Siting Council

Date: April 13, 2023

Petition No. 1568 Page 1 of 1

LIST OF PARTIES AND INTERVENORS SERVICE LIST

Status Granted	Document Service	Status Holder (name, address & phone number)	Representative (name, address & phone number)
Petitioner	🛛 E-mail	Verizon Wireless, LLC	Denise Sabo Northeast Site Solutions 54 Main Street, Unit 3 Sturbridge, MA 01566 (203) 435-3640 <u>denise@northeastsitesolutions.com</u>