



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

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**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL & CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

June 20, 2024

Victoria Masse
Northeast Site Solutions
74 Brookfield Road
Brimfield, MA 01010
victoria@northeastsitesolutions.com

RE: **PETITION NO. 1618** – T-Mobile Northeast LLC (T-Mobile) petition for a declaratory ruling, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed extension and modifications to an existing telecommunications facility and associated equipment on electric transmission line structure 6063B, owned by Eversource Energy within an existing Eversource Energy electric transmission line right-of-way located at Oil Mill Road, Waterford, Connecticut.
Final Decision.

Dear Victoria Masse:

At a public meeting held on June 20, 2024, 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. RF 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 Waterford;

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 T-Mobile 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;
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 operations of the facility within 30 days of the sale and/or transfer. Both the facility owner/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; and
12. This Declaratory Ruling may be surrendered by the facility owner/operator upon written notification to the Council.

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 March 8, 2024 and additional correspondence dated May 28, 2024.

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

Sincerely,



Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/CMW/dll

Enclosure: Staff Report dated June 20, 2024

c: The Honorable Robert J. Brule, First Selectperson, Town of Waterford (firstsel@waterfordct.org)

STATE OF CONNECTICUT)

: ss. Southington, Connecticut June 20, 2024

COUNTY OF HARTFORD)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Decision and Staff Report in Petition No. 1618 issued by the Connecticut Siting Council, State of Connecticut.

ATTEST:



Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council

STATE OF CONNECTICUT)

: ss. New Britain, Connecticut June 20, 2024

COUNTY OF HARTFORD)

I certify that a copy of the Connecticut Siting Council Decision and Staff Report in Petition No. 1618 has been forwarded by Certified First Class Return Receipt Requested mail, on June 21, 2024, to each party and intervenor, or its authorized representative, as listed on the attached service list, dated March 8, 2024.

ATTEST:



Lisa Fontaine
Fiscal Administrative Officer
Connecticut Siting Council

LIST OF PARTIES AND INTERVENORS
SERVICE LIST

Status Granted	Document Service	Status Holder (name, address & phone number)	Representative (name, address & phone number)
Petitioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-mail	T-Mobile Northeast LLC	Victoria Masse Northeast Site Solutions 74 Brookfield Road Brimfield, MA 01010 (860) 447-0335 victoria@northeastsitesolutions.com



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Petition No. 1618
T-Mobile Northeast LLC
Oil Mill Road
Waterford, Connecticut

Staff Report
June 20, 2024

Notice

On March 8, 2024, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received a petition from T-Mobile Northeast, LLC (T-Mobile) for a declaratory ruling pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) §4-176 and §16-50k for the proposed extension and modification to an existing telecommunications facility and associated equipment on an Eversource-owned electric line transmission structure located on Oil Mill Road, Waterford, Connecticut (Petition or Project).

On February 27, 2024, T-Mobile provided notice of the proposed Project to the Town of Waterford (Town) and abutting property owners.¹ On March 11, 2024, the Council sent correspondence to the Town stating that the Council had received the Petition and invited the municipality to contact the Council with any questions or comments by April 7, 2024. No comments have been received to date.

Pursuant to CGS §4-176(e) of the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act, an administrative agency is required to take action on a petition for a declaratory ruling within 60 days of receipt. During a regular meeting held on April 25, 2024, 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 August 5, 2024, which is the 180-day statutory deadline for a final decision under CGS §4-176(i).

The Council issued interrogatories to T-Mobile on May 23, 2024. T-Mobile provided responses to the Council's interrogatories on May 28, 2024.

Existing Facility

The Council issued a Declaratory Ruling to T-Mobile USA, Inc., also known as T-Mobile, for this facility on June 13, 2011 in Petition No. 971. The Declaratory Ruling approved T-Mobile's installation of a 10-foot pipe mast extension on an 85-foot Eversource-owned electric transmission line monopole (Structure 6063B). The top of T-Mobile's antennas extend to 95 feet above ground level (agl).

The existing facility is located on a 22-acre host parcel located at 71 Oil Mill Road. The host parcel is zoned Rural Residential (RU120) and hosts a residence and a tree farm.

T-Mobile's ground equipment is located within an existing locked equipment cabinet approximately 50 feet from electric transmission structure 6063B.

¹ T-Mobile provided notice of the proposed Project to the underlying property owner on May 25, 2024.

Proposed Extension and Associated Equipment

T-Mobile proposes to replace the existing 10-foot pipe mast with a 14-foot pipe mast on the existing transmission tower which would bring the overall height to 99 feet agl. T-Mobile would install three antennas at a centerline height of 95 feet agl. The proposed antennas would be capable provide 5G services.

T-Mobile would remove existing tower mounted amplifiers and install three remote radio units on a new, extended Unistrut frame at ground level.

Cables are proposed to be run underground within a concrete duct bank from the electric transmission structure to the equipment.

No emergency backup power is proposed at this time.

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 estimated cost of the project is \$150,000. Construction would take place during an Eversource Energy transmission line outage.

Public Health and Safety

The proposed tower extension would not require notice to the Federal Aviation Administration.

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, the National Electrical Code and the Connecticut State Fire Safety Code.

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 from the operation of T-Mobile's antennas would be 3.28% of the applicable exposure limit established by the Federal Communications Commission at ground level using a far field approximation.

Environmental Effects and Mitigation Measures

No tree clearing is required. No change to the ground equipment cabinets is proposed.

The four-foot height increase would have a minimal visual impact to the immediate surrounding area.

Conclusion

If approved, staff recommends the following conditions:

- 1) Approval of any project changes be delegated to Council staff;

- 2) RF 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 - Site Plan

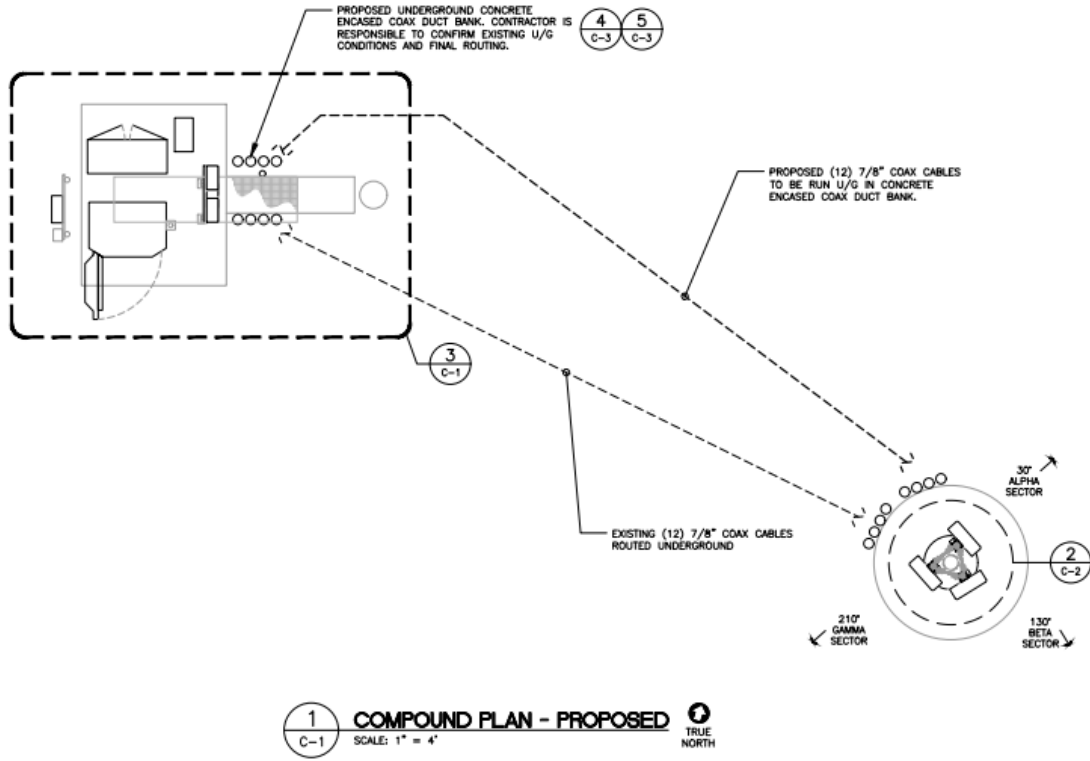
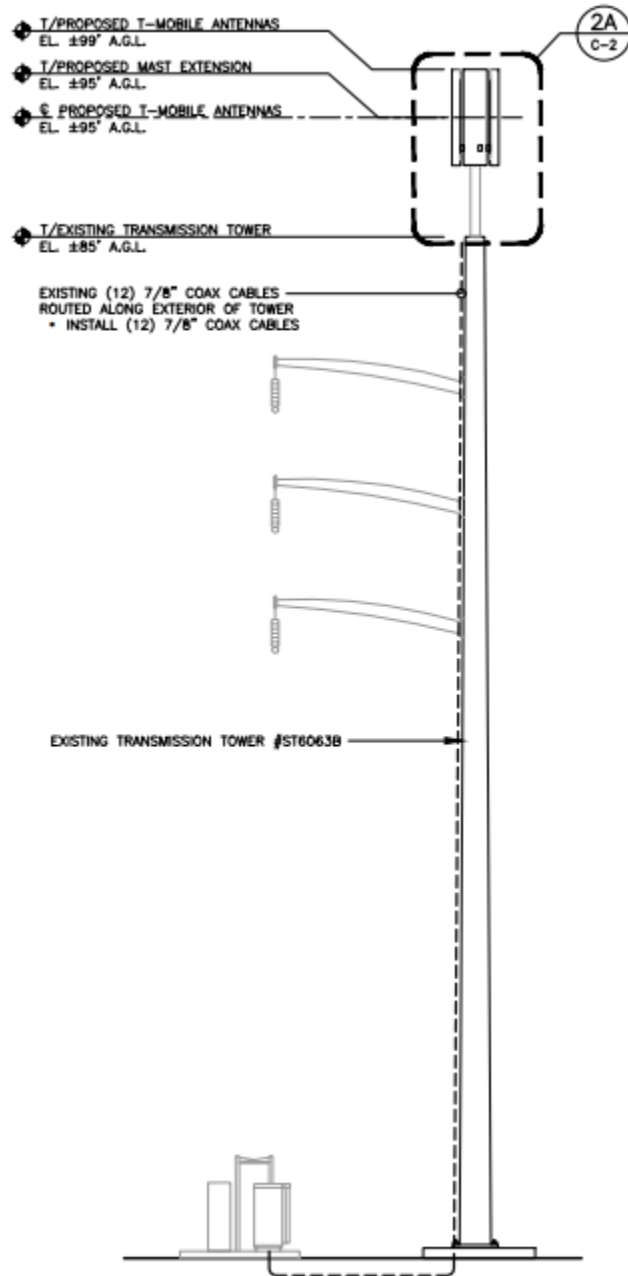


Figure 2 – Tower Elevation



4 TOWER ELEVATION - PROPOSED
C-1 SCALE: 1" = 8'