DRAFT

Petition No. 1471
New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC
343 Daleville Road,

Staff Report
February 4, 2022

Introduction

On November 18, 2021, New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) submitted a petition (Petition) to the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) for a declaratory ruling pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) §4-176 and §16-50k for the proposed extension and modification of an existing telecommunications facility located at 343 Daleville Road, Willington.

Pursuant to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) §16-50j-40, on November 12, 2021, AT&T provided notice to the abutting property owners, Town of Willington (Town) and the Town of Mansfield (within 2,500 feet) officials, and required state agencies and officials.

On November 24, 2021, the Council sent correspondence to the Town and the Town of Mansfield stating that the Council has received the Petition and invited the municipalities to contact the Council with any questions or comments by December 19, 2021. 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 within 60 days of receipt. On January 13, 2022, 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 May 18, 2022, which is the 180-day statutory deadline for a final decision under CGS §4-176(i).

The Council submitted interrogatories to AT&T on January 14, 2022. AT&T submitted responses to the interrogatories on January 28, 2022.

Existing Facility

The Council issued a Certificate to Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Cellco) for this facility in Docket No. 400 on July 29, 2010. The Certificate was transferred from Cellco to American Tower Corporation on March 5, 2015.

The existing 104-foot monopole is located on a 22-acre parcel developed with a residence, barn, small outbuildings, and several horse paddock areas. The host property is zoned residential and is located east of Daleville Road and 0.2 mile north of Route 44. The facility is accessed from an existing gravel drive extending east from the residential driveway on the host parcel.

The tower currently supports Cellco's antennas at the 97-foor level of the tower.

Proposed Extension

AT&T proposes to install a 56-foot extension on the existing tower which would increase the overall height of the tower to 160 feet above ground level (agl). AT&T would install 6 panel antennas and 12 remote radio units on three sector frame antenna mounts at a centerline height of approximately 155 feet agl.

AT&T's lease area would measure 12.5 feet by 20 feet. AT&T would install a ground-mounted 6.6-foot wide by 6.6-foot long walk in equipment cabinet shelter on an 8.5-foot by 8.5-foot concrete pad in the central portion of the existing equipment compound. Underground utilities would extend from AT&T's equipment cabinet to the existing meter bank on the western side of the compound.

AT&T would also install a 15-kilowatt propane fueled emergency backup generator on a 4-foot by 6-foot concrete pad and a 500-gallon propane tank on a 10-foot by 4-foot concrete pad. The generator would have a runtime of 4.5 days before refueling is required, at full load. The generator would be tested once a week.

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. Every year since 2006, AT&T, T-Mobile, and Verizon have certified their compliance with the CTIA Business Continuity/Disaster Recovery Program and the Communications Security, Reliability and Interoperability Council standards and best practices to ensure network reliability during power outages.

AT&T's proposed facility would address a network coverage deficiency that exists in the Route 44 area of Willington and Mansfield by providing in-building service (700 MHz) to residences and businesses. The site would maintain a minimum of in-vehicle service along Route 44 eastward to an existing AT&T facility in Ashford. The proposed facility would provide 5G services and would be capable of providing FirstNet services, a prioritized, preemptive wireless service in the 700 MHz band for first responders across Connecticut and the U.S.

The estimated cost of the project is $386,577.

Environmental

Construction would occur within existing developed areas (access road and compound).

No trees would be removed to install AT&T's facility.

The site is not within a Department of Energy and Environmental Projection Natural Diversity Database buffer area or critical habitat area.

The site is within Flood Zone C, designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as an area above the 500-year flood level.

The nearest wetland from the existing compound is 140 feet to the south. The construction area would be isolated in accordance with the *2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control.*

The proposed extension of the facility would comply with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service guidelines for minimizing the potential for telecommunications towers to impact bird species. The site is not near any Audubon Society Important Bird Areas.

The proposed tower extension would have a minimal impact on year-round visibility, except from several residential parcels northwest of the site along Daleville Road where seasonal visibility would increase. Predicted year-round visibility would increase by 0.6 acre and predicted seasonal visibility would increase by 15 acres.

There are no schools or day care facilities within one mile of the existing tower.

Public Safety

The proposed tower extension would not require notice to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) or require aviation hazard lighting.

The Project would be constructed in accordance with the 2017 National Electric Code, 2018 Connecticut State Building Code and the American National Standards Institute "Structural Standards for Steel Antenna Towers and Antenna Support Structures" Revision H.

A Professional Engineer duly licensed in the State of Connecticut has certified that the tower is structurally adequate to support the proposed loading without modifications.

The nearest abutting property and residence are approximately 360 feet and 680 feet south, respectively, of the existing facility. The setback radius would remain within the boundaries of the host property.

The proposed backup generator is exempt from Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Noise Control Regulations §22a-69-1.8.

The calculated power density would be 6.78 percent of the applicable limit using a -10 dB off-beam adjustment.

Construction Schedule

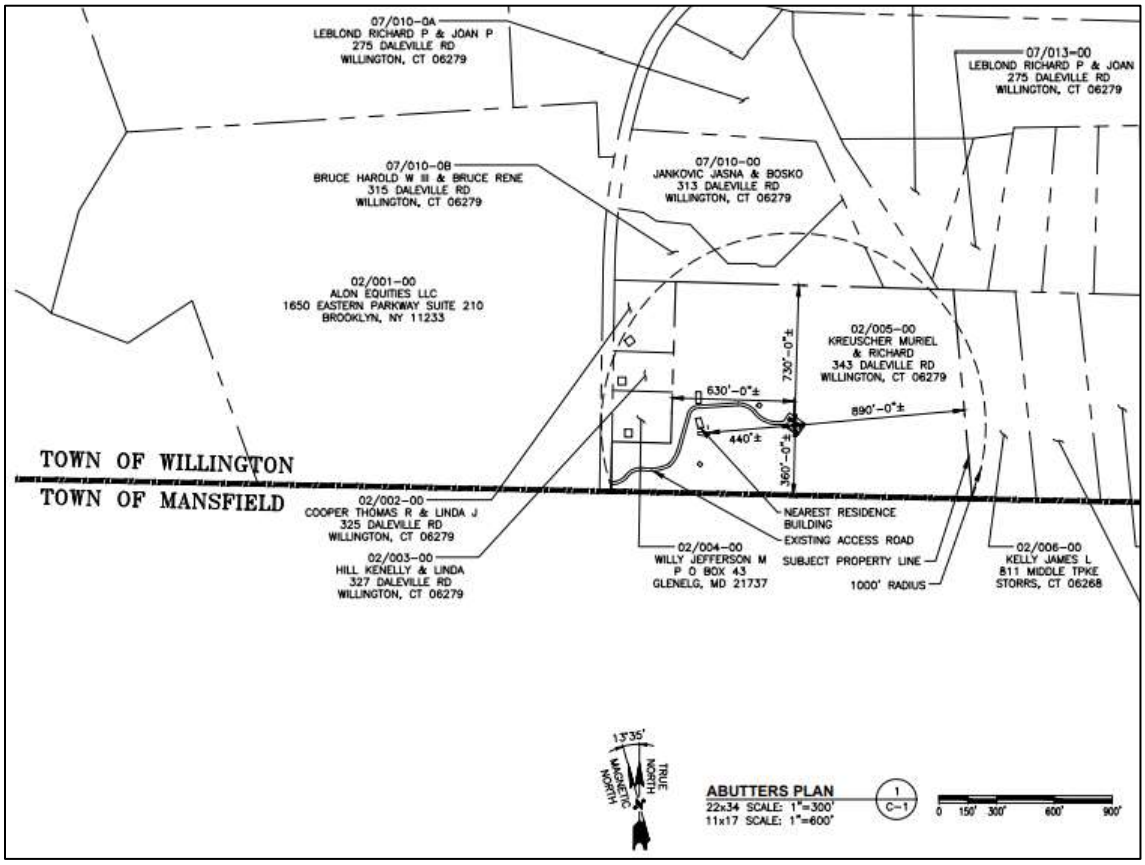
Construction is expected to be completed within four weeks. Construction hours are Monday – Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM.

Conclusion

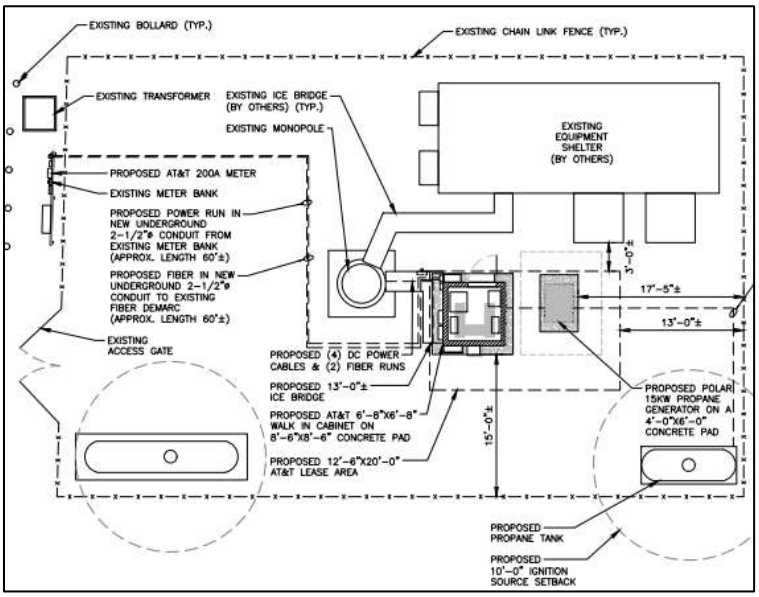
If approved, staff recommends the following conditions:

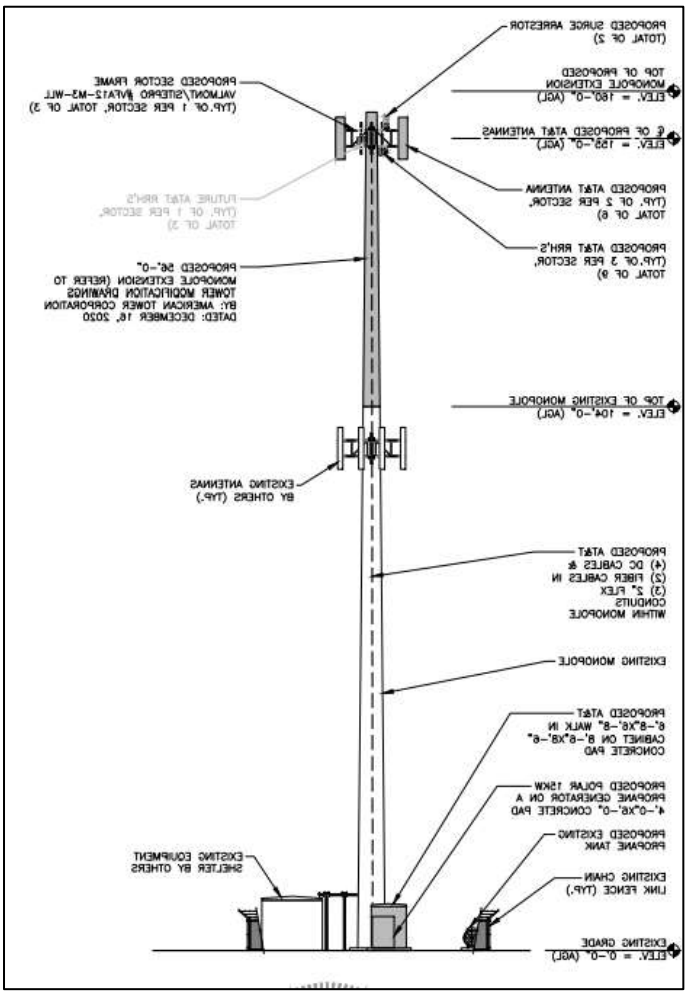
1) Approval of any project changes be delegated to Council staff; and
2) Deployment of any 5G services must comply with FCC and FAA guidance relative to air navigation, as applicable.

Project Location



Site Plan


EXISTING BOLLARD (TYP.)
EXISTING CHAIN LINK FENCE (TYP.)
EXISTING TRANSFORMER
EXISTING ICE BRIDGE (BY OTHERS) (TYP.)
EXISTING MONOPOLE
EXISTING EQUIPMENT SHELTER (BY OTHERS)
PROPOSED AT&T 200A METER
EXISTING METER BANK
PROPOSED POWER RUN IN NEW UNDERGROUND 2-1/2"ø CONDUIT FROM EXISTING METER BANK (APPROX. LENGTH 60'±)
PROPOSED FIBER IN NEW UNDERGROUND 2-1/2"ø CONDUIT TO EXISTING FIBER DEMARC (APPROX. LENGTH 60'±)
EXISTING ACCESS GATE
PROPOSED (4) DC POWER CABLES & (2) FIBER RUNS
PROPOSED 13'-0"± ICE BRIDGE
PROPOSED AT&T 6'-8"X6'-8" WALK IN CABINET ON 8'-6"X8'-6" CONCRETE PAD
PROPOSED 12'-6"X20'-0" AT&T LEASE AREA
15'-0"±
17'-5"±
13'-0"±
PROPOSED POLAR 15KW PROPANE GENERATOR ON A 4'-0"X6'-0" CONCRETE PAD
PROPOSED PROPANE TANK
PROPOSED 10'-0" IGNITION SOURCE SETBACK


PROPOSED SURGE ARRESTOR (TOTAL OF 2)
TOP OF PROPOSED MONOPOLE EXTENSION ELEV. = 180'-0" (AGL)
6 OF PROPOSED AT&T ANTENNAS ELEV. = 153'-0" (AGL)
PROPOSED AT&T ANTENNA (TYP. OF 2 PER SECTOR, TOTAL OF 6)
PROPOSED AT&T RRH'S (TYP.OF 3 PER SECTOR, TOTAL OF 9)
PROPOSED SECTOR FRAME VALMONT/SITEPRO #VPA12-M3-WLL (TYP.OF 1 PER SECTOR, TOTAL OF 3)
FUTURE AT&T RRH'S (TYP. OF 1 PER SECTOR, TOTAL OF 3)
PROPOSED 56'-0" MONOPOLE EXTENSION (REFER TO TOWER MODIFICATION DRAWINGS BY: AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION DATED: DECEMBER 16, 2020
TOP OF EXISTING MONOPOLE ELEV. = 104'-0" (AGL)
EXISTING ANTENNAS BY OTHERS (TYP.)
PROPOSED AT&T (4) DC CABLES & (2) FIBER CABLES IN (2) 2" FLEX CONDUITS WITHIN MONOPOLE
EXISTING MONOPOLE
PROPOSED AT&T 6'-8"X6'-8" WALK IN CABINET ON 8'-8"X8'-8" CONCRETE PAD
PROPOSED POLAR 15KW PROPANE GENERATOR ON A 4'-0"X6'-0" CONCRETE PAD
PROPOSED EXISTING PROPANE TANK
EXISTING CHAIN LINK FENCE (TYP.)
EXISTING EQUIPMENT SHELTER BY OTHERS
EXISTING GRADE ELEV. = 0'-0" (AGL)