Petition No. 1481 T-Mobile Northeast, LLC 419 Broad Street Windsor, Connecticut

> Draft Staff Report March 4, 2022

Introduction

On January 28, 2022, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received a petition from T-Mobile Northeast, LLC (T-Mobile) for a declaratory ruling pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed modification of an existing wireless telecommunications facility located at 419 Broad Street, Windsor, Connecticut. T-Mobile proposes to install an emergency backup generator for its existing equipment installed at the site.

Pursuant to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) §16-50j-40 on or about January 26, 2022, T-Mobile notified the abutting property owners and Town of Windsor (Town) officials.

On February 1, 2022, 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 February 27, 2022. No comments were received.

Existing Facility

The Town approved the original facility in 1971. The Council approved replacement of the facility in 1998. The Council approved T-Mobile's shared use of the tower on January 26, 2006.

The existing facility is owned by Everest Infrastructure Partners and consists of a 100-foot monopole located in the southeastern portion of an approximate 0.47-acre residential zoned parcel that is developed with a building. The host parcel and the building are owned by Southern New England Telephone Company (SNET).

The tower hosts T-Mobile antennas at the 94-foot level of the tower and AT&T at the 100-foot level of the tower. T-Mobile's existing ground equipment is located on a 9-foot 6-inch by 19-foot 6-inch concrete pad within a 10-foot by 20-foot fenced lease area adjacent to the tower and the eastern property line. AT&T's existing ground equipment is located within an equipment room on the main floor of the SNET building. AT&T does not have an emergency backup generator on site.

Proposed Project

T-Mobile proposes to expand its existing lease area by 90 square feet and install a 25-kilowatt diesel-fueled emergency backup generator on a 9-foot 4-inch by 8-foot expansion of its existing concrete pad. The generator would have a 3-foot minimum safety clearance on all sides. T-Mobile would install an 8-foot wide double gate on the northern side of the expanded fenced lease area. An underground electrical connection would extend from the generator to an existing power protection cabinet.

The proposed generator has a self-contained, 240-gallon doubled wall fuel tank that could provide 98 hours of run time at full electrical load before re-fueling is required. It also has leak detection alarms and a locked intrusion cover.

Pursuant to R.C.S.A. §22a-174-3b, the generator would be managed to comply with DEEP's "permit by rule" criteria and is exempt from general air permit requirements.

The proposed emergency backup generator would operate weekly on a 12-minute run cycle for testing. Noise from the operation of the emergency backup generator is exempt from the State Noise Control Regulations.

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.

Abutting land use is residential. An existing wooded buffer is present between the abutters and the equipment compound.

Environmental

No trees would be removed. The installation is proposed to be located within an existing disturbed area immediately adjacent to the existing equipment compound. No wetlands are on the property or adjacent to the proposed installation. The proposed installation would not be visible from Broad Street. No substantial adverse environmental or visual impact is expected from the proposed installation.

Conclusion

If approved, staff recommends the following condition:

- 1. Approval of any project changes be delegated to Council staff; and
- 2. The Council shall be notified in writing at least two weeks prior to the commencement of site construction activities.

Proposed Generator Location



Site Plan

