



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Petition No. 1523
DISH Wireless, LLC
315 Old Hartford Road
Colchester, Connecticut
Staff Report
July 29, 2022

Introduction

On June 27, 2022, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received a petition from DISH Wireless, LLC (DISH) for a declaratory ruling pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) §4-176 and §16-50k for proposed modifications to an existing telecommunications facility located at 315 Old Hartford Road in Colchester, Connecticut (Petition or Project). Specifically, DISH 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 June 21, 2022, DISH provided notice to the abutting property owners and Town of Colchester (Town) officials.

On June 29, 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 July 27, 2022. No comments were received.

Existing Facility

The Council issued a Declaratory Ruling to AT&T Wireless PCS LLC to replace this facility in Petition No. 605 on February 11, 2003.

The existing 60-foot monopole, owned by Crown Castle, is located on a mostly undeveloped 8.03-acre parcel owned by 315 Colchester Realty, LLC that hosts one commercial building (Automobile Repair Shop) and a parking area. The site is zoned Industrial (I). The tower is located in the northern portion of the parcel behind the building.

The tower hosts AT&T at the 58-foot level. The 31-foot 2-inch by 13-foot 3-inch fenced equipment compound consists of one existing concrete pad which support AT&T's equipment cabinets and associated ground equipment and one existing generator on a concrete pad.

Proposed Project

DISH proposes to install three 600/1900 MHz antennas and six remote radio units on a platform antenna mount at a centerline height of approximately 40 feet above ground level. The proposed antennas would be capable of providing 5G services.

DISH would expand the existing compound/lease area by approximately 88 square feet (8-foot by 11-foot) and install a 5-foot by 7-foot raised steel equipment platform which would support its radio equipment cabinet and other associated ground level equipment. 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 fencing.

An underground power line would be installed within new conduits that extend to an existing utility pole (#2114) on Old Hartford Road. An underground fiber line would also be installed within new conduits to a proposed vault box 9-feet south of the proposed expansion area within the host property.

DISH does not propose backup power (e.g. battery or generator) for this Project.

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 \$48,000. The project would take approximately two weeks to complete. Work hours/days would be 8 AM to 5 PM, Monday-Friday.

Environmental

The compound/lease expansion area is in a previously disturbed area. No trees or other vegetation would be removed to develop the site.

The site is not within a flood zone or proximate to any wetlands.

There would be no increase in tower height. The proposed compound 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 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 using a maximum wind speed of 121 miles per hour.

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

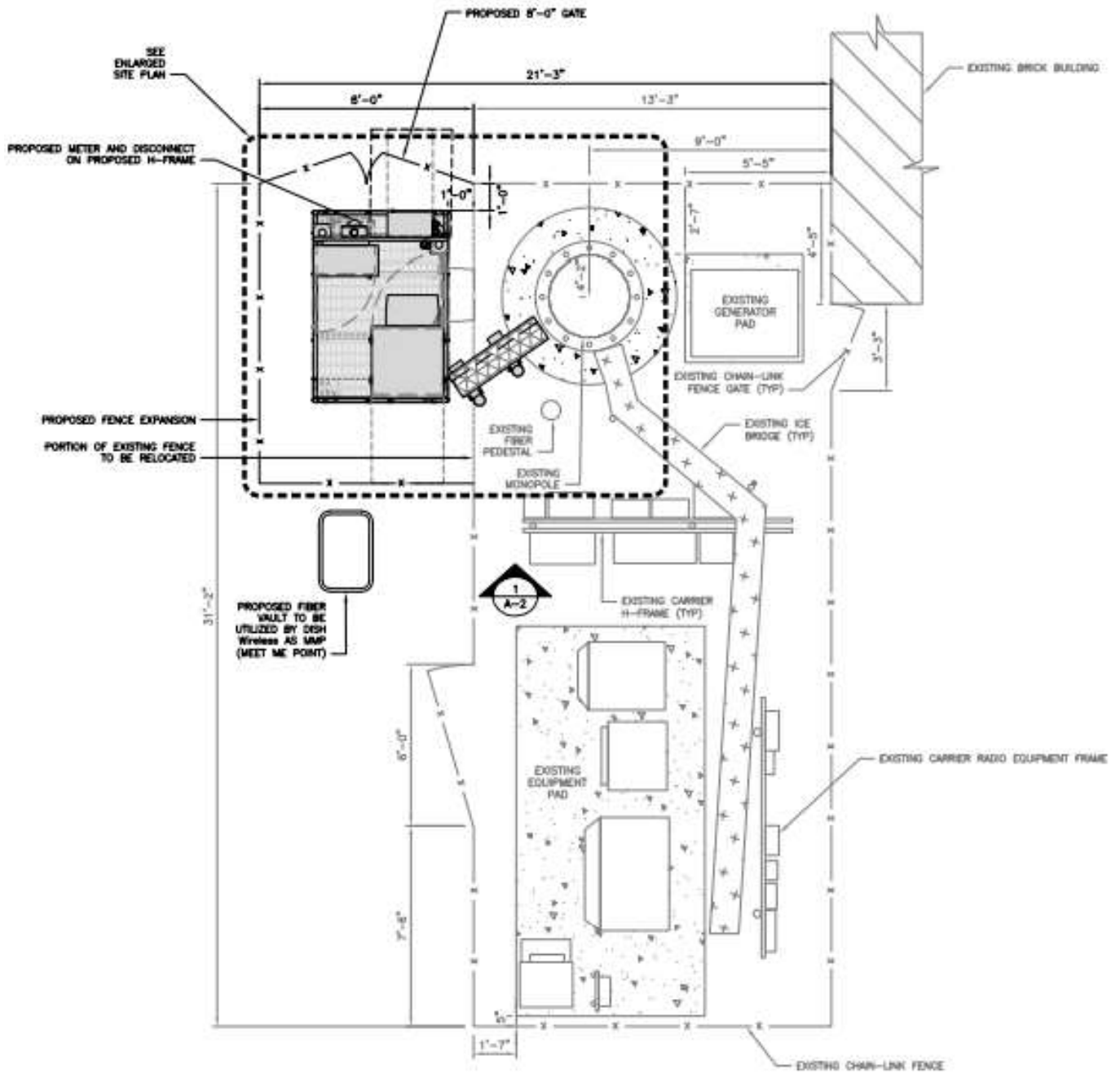
The calculated cumulative power density for the facility after DISH’s installation would be 45.9 percent of the applicable limit using a -10 dB off-beam adjustment.

Conclusion

If approved, staff recommends the following conditions:

- 1) Approval of any project changes be delegated to Council staff;
- 2) The proposed antenna mount and antennas shall be installed in accordance with the Mount Analysis prepared by Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., dated November 3, 2021;
- 3) Within 45 days following completion of equipment installation, Dish shall provide documentation certified by a Professional Engineer that its installation complied with the recommendations of the Mount Analysis;
- 4) The Council shall be notified in writing at least two weeks prior to the commencement of site construction activities; and
- 5) Deployment of any 5G services must comply with FCC and FAA guidance relative to air navigation, as applicable.

Compound Site Plan



Tower Elevation

