

DRAFT

**Petition No. 1536
T-Mobile Northeast, LLC
259 Commerce Street
East Haven, Connecticut
Staff Report
September 23, 2022**

Introduction

On August 16, 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 (CGS) §4-176 and §16-50k, for the proposed modification of an existing wireless telecommunications facility located at 259 Commerce Street, East Haven, Connecticut (Petition or Project). T-Mobile proposes to install an emergency backup generator for its existing equipment at the site.

Pursuant to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) §16-50j-40, on or about July 6, 2022, T-Mobile notified the abutting property owners and Town of East Haven (Town) officials. No comments from the Town or abutting property owners were received.

On August 17, 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 September 15, 2022. No comments were received.

The Council issued interrogatories to T-Mobile on August 31, 2022. T-Mobile provided responses to the Council's interrogatories on September 14, 2022.

Existing Facility

The Council issued a Declaratory Ruling to AT&T Wireless PCS, LLC for this facility on July 11, 2003 in Petition No. 634. The Council approved T-Mobile's shared use of the tower on March 2, 2007.

The existing facility is owned by Crown Castle and consists of a 57-foot monopole located on an approximately 0.49-acre industrially zoned parcel that is developed with a commercial building and paved parking area. The host parcel is owned by Stephen Viglione and is used as the business offices for Viglione Heating and Cooling.

The tower hosts AT&T antennas at the 54-foot level and T-Mobile antennas at the 47-foot level. The associated ground equipment for both carriers is located within an approximately 678 square foot fenced compound/lease area.

Proposed Project

T-Mobile proposes to expand the existing compound by 150 square feet and install a 48-kilowatt diesel-fueled emergency backup generator on a 9-foot by 4-foot concrete pad. The generator would have a 3-foot minimum safety clearance on all sides. An underground electrical and alarm connection would extend from the generator to an existing automatic transfer switch located on a H-frame within the compound.

The proposed generator has a self-contained, 240-gallon double walled diesel fuel tank that could provide 48 hours of run time at full electrical load before re-fueling is required.

Pursuant to RCSA §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 commercial to the north and west and residential to the south and east. The proposed generator location is approximately 72.9-feet from the eastern property line (Silver Sands Road/ CT 337). Existing shrubs and evergreen trees are present between the abutting properties to the east and the equipment compound.

Construction would occur over a two to three week period. Typical construction hours and workdays are as follows: Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM to 5 PM.

The estimated cost of the Project is \$20,000.

Environmental

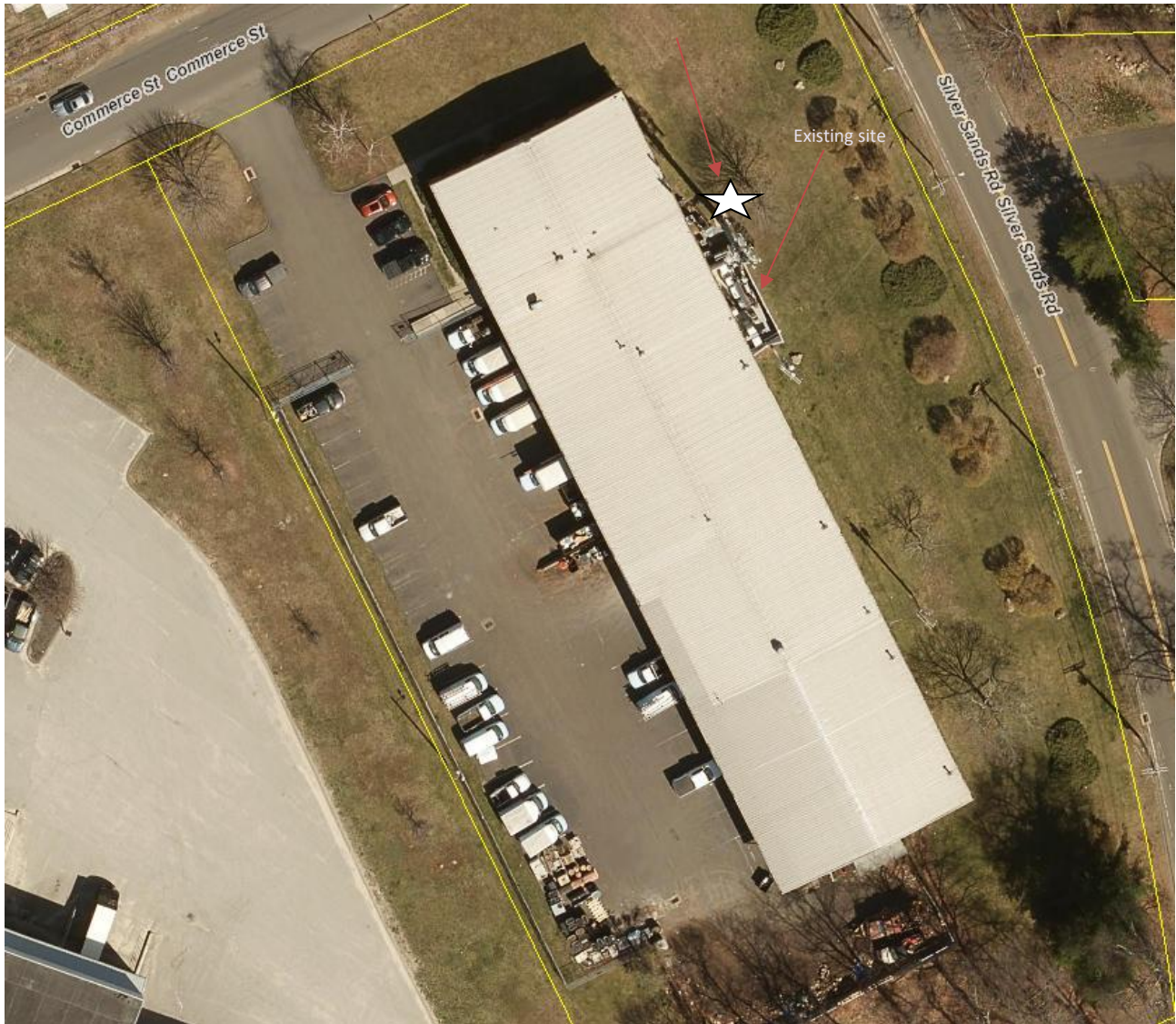
No trees would be removed. The installation is proposed to be located within a previously disturbed area immediately adjacent to the existing equipment compound. No wetlands are located adjacent to the proposed installation. Views of the proposed generator from surrounding roads would be screened by existing buildings and landscaping. No substantial adverse environmental or visual impact is expected from the proposed installation.

Conclusion

If approved, staff recommends the following conditions:

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

