

DOCKET NO. 42

AN APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY HARTFORD : CONNECTICUT SITING
CATV, INC., FOR A CERTIFICATE OF :
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC : COUNCIL
NEED FOR THE ERECTION OF A COMMUNITY
ANTENNA TELEVISION TOWER AND ASSOCIATED
EQUIPMENT IN THE TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD, :
CONNECTICUT. : June 6, 1984

F I N D I N G S O F F A C T

1. Hartford CATV, Inc., (Hartford CATV), in accordance with provisions of section 16-50k et seq of the General Statutes of Connecticut (CGS) revised to 1983 and sections 16-50j-70 et seq of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RSA), applied to the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) on February 14, 1984, for a certificate of environmental compatibility and public need (certificate) for the erection of a community antenna television tower and associated equipment in the town of West Hartford. (Record)
2. The fee as prescribed by section 16-50v-1 of the RSA accompanied the application. (Record)
3. The application was accompanied by proof of service as required by section 16-501 of the CGS. (Record)
4. An affidavit of newspaper notice as required by section 16-501 of the CGS was also filed. (Record)
5. On April 25, 1984, members of the Council and its staff made a field inspection of the proposed tower site and surrounding area, and other facilities of the applicant. (Record)
6. Pursuant to section 16-50m of the CGS, the Council, after giving due notice thereof, held a public hearing at the West Hartford Town Hall on April 25, 1984, at 7:00 P.M. (Record)

7. The parties to the proceeding are the applicant, Hartford CATV, and those persons and organizations whose names are listed in the Decision and Order which accompanies these findings. (Record)
8. The following state agencies filed written comments with the Council pursuant to section 16-50j(g) of the CGS: the Department of Economic Development, the Department of Environmental Protection, and the Department of Transportation. (Record)
9. Hartford CATV holds a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) to serve CATV Area No. 10, which consists of the towns of Hartford, East Hartford, West Hartford, Bloomfield, Simsbury, and Windsor. (Hartford 1, pp. 1-2)
10. Hartford CATV is proposing to construct a 260' self-supporting, three sided tower. Attached to this tower would be a 30.25" search antenna, a 4" FM radio antenna, a 5' beacon light, four UHF antennas, two VHF antennas, and five 6' microwave dishes at various levels. (Hartford 1, pp. 2-3; Hartford 2, Q. 3, 4)
11. The tower and associated equipment are proposed to transmit, relay, and receive Community Antenna Relay Service (CARS) band microwave television signals and to provide reception of locally broadcast television and FM radio stations. (Hartford 1, p. 4)
12. The proposed tower and associated equipment would be located at the company's main office facility at 91 Shield Street, West Hartford, Connecticut. No alternate sites were proposed. (Hartford 1, pp. 1, 14)
13. The existing earth station and the proposed tower could operate independently of each other, although at least one signal received

by the earth station would be transmitted to another Hartford CATV facility by equipment on the proposed tower. These signals would be processed by the associated equipment proposed with the tower facility. (Hartford LF1; pp. 47-48, 67-70)

14. Other facilities in the Hartford CATV system are a 6-meter satellite antenna at 149 Vanderbilt Avenue, West Hartford, completed in March, 1979; a 6-meter satellite antenna completed at Silver Lane, East Hartford, October, 1979; a 4.6 meter satellite antenna completed at Silver Lane, March, 1981; a 4.6 meter satellite antenna at 149 Vanderbilt Avenue, completed March, 1983; a 4.6 meter satellite antenna at 149 Vanderbilt Avenue, completed September, 1983; eight MA12G microwave transmitters and six MA12G microwave receivers on the roof of the Connecticut National Bank in Hartford; and various UHF/VHF antennas and a microwave dish at 994 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford. The latter three sites would be abandoned and the equipment removed if this certificate were granted. No certificates of environmental compatibility and public need were applied for or issued for any of the earth stations installed after July, 1982, the effective date of the Council's regulations regarding earth stations. (Hartford LF8; Hartford 2, Q. 17; Hartford 1, p. 17)
15. A 5-meter Simulsat receive-only earth station was installed on the proposed site March 6-7, 1984. Signals which would be received on this earth station are the same as those received at the Vanderbilt Avenue site. There are no additional signals planned. No application was made for a certificate of environmental com-

- patibility and public need for this earth station. (Hartford 2, Q. 29; Tr. pp. 47-48; p. 67)
16. There would be no direct improvement of Hartford CATV's signal as a result of moving to the Shield Street site. Technical improvements would be minor at best and picture conditions would remain about the same. There would be no perceptible improvement or degradation of signal quality. (Hartford 2, Q. 12; Tr. p. 82)
 17. Microwave channels would be transmitted from the proposed site to sites in Wolcott, East Hartford, and South Mountain (Bristol). (Hartford 1, p. 4)
 18. Before construction of the earth station or the proposed tower, the applicant took two soil borings for soil bearing capacity tests for this proposed site. The results of these tests determined that the top soil and fill layers of the proposed site are not reliable foundation strata. Water was present at a depth shallower than 20 feet. The presumptive bearing capacity was less than the 4000 psf criteria for normal soil. (Hartford 2, Exhibit 6; Tr. p. 35)
 19. The applicant does not yet have a special foundation design for the proposed tower, and does not expect one until the end of June of this year. (Tr. pp. 43-45)
 20. The proposed site is not large enough to contain a guyed tower. (Hartford 2, Q. 27)
 21. In order to develop a site on nearby Cedar Mountain as an alternative to the proposed Shield Street location, the applicant would need to acquire land at additional costs, construct an access road, erect a surrounding fence, erect the tower, construct an equipment building, and install standby power. (Tr. pp. 108-110)