

Docket No. 56B

AN APPLICATION FOR AN AMENDMENT TO : CONNECTICUT SITING
THE CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED ISSUED :
IN DOCKET 56 TO METRO MOBILE CTS : COUNCIL
OF NEW HAVEN, INC., FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS
TOWERS AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT TO PROVIDE :
CELLULAR SERVICE IN NEW HAVEN COUNTY. : JUNE 19, 1987

OPINION

Metro Mobile CTS of New Haven County, Inc., (Metro Mobile) applied to the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) on April 1, 1987, for an amendment to the Certificate which the Council issued on April 17, 1986, for a cellular antenna tower site on Andrew Mountain in Naugatuck, as well as for tower sites in Wolcott, West Haven, Milford, Hamden, Guilford, and North Branford. The amendment would permit Metro Mobile to mount its antennas on an existing 934-foot tower in Naugatuck in lieu of constructing a 160-foot tower on Andrew Mountain. The proposed site was not available when Metro Mobile conducted its tower site search in Docket 56. The Council's denial of Metro Mobile's proposed and alternative sites in Beacon Falls in Docket 56 caused Metro Mobile to reconsider the existing W1XX tower in Naugatuck as a possible site for cellular antennas. When the owners of the W1XX tower agreed to lease space on this tower, Metro Mobile decided to apply for this amendment.

The proposed WITXX tower site would enable Metro Mobile to achieve significantly greater coverage to the north and south along Route 8, and along I-84 to the east. Some coverage loss might be experienced in the southwest portion of the New Haven NECMA.

The mounting of antennas on the existing WITXX tower would not have a significant impact on rare or endangered species, or areas of unique historical significance. The attachment of the antennas to the 375-foot and 390-foot levels of a 934-foot tower would not have a significant visual impact on the surrounding area. Electro-magnetic radiation levels from this site would be minimal. The associated equipment building would not be visible from any homes in the vicinity. The Council considered the potential environmental and visual effects of this facility and concluded they are not sufficient to deny the application. The Council will therefore issue a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the proposed Naugatuck site.