

AN APPLICATION OF CABLEVISION SYSTEMS : CONNECTICUT SITING
OF SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT, LIMITED :
PARTNERSHIP, FOR A CERTIFICATE OF : COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC :
NEED FOR THE ERECTION OF A COMMUNITY :
ANTENNA TELEVISION TOWER IN THE CITY OF :
BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT. : November 10, 1986

O P I N I O N

Cablevision Systems of Southern Connecticut (Cablevision) applied to the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need on July 14, 1986, for the installation of Cable Antenna Television (CATV) equipment in the City of Bridgeport, Connecticut. Cablevision presently provides CATV service in Bridgeport, Fairfield, Milford, Orange, Woodbridge, and Stratford.

Upon the issuance of due notice, Council members and staff inspected the site of the proposed five meter Simulsat antenna and held a public hearing on the proposed facility in the Bridgeport City Hall on September 17, 1986. At that time the applicant presented testimony to support its claims that this antenna installation is necessary, that any potential adverse environmental effects are minimal, and that alternative sites or technologies are either unavailable or inappropriate.

Cablevision presently receives signals from the Galaxy I and Satcom F-4 satellites at its Shelton earth station and transports these signals across seven miles of trunklines to its head-end facility atop 120 Huntington Turnpike in Bridgeport. Satcom F-3 signals are received at the Norwalk head-end and transported on nineteen miles of trunkline to the same Bridgeport head-end facility. The length of this trunkline signal diminishes television signal quality. The proposed Television Receive Only (TVRO) system would receive signals directly from the

Satcom F-3, Satcom F-4, and Galaxy I satellites, thereby eliminating the need for the network of trunklines presently used, and leading to better signal quality to Cablevision CATV subscribers.

The Council has considered the potential adverse environmental effects of the Simulsat antenna and concludes that such effects are not sufficient to deny the proposal. The site, located at 70 Huntington Turnpike, is in a heavily developed commercial area and is within the parking lot of a hardware store. The Eastwood Condominium complex is located to the east of this site. A row of existing juniper trees will screen the antenna from the view of these condominiums. The Council will require additional evergreen screening as necessary. A truck trailer presently on the site will be removed. An 8-foot chain link fence will surround the site.

Cablevision investigated eight alternative sites, but found the site at 70 Huntington Turnpike to be the most practical, particularly because this site is within 250 feet of the company's head-end facility atop 120 Huntington Turnpike. Cablevision investigated using the roof top of this building for the Simulsat antenna, but found this building to be structurally incapable of supporting the antenna.

Based on the foregoing, the Council will order that a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need be issued to Cablevision for the construction of this facility.