



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: [siting.council@ct.gov](mailto:siting.council@ct.gov)

[www.ct.gov/csc](http://www.ct.gov/csc)

March 12, 2018

Jack Andrews  
Zoning Manager  
Empire Telecom o/b/o AT&T Wireless  
10130 Donleigh Drive  
Columbia, MD 21046

RE: **EM-AT&T-004-180226** - AT&T notice of intent to modify an existing telecommunications facility located at 324 Montevideo Road, Avon, Connecticut.

Dear Mr. Andrews:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) hereby denies your request to modify the above-referenced existing telecommunications facility, pursuant to Section 16-50j-73 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. The requested modification, as proposed, would load the tower to a maximum of 100.3 percent of its capacity, which is above the 100 percent limit established by the Council under guidance from the Connecticut State Building Inspector.

In accordance with the Council's November 6, 2017 memorandum to telecommunications carriers and their representatives (attached), the Council will accept filings with tower overstresses "if the filing is accompanied by a formal opinion from the Connecticut State Building Inspector specifically regarding the structure in question stating that such overstress of the specific structure is allowable." The above-referenced exempt modification filing is not accompanied by a formal opinion from the Connecticut State Building Inspector.

Thus, the proposed modification is not in compliance with the exemption criteria in Section 16-50j-72 (b) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

Sincerely,

Melanie Bachman  
Executive Director

MAB/CW

enclosure

c: The Honorable Heather Maguire, Chairman, Town of Avon  
Brandon Robertson, Town Manager, Town of Avon  
Hiram Peck, AICP, Director of Planning and Community Development, Town of Avon  
Talcott Mountain Science Center for Student Involvement, Inc., property and tower owner





# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950

E-Mail: [siting.council@ct.gov](mailto:siting.council@ct.gov)

[www.ct.gov/csc](http://www.ct.gov/csc)

### MEMORANDUM

Date: November 6, 2017

To: Telecommunications Carriers and their Representatives

From: Melanie Bachman, Executive Director *MAB*

Re: Exempt Modification/Tower Share Filing  
Acceptable Overstress for Communications Towers

---

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) has received requests for exempt modifications to existing jurisdictional towers that include statements relating to allowable potential "overstress" in the structural analysis reports submitted with exempt modification filings. Given the statement in the Connecticut State Building Inspector's April 27, 2017 correspondence to the Council, a copy of which is attached, indicating that "the State Building Code would allow limited overstresses under certain conditions for existing towers," the Council will accept such filings if the filing is accompanied by a formal opinion from the Connecticut State Building Inspector specifically regarding the structure in question stating that such overstress of the specific structure is allowable. If the exempt modification filing with an overstress situation does not include this formal opinion specific to the structure, the filing will be denied.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

MAB/CMW/laf

Enclosure: State Building Inspector Letter, dated April 27, 2017

c: Joseph V. Cassidy, P.E., State Building Inspector





DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

April 27, 2017

Melanie A. Bachman, Esq.  
Executive Director/Staff Attorney  
Connecticut Siting Council  
10 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Interpretation of 2016 CT State Building Code IBC Section 3404  
Acceptable Loading of Existing Structures

Ms. Bachman,

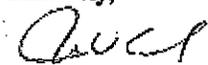
In your email of March 24, 2017 you requested an interpretation regarding the structural stresses allowed during an alteration of an existing communication tower, specifically whether an overstress up to 5% would be allowed by the State Building Code.

Answer:

These alterations are regulated by chapter 34 – Existing Buildings and Structures of the 2012 IBC portion of the 2016 State Building Code. Section 3404.3 discusses gravity loading and states in salient part “Any existing gravity load-carrying structural element for which an alteration causes an increase in design gravity load of more than 5 percent shall be strengthened...”. Section 3404.4 discusses lateral loads and includes an exception which states in salient part “Any existing lateral load-carrying structural element whose demand-capacity ratio with the alteration considered is no more than 10 percent greater than its demand-capacity ratio with the alteration ignored shall be permitted to remain unaltered.” This exception continues to require that the effects of all additions and alterations must be included in this analysis.

Therefore, the State Building Code would allow limited overstresses under certain conditions for existing towers.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph V. Cassidy, P.E.  
State Building Inspector