

March 24, 1982

Ms. Eva Thurman
Attorney
Southern New England
Telephone Company
227 Church Street
New Haven, Connecticut 06506

RE: Petition No. 79 - The Southern New England Telephone Company's 1982 microwave digital plan which consists of changes on the Bristol, Harwinton, Torrington microwave route.

Dear Ms. Thurman:

The Connecticut Siting Council at a meeting held on March 1, 1982 ruled that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required, pursuant to section 16-50k(a) of the General Statutes of Connecticut, for the proposed project regarding SNET's 1982 microwave plan which consist of (1) replacing one antenna with another at the Bristol Central Office in Bristol, (2) replacing three reflectors (periscopic antennae) with three antennae on the Harwinton microwave tower in Harwinton, and (3) replacing one antenna on roof at front of building and locating new antenna on roof at the rear of the building at the Torrington Central Office in Torrington.

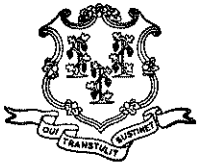
This construction is to be exactly as specified in the above referenced Petition dated February 9, 1982. Please notify Council upon completion of construction.

This decision applies only to Petition No. 79 and is not applicable to any other tower facility, modification, or construction.

Yours very truly,

Gloria Dibble Pond
Chairperson

GDP:RVC:go



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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PETITION NO. 79

Field Review

February 23, 1982

Christopher S. Wood, Sarah M. Bates and Owen L. Clark met Jim Baily and Dick Tischel of Southern New England Telephone (SNET) to review the facilities involved with a petition for declaratory ruling filed by SNET. The petition asserts that the work involved will not have substantial adverse environmental effect, as described in 16-50 k(a), nor does it constitute new facilities or modifications to existing facilities, as defined in 16-50i.

The proposed project involves upgrading equipment on the Bristol, Harwinton, Torrington microwave route, and is similar to the project considered by the Council in Petition No. 67. The actual work, described in detail in the subject petition, essentially entails replacement of existing antenna with new, slightly larger, and more efficient equipment.

At the Bristol office, the existing antenna sits on the SNET office building roof, supported by a welded pipe frame structure. The new antenna dish will be 12 feet in diameter, compared to the 10 foot diameter existing dish. The support structure will be replaced by a new galvanized frame, equivalent in size.

The Bristol site is urban, surrounded by other buildings, both commercial and industrial, with houses and/or apartments in the vicinity.

At the Harwinton site, an existing 100 foot guyed tower now supports three periscopic antenna which reflect signals from antennas on the equipment building roof. These antennas will be removed along with the reflectors, and three new "drum" antennas will be mounted on the existing tower at approximately the same heights. The tower will not be altered, although it may need reinforcement.

The area around the Harwinton site is residential. The tower stands near the middle of a 400' x 500' lot which is surrounded by trees. Five houses have a view of the facility in winter, but likely would be completely screened in summer.

The Torrington site is very similar to that in Bristol, and the proposed work also would be done on the roof of the SNET building. Here an eight foot antenna dish would replace an existing five foot dish, but the facility would be relocated to the rear of the building and supported by a new steel structure. The overall height of the facility will increase perhaps seven feet. The development in the area is such that the facility's visibility from off site will be minimal.

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Other than the structure and antenna replacement discussed above, no additional construction or ~~vegetation clearing~~ at any of the sites will be required. The power density levels at all three sites, existing and with the new equipment, are listed in the petition. In all cases the levels at the antenna base fall as a result of the improved antenna technology. Levels at roof edge and the nearest building increase slightly at Bristol and Torrington because of more powerful radio equipment (5 watts instead of 1/2 watt).

At the Harwinton tower site all power levels would decline as a result of improved technology and reduction of scattered signals. The petition notes that all power levels are well below the strictest safety standards.

Christopher S. Wood
Executive Director

CSW:go