



Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman

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
Internet: ct.gov/esc

**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

April 11, 2007

Thomas J. Regan, Esq.
Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP
CityPlace I, 185 Asylum Street
Hartford, CT 06103

RE: **PETITION NO. 804** - Sprint Nextel Corporation Petition for a Declaratory Ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed modifications to an existing telecommunications facility, located at 234 Melba Street, Milford, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Regan:

At a public meeting held on April 10, 2007, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) considered and ruled that this proposal would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect, and pursuant to General Statutes § 16-50k would not require a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need.

This decision is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Council and is not applicable to any other modification or construction. All work is to be implemented as specified in the petition, dated February 6, 2007.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the staff report on this project.

Very truly yours,

Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman

DFC/DM/laf

Enclosure: Staff Report, dated April 10, 2007

c: The Honorable James L. Richetelli, Jr., Mayor, City of Milford
David Sulkis, City Planner, City of Milford

Petition No. 804
Sprint/Nextel Corporation
Milford, Connecticut
Staff Report
April 10, 2007

Sprint is seeking to replace an existing 125-foot flagpole telecommunications tower with a 135-foot flagpole tower in order to install three antennas at a centerline height of 130 feet.

Council member Ed Wilensky and staff member David Martin met with Sprint representatives Tom Regan and Matt Vondis at the site to review the proposal.

The existing tower is located at behind a small supermarket at the back edge of a paved parking lot. It is within a 20-foot by 40-foot equipment compound enclosed by an eight-foot chain link fence. The replacement tower would be located approximately 15 feet to the northeast of the existing tower, staying within the existing compound. Sprint's ground equipment would be installed in the northwest corner of the compound. No expansion of the compound would be necessary, but Sprint would clear away some brushy vegetation that has overgrown the compound.

There are two carriers on the existing tower: T-Mobile and AT&T. Each carrier has antennas at two different heights. T-Mobile is at 120 feet and 110 feet; AT&T is at 100 feet and 90 feet. The highest available height for Sprint on the existing tower would be 80 feet, which is not high enough to provide acceptable coverage. Without a taller tower at this location, Sprint would have to build a new tower somewhere in the vicinity to provide the coverage it seeks to achieve on the existing tower.

There is an area of mature, deciduous trees adjacent to the supermarket property. Beyond the trees, there are several apartment buildings directly to the north. There are single family homes, some of which have views of the existing tower above the trees, to the northeast of the site. There are three single family homes across the street from the supermarket property to the west, and a condominium complex across the street to the east. The wider area around the supermarket property is a mixture of apartments and single family homes.

At the field review Sprint agreed to notify the owners of the three single family homes across the street about its pending application.

Staff recommends approval of this petition on the basis that a flagpole tower is the most appropriate design given the predominantly residential nature of the surrounding neighborhood.

UPDATE: At the request of Mr. Wilensky, Sprint notified several owners of single-family homes, the representative of a nearby condominium association, and the management company of several apartment complexes in the vicinity of its pending petition. No comments were received from any of the parties notified.

Photograph of Existing Tower

