



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

April 21, 2005

Mark Cook
Site Development Specialist
Nextel Communications of the Mid-Atlantic Inc.
100 Corporate Place, 1st Floor
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

RE: **PETITION NO. 707** – Nextel Communications of the Mid-Atlantic Inc. petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the installation of a Fuel Cell System at 188 Moody Road, Enfield, Connecticut.

Dear Mr. Cook:

At a public meeting held on April 19, 2005, 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 March 14, 2005.

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

Very truly yours,

Pamela B. Katz, P.E.
Chairman

PBK/MP

Enclosure: Staff Report dated April 19, 2005

c: The Honorable Patrick L. Tallarita, Mayor, Town of Enfield
Jose Giner, Director of Planning and Community Development, Town of Enfield

Petition No. 707
Nextel Communications of the Mid-Atlantic Inc.
188 Moody Road
Enfield, Connecticut
Staff Report
April 19, 2005

On March 14, 2005, Nextel Communications of the Mid-Atlantic Inc. (Nextel) filed a petition (Petition) with the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) for a declaratory ruling that no certificate is required for the proposed installation of a 5kW fuel cell system at 188 Moody Road, Enfield, Connecticut. The fuel cell system would be installed inside the existing fenced compound of a wireless telecommunications tower site. (A 180' monopole exists at the site with Nextel's antennas located at the 180' level of the tower.) The fuel cell system would provide backup power for Nextel's equipment at the site.

In the event of a power failure, Nextel's existing battery backup system would supply power for Nextel's equipment for approximately six hours. However, in the event of an extended power failure, after the batteries are depleted, the fuel cell would take over and supply power for an additional 20.8 hours. This would eliminate the need for a temporary or permanent diesel generator at the site. Also, the fuel cell system would charge the battery backup system while it is running, so the battery backup can be used again even after the fuel cell is out of fuel.

The fuel cell system would run on hydrogen. Six hydrogen cylinders would be located inside the hydrogen storage module. The fuel cell system would be located on a 6' x 4' concrete pad which would be installed in the northeast corner of the fenced compound. The fuel cell is approximately 26 inches long, 24 inches deep and 44 inches tall. The hydrogen storage module is approximately 36 inches long, 24 inches deep, and 90 inches tall. An emergency vent pipe extends off of the top of the hydrogen storage module and reaches a maximum height of about 10'. Two underground conduits would connect the fuel cell system to Nextel's equipment inside the existing equipment building.

The fuel cell system has a noise rating of 60 dBA at 1 meter, which is analogous to normal conversational tone. The fuel cell system would only run during power failures and one 15 minute testing interval every 28 days. Also, the site is located behind an industrial building, and no homes are in the vicinity of the site. Some minor dry brush must be removed near the corner of the compound to comply with fire codes, but the existing evergreen trees which provide the primary screening for the site would remain.

This petition was field reviewed by Council member Dan Lynch and Mike Perrone of the Council staff on April 6, 2005. Also present at the field review were: Mark Cook, Site Development Specialist, Nextel; Chris Sihpol, Technical Project Manager, Nextel; John Terney, Construction Consultant, Nextel; David Kinsley, General Manager, Kinsley Power Systems; Bruce Work, Operations Manager, Kinsley Power Systems; Chris Pimentel, Regional Sales Manager, PlugPower; and Gary Crewell, Sales Engineer, PlugPower.

Nextel would install the fuel cell on or before May 1, 2005 and would maintain the unit on a permanent basis.