



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

April 6, 2015

Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esq.
Robinson & Cole LLP
280 Trumbull Street
Hartford, CT 06103-3597

RE: **PETITION NO. 1139** - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed installation of a small cell telecommunications facility on the roof of an existing building located at 3 Arnoldale Road, West Hartford, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Baldwin:

At a public meeting held on April 2, 2015, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) considered and ruled that the above-referenced proposal would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect, and pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 16-50k, would not require a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need with the following conditions:

- Within 45 days after completion of construction, the Council shall be notified in writing that construction has been completed;
- Any nonfunctioning antenna and associated antenna mounting equipment on this facility owned and operated by the Petitioner shall be removed within 60 days of the date the antenna ceased to function;
- If the facility ceases to provide wireless services for a period of one year the Petitioner shall dismantle the tower and remove all associated equipment or reapply for any continued or new use to the Council within 90 days from the one year period of cessation of service. The Petitioner may submit a written request to the Council for an extension of the 90 day period not later than 60 days prior to the expiration of the 90 day period; and
- This Declaratory Ruling may be transferred or partially transferred, provided both the facility owner/operator/transferor and the transferee are current with payments to the Council for their respective annual assessments and invoices under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v. The Council shall be notified of such sale and/or transfer and of any change in contact information for the individual or representative responsible for management and operations of the facility within 30 days of the sale and/or transfer. Both the facility owner/operator/transferor and the transferee shall provide the Council with a written agreement as to the entity responsible for any quarterly assessment charges under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v(b)(2) that may be associated with this facility.

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 25, 2015.

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

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert Stein" followed by the initials "MAB" in a smaller, slightly larger font.

Robert Stein
Chairman

RS/MP/lm

Enclosure: Staff Report dated April 2, 2015

- c: The Honorable Scott Slifka, Mayor, Town of West Hartford
- Ronald Van Winkle, Town Manager, Town of West Hartford
- Todd Dumais, Town Planner, Town of West Hartford
- The Honorable Pedro E. Segarra, Mayor, City of Hartford
- Darell V. Hill, Acting Chief Operating Officer, City of Hartford
- Khara Dodds, Planning Division Director, City of Hartford
- Benjamin Scholfield, Sovereign Management

Petition No. 1139
Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
3 Arnoldale Road, West Hartford
Staff Report
April 2, 2015

On February 25, 2015, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received a petition from Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Cellco) for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed installation of a small cell telecommunications facility at a condominium building located at 3 Arnoldale Road, West Hartford. Cellco currently maintains 12 cell sites within a two-mile radius of this property. At least two of these sites (e.g. Cellco's West Hartford and West Hartford 4) are at their respective capacity limits. Cellco's proposed small cell facility would provide capacity relief to all 12 existing sites, particularly to the two sites at capacity limits. Cellco's proposed facility would also improve signal strength in the 2100 MHz frequency band in the vicinity of the site.

Specifically, Cellco would install a single canister-type antenna and one remote radio head (RRH) inside an approximately 18-inch diameter "unipole" tower on the southwestern portion of the roof of the building. The unipole would be painted gray to resemble an exhaust stack and would extend approximately 9.5 feet above an existing parapet wall. Equipment associated with the small cell would be located inside an equipment room in the basement. Power and telephone service would be connected to existing service inside the building.

A Professional Engineer duly licensed in the State of Connecticut has certified that the proposed small cell facility would not adversely impact the structural integrity of the host building. The maximum worst-case power density would be 5.07 percent of the applicable limit. This takes into account Cellco as well as existing carriers on the building including Sprint and MetroPCS. No notice to the Federal Aviation Administration is required.

The visual impact of the project is not expected to be significant because the stealth design is intended to look like an exhaust stack. Visibility of the small cell installation would be limited to an area within one block of the facility, and the height of the facility would be limited to less than 10 feet above the existing parapet wall on the roof. See the photo-simulation on the next page.

Although this installation qualifies as an Eligible Facilities Request under the Federal Communications Commission October 21, 2014 Report and Order, given the proximity of the subject property to the West Hill National Register of Historic Places, Cellco sought and obtained review of the project from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). SHPO determined that there would be no adverse effect with the following conditions:

- The facility owner (Cellco), at its expense, shall maintain the entire roof in good condition and in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*, for as long as it is in use; and
- If not in use for six consecutive months, the antennas, smoke stack, and equipment shall be removed by the telecommunications facility owner. This removal shall occur within 90 days of the end of such six-

month period. Upon renewal, the property shall be restored by the facility owner to its historically appropriate appearance and materials.

Notice was provided to the Town of West Hartford, the City of Hartford (located within 2,500 feet of the proposed facility), the property owner, and abutting property owners. No comments have been received to date.

Cellco contends that this proposed project would not have a substantial adverse environmental impact.

