

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

IN RE:	:	
	:	
A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL	:	DOCKET NO. 253
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR	:	
THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND	:	
OPERATION OF A WIRELESS	:	
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY AT 151	:	
YOUNG STREET, EAST HAMPTON,	:	
CONNECTICUT	:	JANUARY 11, 2019

**MOTION TO REOPEN AND MODIFY
THE DOCKET NO. 253 DECISION AND ORDER**

Crown Castle ("Crown") respectfully requests that the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council") reopen the evidentiary proceeding in Docket No. 253 and modify its Decision and Order ("D&O") dated October 29, 2003. In particular, Crown seeks the Council's approval to modify Condition No. 3 of the D&O to allow panel antennas to be installed on the monopole using flush-mounts, T-arms, antenna platforms or any other type of antenna mounting designs. If approved, the requested modification will promote tower sharing, allow for the safe and cost efficient maintenance of antennas and equipment on the tower, and will not adversely impact scenic values in the area.

Procedural Background

On April 17, 2003, AT&T Wireless PCS, LLC d/b/a AT&T Wireless ("AT&T") filed an application with the Council to construct 150-foot telecommunications tower at 151 Young Street (Site A) or a 198-foot tower at 162 Young Street (Site B) in East Hampton, Connecticut. After a careful review and evaluation of the environmental effects of both alternative tower locations, the Council approved the Site A facility ("Site A") location at 151 Young Street (the "Property"). The Property is located in a rural residential area, surrounded by woodlands which

serve as an effective visual barrier around the site.¹ Although originally proposed at 150 feet tall, the Council determine that AT&T could satisfy its wireless service objectives from Site A with a 120 tower.² In an effort to support future tower sharing opportunities, the Council ordered that the tower foundation be designed and built to accommodate a future tower extension up to a height of 150 feet.³

In the Docket No. 253 application, AT&T proposed to install twelve (12) antennas on a low-profile antenna platform at the top of the Site A tower.⁴ Notwithstanding AT&T's proposed antenna mount design, the Council required that all panel antennas at the approved tower site be attached to the tower using "a flush-mount or T-arm mount design".⁵ Ultimately, AT&T installed its twelve (12) antennas (three sectors of four antennas each) utilizing T-arm antenna mounts.

On July 1, 2010, Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless ("Cellco") submitted a Petition for Declaratory Ruling (Council Petition No. 956) seeking Council approval to extend the Site A tower from 120 feet to 140 feet and install twelve (12) antennas at the top of the extended tower. Petition No. 956 was approved by the Council on August 10, 2010. Cellco installed its antennas on the extended tower utilizing T-arm antenna mounts.⁶

¹ See Docket No. 253 Opinion; Finding of Fact ("FOF") No. 24; and Petition No. 956 Staff Report.

² See Docket No. 253 D&O Condition No. 1.

³ See Docket No. 253 D&O Condition No. 2.

⁴ See Docket No. 253 FOF No. 23.

⁵ See Docket No. 253 D&O Condition No. 3.

⁶ See Petition No. 956 Staff Report.

On October 29, 2018, Crown submitted an application for an order to approve the shared use of the existing tower at the Property on behalf of T-Mobile Northeast LLC. In that filing, Crown described T-Mobile's intention to install nine (9) antennas on a low-profile antenna platform at the 130-foot level on the Site A tower between the Cellco and AT&T antennas. On December 3, 2018, the Council issued a deficiency letter to Crown recognizing that the proposed use of a low-profile antenna platform was inconsistent with the requirements of Condition No. 3 of the Docket No. 253 D&O. On January 9, 2019, Crown requested an extension of time to submit documentation required to make the tower share filing complete. That extension request was approved by the Council.

Request To Modify the Docket No. 253 D&O

Crown now requests that the Council reopen the Docket No. 253 proceeding and modify its D&O, to allow T-Mobile and other wireless service providers, emergency communications service providers and others seeking to install panel antennas on the existing monopole at Property to utilize low-profile platforms in addition to flush mounts and T-arms, or any other antenna mounting designs. In support of this request, Crown offers the following additional information.

1. The current restriction on antenna mount designs may deter wireless carriers, emergency service providers and other communications companies from utilizing the existing tower site due to their inability or unwillingness to utilize flush-mounts or T-arm mounting designs. The elimination of the restriction imposed by Condition No. 3 of the D&O, will help promote the shared use of the existing Site A tower, consistent with the Council's and the State Legislature's policies and goals, as articulated in Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 16-50aa.

2. The use of a low profile antenna platform allows the wireless carriers to take advantage of the latest advancements in antennas and wireless equipment technology and provide enhanced wireless services to citizen of the State of Connecticut. As the Council has seen in numerous recent filings, new, state of the art antennas and equipment can vary dramatically in size, style and weight. In addition, wireless carriers are now installing substantially more equipment on the tower itself than they were in 2003, when the Docket No. 253 application was approved. It is now common for wireless carriers to install antennas, remote radio heads ("RRH"), electrical junction boxes, fiber optic cables and other miscellaneous radio equipment on the tower and on the antenna mounting structure. In 2003, much of this same equipment was installed inside a ground-mounted shelter or equipment cabinet. The antenna platform mounting systems are more capable of supporting heavier antennas, RRHs and other equipment that the wireless carriers are currently mounting on towers.

3. The use of a low-profile antenna platforms allows for cell site technician to install, replace, repair and maintain antennas and related equipment on a tower in a safe and more cost efficient manner. As the Council is aware from discussions in prior proceeding, technicians servicing antennas attached to an antenna platform typically climb the tower and complete all repairs and maintenance work while standing, securely, on the antenna platform. Work on antennas that are either flush-mounted or attached to T-arms requires the carriers to deploy a mechanical lift or a crane at the site before the work can be performed. This adds time and cost to any installation or maintenance project.

4. It is unclear from the Docket No. 253 record why the Council required the use of flush mounts or T-Arm mounting designs at the 151 Young Road tower site. There is some indication in the record that the reason for Condition No. 3 may be related to visual effects of the

tower or the written comments of the East Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission Chair that AT&T should be required to utilize a “stealth monopole” design.⁷ That said, the record in Docket No. 253 demonstrates that the Council conducted a thorough review of the visual effects of the Site A tower, did so at the originally proposed height of 150 feet and determined that the tower would not have a significant adverse visual impact on the area around the Property. Through its review and approval of Petition No. 956, the Council also found that the Site A tower was located in a rural residential area with surrounding woodlands and that these features served as an effective visual barrier around the tower site.⁸ Finally, Crown respectfully submits that a low profile antenna platform supporting nine (9) to twelve (12) antennas in a three (3) sector mounting configuration, as proposed by T-Mobile is not more visually intrusive than a T-arm mounting system, utilizing the same three (3) sector antenna configuration. In support of this conclusion, All Points Technology Corp. (“APT”) prepared a brief summary memorandum and a photo-simulation of the existing tower with the T-Mobile antennas attached to a low profile platform. Consistent with the Council’s findings in Docket No. 253 and the Staff Report in Petition No. 956, APT states that the existing 140-foot tower “is not highly visible from beyond the confines of the Property due to the presence of extensive mature tree cover”. Further, the photo-simulation demonstrates that the platform-mounted antennas “would not look substantially different” than the T-arm mounts and therefore would not create any significant visual changes of the tower. A copy of the APT Memorandum and Photo-Simulation are included in Attachment 1.

⁷ See Docket No. 253 FOF No. 8.

⁸ See Docket No. 253 Opinion and Petition No. 956 Staff Report.

Notice to Parties and Intervenor of Record; the Town of East Hampton and Adjoining Landowners


According to the Council's records and its on-line database, there were no parties or intervenors involved in the Docket No. 253 or Petition No. 956 matters. Copies of this filing were sent to Melissa Engle, Chair of the East Hampton Town Council, Michael Maniscalco, East Hampton's Town Manager and Jeremy DeCarli, Planning and Zoning Official for the Town of East Hampton. Copies of the notice letters sent to Ms. Engle, Mr. Maniscalco and Mr. DeCarli are included in Attachment 2.

Notice and a copy of this filing was also sent to property owners whose land abuts the parcel at 151 Young Street in East Hampton. Copies of a sample abutters notice letter and a list of those owners who received the notice are included in Attachment 3.

Conclusion

For all of the foregoing reasons, Crown respectfully requests that the Council reopen the Docket No. 253 record and modify Condition No. 3 of the D&O eliminating the requirement that all antennas installed on the monopole using only a flush-mount or T-arm mount designs.

Respectfully submitted,
CROWN CASTLE

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

ATTACHMENT 1



January 7, 2019

**Robinson & Cole
280 Trumbull Street
Hartford, CT 06103**

APT Project No.: CT389120

**Re: Proposed Collocation
Young Street
East Hampton, Connecticut**

All-Points Technology Corporation, P.C. ("APT") understands that T-Mobile Northeast LLC ("T-Mobile") intends to collocate wireless telecommunications facilities at an existing tower site at 151 Young Street in East Hampton, Connecticut ("Property"). Specifically, nine (9) new panel antennas, six (6) remote radio heads and associated cabling would be affixed (at a centerline height of 130 feet) to the 140-foot tall monopole using a steel antenna platform.

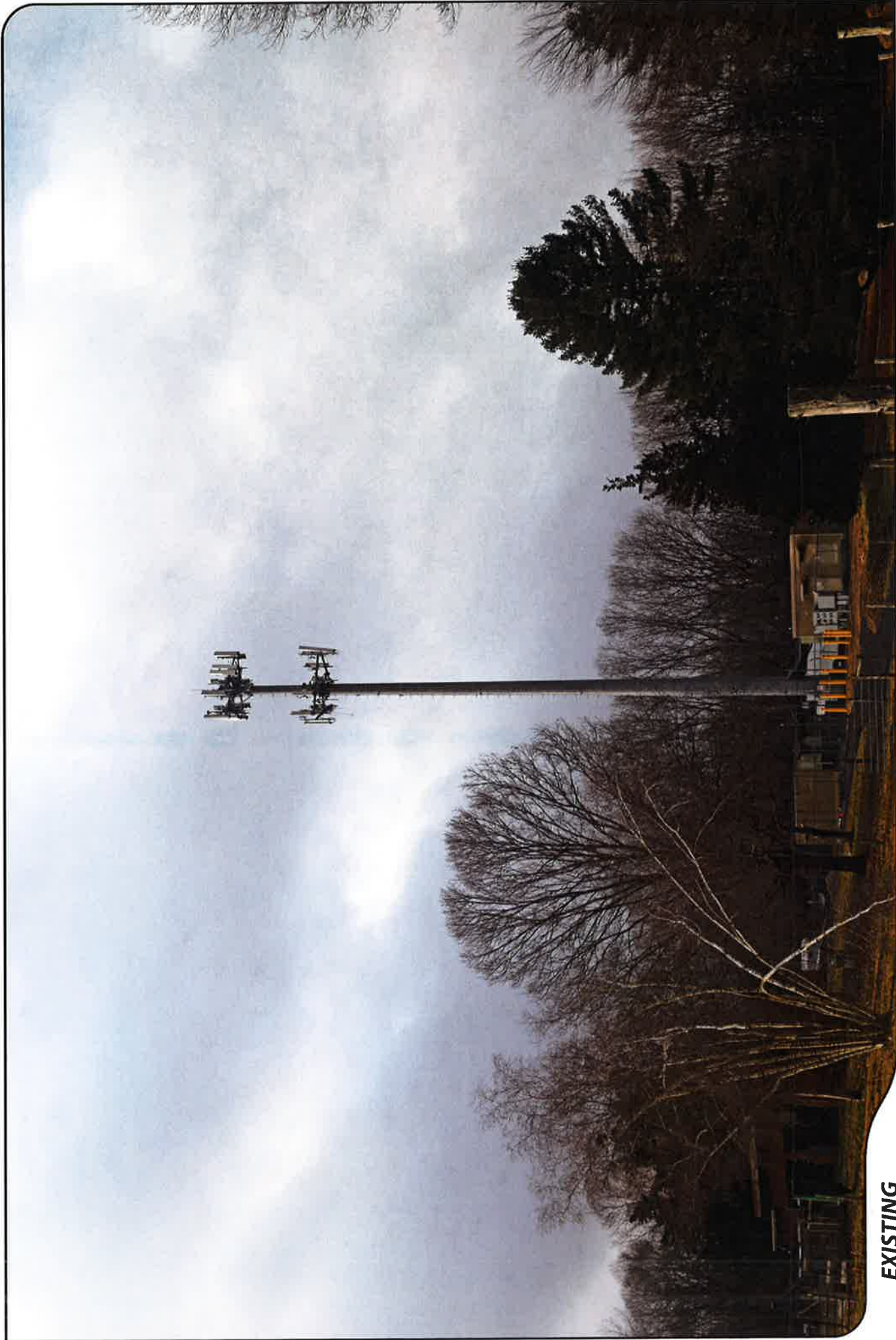
APT conducted a reconnaissance of the existing tower on January 3, 2019 to determine its visibility from surrounding locations. The existing monopole is not highly visible from beyond the confines of the Property due to the presence of extensive mature tree cover. Even in leaf-off conditions, no substantive views extend to neighboring locations.

APT also prepared a photo-simulation of the proposed T-Mobile antenna platform installation to provide a comparison to existing conditions. Two T-arm mounts currently occupy the structure, at centerline heights of 139 and 118 feet, respectively. As demonstrated in the attached photo-simulation, the addition of T-Mobile's antenna mounts would not look substantially different from the existing T-arm mounts.

Based on our reconnaissance and review of site plan information, it is APT's opinion that T-Mobile's proposed use of an antenna platform would not create any significant visual changes of this tower.

Michael Libertine,
Director of Siting and Permitting

Attachment



PHOTOGRAPHED ON 1/03/2019

EXISTING

PHOTO

1

LOCATION

HOST PROPERTY

ORIENTATION

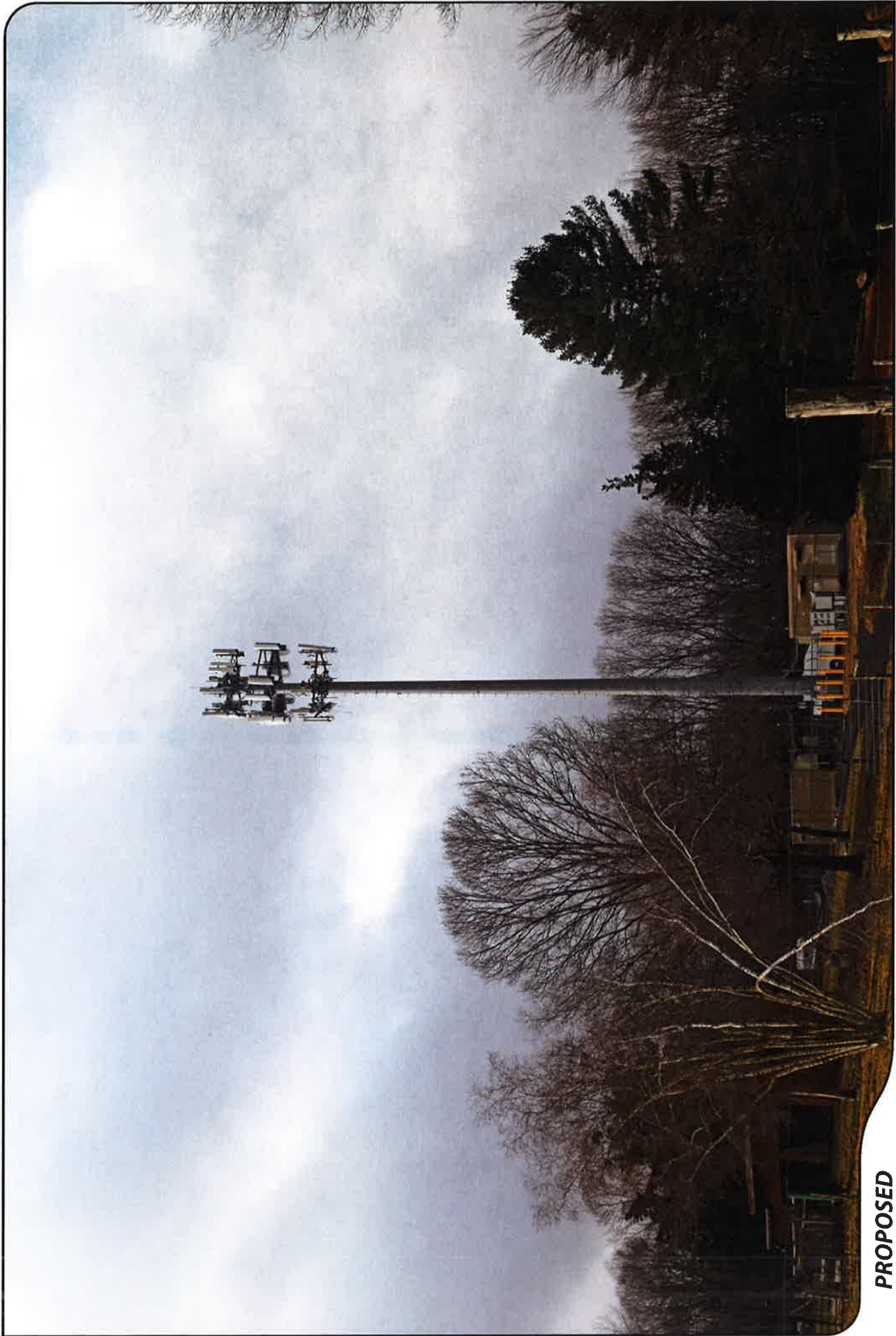
SOUTHWEST

DISTANCE TO SITE

+/- 440 FEET

VISIBILITY

VISIBLE



PROPOSED

PHOTO	LOCATION	ORIENTATION	DISTANCE TO SITE	VISIBILITY
1	HOST PROPERTY	SOUTHWEST	+/- 440 FEET	VISIBLE

ATTACHMENT 2

280 Trumbull Street
Hartford, CT 06103-3597
Main (860) 275-8200
Fax (860) 275-8299
kbaldwin@rc.com
Direct (860) 275-8345

Also admitted in Massachusetts

January 11, 2019

Via Certificate of Mailing

Michael Maniscalco, Town Manager
Town of East Hampton
20 East High Street
East Hampton, CT 06424

Re: **Motion to Reopen and Modify Condition No. 3 of the Docket No. 253 Decision and Order to Allow for the Use of a Platform Antenna Mounting Design**

Dear Mr. Maniscalco:

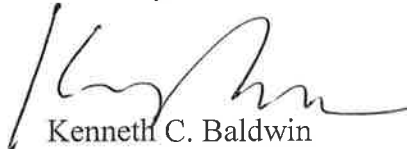
This firm represents Crown Castle ("Crown"). Today, Crown filed a Motion to Reopen and Modify Condition No. 3 of the Connecticut Siting Council Docket No. 253 Decision and Order ("Motion") to allow for the use of a platform antenna mounting design, in addition to flush-mount and T-arm mount design systems.

This modification will promote tower sharing, support new state-of-the-art technology and equipment on the tower, allow for safe and cost efficient maintenance of antennas and equipment and will not adversely impact the scenic values of the area.

A copy of the Motion is attached for your review. In accordance with Council requirements, abutting landowners were also sent notice of this filing and a copy of the Motion.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this proposal.

Sincerely,



Kenneth C. Baldwin

Attachment

18850667-v1

280 Trumbull Street
Hartford, CT 06103-3597
Main (860) 275-8200
Fax (860) 275-8299
kbaldwin@rc.com
Direct (860) 275-8345

Also admitted in Massachusetts

January 11, 2019

Via Certificate of Mailing

Melissa Engle, Chair
East Hampton Town Council
Town of East Hampton
20 East High Street
East Hampton, CT 06424

Re: Motion to Reopen and Modify Condition No. 3 of the Docket No. 253 Decision and Order to Allow for the Use of a Platform Antenna Mounting Design

Dear Chair Engle:

This firm represents Crown Castle ("Crown"). Today, Crown filed a Motion to Reopen and Modify Condition No. 3 of the Connecticut Siting Council Docket No. 253 Decision and Order ("Motion") to allow for the use of a platform antenna mounting design, in addition to flush-mount and T-arm mount design systems.

This modification will promote tower sharing, support new state-of-the-art technology and equipment on the tower, allow for safe and cost efficient maintenance of antennas and equipment and will not adversely impact the scenic values of the area.

A copy of the Motion is attached for your review. In accordance with Council requirements, abutting landowners were also sent notice of this filing and a copy of the Motion.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this proposal.

Sincerely,



Kenneth C. Baldwin

Attachment

18850603-v1

280 Trumbull Street
Hartford, CT 06103-3597
Main (860) 275-8200
Fax (860) 275-8299
kbaldwin@rc.com
Direct (860) 275-8345

Also admitted in Massachusetts

January 11, 2019

Via Certificate of Mailing

Jeremy DeCarli
Planning and Zoning Official
Town of East Hampton
20 East High Street
East Hampton, CT 06424

Re: Motion to Reopen and Modify Condition No. 3 of the Docket No. 253 Decision and Order to Allow for the Use of a Platform Antenna Mounting Design

Dear Mr. DeCarli:

This firm represents Crown Castle ("Crown"). Today, Crown filed a Motion to Reopen and Modify Condition No. 3 of the Connecticut Siting Council Docket No. 253 Decision and Order ("Motion") to allow for the use of a platform antenna mounting design, in addition to flush-mount and T-arm mount design systems.

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A copy of the Motion is attached for your review. In accordance with Council requirements, abutting landowners were also sent notice of this filing and a copy of the Motion.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this proposal.

Sincerely,



Kenneth C. Baldwin

Attachment

18850667-v1

ATTACHMENT 3

KENNETH C. BALDWIN

280 Trumbull Street
Hartford, CT 06103-3597
Main (860) 275-8200
Fax (860) 275-8299
kbaldwin@rc.com
Direct (860) 275-8345

Also admitted in Massachusetts

January 11, 2019

Via Certificate of Mailing

«Name_and_Address»

Re: Motion to Reopen and Modify Condition No. 3 of the Docket No. 253 Decision and Order to Allow for the Use of a Platform Antenna Mounting Design

Dear «Salutation»:

This firm represents Crown Castle (“Crown”). Today, Crown filed a Motion to Reopen and Modify Condition No. 3 of the Connecticut Siting Council Docket No. 253 Decision and Order (“Motion”) to allow for the use of a platform antenna mounting design, in addition to flush-mount and T-arm mount design systems.

This modification will promote tower sharing, support new state-of-the-art technology and equipment on the tower, allow for safe and cost efficient maintenance of antennas and equipment and will not adversely impact the scenic values of the area. A copy of the Motion is attached for your review. In accordance with Council requirements, abutting landowners were also sent notice of this filing and a copy of the Motion.

This notice is being sent to you because you are listed on the Town Assessor’s records as an owner of land that abuts the Property. If you have any questions regarding the Motion, the Council’s process for reviewing the Motion or the details of the filing itself, please feel free to contact me at the number listed above. You may also contact the Council directly at 860-827-2935.

January 11, 2019
Page 2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth C. Baldwin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kenneth C. Baldwin

Attachment

CROWN CASTLE

ABUTTING PROPERTY OWNERS

151 YOUNG STREET, EAST HAMPTON, CONNECTICUT

	Property Address	Owners and Mailing Address
1.	Emily Lane	Middlesex Land Trust Inc. 27 Washington Street Middletown, CT 06457
2.	36 Quiet Woods Road	Kevin E. and Alea L. Wall 36 Quiet Woods Road East Hampton, CT 06424
3.	33 Quiet Woods Road	Michael and Ruth S. Somma 33 Quiet Woods Road East Hampton, CT 06424
4.	32 Quiet Woods Road	Andrea Oberlander and Susan Kessler 32 Quiet Woods Road East Hampton, CT 06424
5.	28 Quiet Woods Road	Margaret O. Joyce, Trustee c/o Sheila Oakes 28 Quiet Woods Road East Hampton, CT 06424
6.	24 Quiet Woods Road	Dale C. and Judith E. Maynard 24 Quiet Woods Road East Hampton, CT 06424
7.	20 Quiet Woods Road	Robert G. Korpinen 20 Quiet Woods Road East Hampton, CT 06424
8.	18 Quiet Woods Road	Craig R. Jirowetz 18 Quiet Woods Road East Hampton, CT 06424
9.	14 Quiet Woods Road	Jamie and Emily Asklar 14 Quiet Woods Road East Hampton, CT 06424

	Property Address	Owners and Mailing Address
10.	12 Quiet Woods Road	Suzanne J. Gronbach 12 Quiet Woods Road East Hampton, CT 06424
11.	10 Quiet Woods Road	Cecelia M. Cordeiro c/o Thomas Cordeiro, Conservator 10 Quiet Woods Road East Hampton, CT 06424
12.	163 Young Street	David L. and Susan Rogers 163 Young Street East Hampton, CT 06424
13.	162 Young Street	Frank B. and Patricia Adams 150 Young Street East Hampton, CT 06424
14.	154 Young Street	Steven J. and Angela M. Fanelli 154 Young Street East Hampton, CT 06424
15.	151 Young Street	Kevin G. and Kim Kiely 151 Young Street East Hampton, CT 06424
16.	150 Young Street	Frank B. and Patricia Adams Trust 150 Young Street East Hampton, CT 06424
17.	Young Street	Frank B. and Patricia Adams Trust 150 Young Street East Hampton, CT 06424
18.	141 Young Street	Lola Y. Horton Ronald P. Denault, Conservator 141 Young Street East Hampton, CT 06424
19.	164 Young Street	Layne O. McLennan and Charles A. Caesar 164 Young Street East Hampton, CT 06424