



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

www.ct.gov/csc

September 18, 2015

Daniel Laub, Esq.
Cuddy & Feder LLP
445 Hamilton Avenue, 14th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601

RE: **DOCKET NO. 449** – Message Center Management and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at Redding Ridge Fire Department, 186 Black Rock Turnpike, Redding, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Laub:

At a public meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) held on September 17, 2015, the Council considered and approved the Development and Management (D&M) Plan submitted for this project on August 20, 2015.

This approval applies only to the D&M Plan submitted on August 20, 2015 and other supplemental information received on September 16, 2015. Requests for any changes to the D&M Plan shall be approved by Council staff in accordance with Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies Section (RCSA) §16-50j-77(b). Furthermore, the Certificate Holder is responsible for reporting requirements pursuant to RCSA 16-50j-77.

Please be advised that changes and deviations from this plan are enforceable under the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes § 16-50u. Enclosed is a copy of the staff report on this D&M Plan, dated September 17, 2015.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Robert Stein
Chairman

RS/MP/cm

Enclosure: Staff Report, dated September 17, 2015

c: Parties and Intervenors

The Honorable Julia Pemberton, First Selectman, Town of Redding
Aimee Pardee, M.A., Zoning Enforcement Officer, Town of Redding



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Docket 449 – Redding
Message Center Management, Inc.
Development and Management Plan
Staff Report
September 17, 2015

On October 30, 2014, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) issued a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to Message Center Management, Inc. (MCM) for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a replacement wireless telecommunications facility located at 186 Black Rock Turnpike, Redding, Connecticut. As required in the Council's Decision and Order (D&O), MCM submitted a Development and Management Plan (D&M Plan) for the project to the Council, the Town of Redding (Town), and intervenor Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Cellco) on August 20, 2015. On September 16, 2015, MCM also submitted additional information regarding the backup generator run time and noise mitigation measures for the air conditioning units.

Consistent with the Council's Decision and Order (D&O), MCM will construct a 150-foot monopole at the Redding Ridge Fire Department (RRFD) to replace an existing 80-foot self-supporting lattice tower to be removed. The property consists of a 0.62-acre fire station property owned by the RRFD. The tower would be located behind the fire station building.

MCM provided a construction sequence and demolition plan to prepare the area for the new tower facility. The existing lattice tower, foundations and cable bridge are to be removed after the monopole and telecommunications equipment is installed. Other associated structures and equipment such as propane piping, chain link fence around existing tower, drainage pipe, existing utility pole siren, etc. are to be removed and relocated.

The tower and foundation will be capable of supporting up to five carriers. Specifically, New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) will install 12 panel antennas and 21 remote radio heads (RRHs) on a low-profile platform at the 145-foot level of the tower. Cellco will install 12 panel antennas and six remote radio heads on a low-profile platform at the 135-foot level of the tower. Town antennas from the existing tower will be relocated to the 80-foot level of the new tower, and a new Town-owned two-foot microwave dish will be installed on a stand-off mount centered at the 153-foot level of the new tower. (AT&T's and Cellco's antenna arrays are located about five feet lower than originally proposed in the Docket No. 449 proceeding in order to accommodate the Town's dish antenna.) Order No. 1 of the D&O required that, "The height at the top of AT&T's antennas shall not exceed 154 feet above ground level." In order to be conservative, MCM's D&M Plan design ensures that the highest antenna – the microwave dish – does not exceed a maximum height of 154 feet above ground level. In accordance with Order No. 2 of the D&O, the tower is designed with a yield point to ensure that the tower setback radius remains within the boundaries of the subject property.

MCM will construct a 47-foot by 48-foot (or 2,256 square-foot) equipment compound within a 2,436 square-foot lease area at the site. The compound will be enclosed by an eight-foot high chain link fence. A block retaining wall (approximately 101 feet long with varying height) will be installed outside the fenced compound on the eastern side because of the steep reduction in elevation at the eastern property boundary. AT&T will install a 12-foot by 20-foot equipment shelter within the southeast corner of the compound. Cellco will install its 12-foot by 20-foot equipment shelter within the northeast corner of the compound. Each equipment shelter would have two air conditioning units. A shared, approximately 80-kilowatt propane-fueled backup generator will be installed within the northwest corner of the compound. (The RRFD would maintain its existing separate backup generator for the fire station itself, but both generators would share the existing underground propane tank as the fuel source.) Based on this 2,000-gallon propane tank, with 100

percent carrier load and 50 percent RRFD load (which the RRFD would not normally exceed), the fuel source would provide about 3.6 days of run time before requiring refueling.

MCM has included a Wetland and Water Supply Watershed Protection Program (WWSWPP) because of the proximity to wetlands as well as the site's location within the public supply watershed of the Hemlock Reservoir and active drinking water maintained by Aquarion Water Company. Erosion and sedimentation controls will be installed along the eastern boundary of the site to protect off-site wetlands located approximately 47 feet farther to the east. The WWSWPP includes erosion and sedimentation controls including but not limited to a single row of straw wattles and a row of silt fence backing on the eastern limits of construction, contractor education on protective measures, petroleum spill prevention procedures, prohibition on herbicides and pesticides, and monthly inspection reports to the Council from All Points Technology, Inc., the environmental monitor.

Access to the compound will be from an existing bituminous parking/driveway area. No new access will be necessary. Underground utilities will be installed from a new utility pole (to replace an existing pole) on the southwest side of the subject property.

Consistent with the Council's Decision and Order, the cumulative worst-case radio frequency power density level at the base of the tower (taking into account AT&T, Celco, and the Town's antennas) will be approximately 47.2 percent of the FCC's General Public/Uncontrolled Maximum Permissible Exposure limit.

MCM submitted its noise mitigation plan for the air conditioning units that include acoustical shielding on each unit. In addition, vinyl slats are proposed on the eastern fence to provide additional acoustical shielding for the nearest property line. With such measures, the project is expected to meet applicable noise standards.

All of the Development and Management Plan requirements set forth in the Council's Decision & Order for Docket 449 are in compliance; therefore, Council staff recommends approval. Council staff recommends that approval of requested significant changes to the approved D&M Plan be delegated to Council staff in accordance with Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §16-50j-77(b). In accordance with that section, if advance written notice is impractical, the Certificate Holder shall provide verbal notice of the changes and shall submit written specifications to the Council within 48 hours after the verbal notice. All changes pursued without advance notification and approval shall be subject to a penalty, enforceable by the Attorney General pursuant to C.G.S. §16-50u.