

DOCKET NO. 41

AN APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY CONTINENTAL : CONNECTICUT SITING
CABLEVISION OF CONNECTICUT INC., FOR A : COUNCIL
CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY :
AND PUBLIC NEED FOR THE ERECTION OF A
COMMUNITY ANTENNA TELEVISION TOWER AND
ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT IN THE TOWN OF :
WINDSOR LOCKS. : May 15, 1984

F I N D I N G S O F F A C T

1. Continental Cablevision of Connecticut, Inc. (Continental) in accordance with provisions of Section 16-50k et seq. of the General Statutes of Connecticut (CGS) revised to 1983 and Sections 16-50j-70 et seq. of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RSA), applied to the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) on January 30, 1984, for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (Certificate) for the erection of a community antenna television tower and associated equipment in the town of Windsor Locks. (Record)
2. The fee as prescribed by Section 16-50v-1 of the RSA accompanied the application. (Record)
3. The application was accompanied by proof of service as required by Section 16-50l of the CGS. (Record)
4. An affidavit of newspaper notice as required by Section 16-50l of the CGS was also filed. (Continental 3)
5. Pursuant to Section 16-50m of the CGS, the Council, after giving due notice thereof, held a public hearing at the Town Hall, in Windsor Locks, Connecticut, on April 4, 1984, at 7:00 P.M. (Record)
6. The parties to the proceeding are the applicant, Continental Cablevision of Connecticut, Inc., and those persons and

organizations whose names are listed in the Decision and Order which accompanies these findings. (Record)

7. The following state agencies filed written comments with the Council pursuant to Section 16-50j(g) of the CGS: the Department of Transportation and the Department of Environmental Protection. (Record)
8. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) concluded that the proposed site appears well suited for the intended use. (Record)
9. On April 4, 1984, members of the Council made a field inspection of the proposed site and surrounding area. (Record)
10. On December 23, 1982, Continental received a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) to serve CATV Area No. 11, which consists of the towns of East Granby, East Windsor, Enfield, Granby, Hartland, Somers, Stafford, Suffield, Union, and Windsor Locks. (Continental 1, p. 1; DPUC Docket 81-08-11, decision)
11. The proposed facility is a hub site which, in conjunction with the certified Stafford head-end facility, would provide CATV service to the town of Windsor Locks and provide two institutional channels throughout the Area 11 franchise. (Continental 1, p. 3)
12. Continental would offer universal service to all franchise area residents. Continental estimates there are 34,000 homes in the franchise area. (Continental 2, Q. 1)
13. An estimated 60% to 65% of the total homes in CATV Area 11 would receive service. This number of subscribers would keep the

- franchise economically viable. (Continental 2, Q. 1)
14. Customers adding pay T.V. channels to their expanded basic monthly service could average a monthly charge ranging from \$25.00 to \$30.00. (Continental 2, Q. 1)
 15. Continental will provide as part of their system two institutional channels which will provide telecommunications capability between city halls, police stations, fire departments, and other public buildings as they are wired throughout the franchise, as proposed to the Department of Public Utility Control. (Continental 2, Q. 1)
 16. The transmission of television signals by AML microwave requires a path unobstructed by trees or terrain. (Continental 2, Q. 1)
 17. In order to maintain minimal signal quality, only two point-to-point relays of a microwave signal are possible. (Continental 2, Q. 1)
 18. The entire franchise area would be hard-wired with overhead lines where utility poles now exist and underground lines where other utilities are already underground. (Continental 2, Q. 1)
 19. The industry standard for the maximum number of cascading amplifiers is between twenty-five and thirty, beyond which signal quality degrades below acceptable levels. (Continental 2, Q. 1)
 20. Lack of utility pole continuity and signal quality restrictions of cascading amplifiers prevent the East Granby hub site from serving all of the town of Windsor Locks. (Continental 2, Q. 1; Tr. p. 9)
 21. Continental identified nine existing towers within a ten mile radius of the proposed site; however, all were found unsuitable for the company's needs due to structure, location, height, or technology. (Continental 1, pp. 6-7)

22. The proposed facility consists of one 100' self-supporting tower, one 10' microwave dish, and one 8'x10' equipment building.
(Continental 1, pp. 2, Exhibit D)
23. The site is a level, sandy, open area currently utilized for construction equipment storage. It is bordered on the north by 60'-65' trees. An access road and utility service already exist to the site. No road improvement, tree clearing, or fill would be required. (Continental 1, pp. 4-5, Continental 2, Q. 8; Tr. pp. 11-12)
24. The tree line to the north of the proposed site would be between the facility and the nearest residential dwellings, approximately 317' away. (Continental 1, p. 4; Tr. p. 11)
25. The top portion of the tower would be visible from portions of Route 75, King Spring Road, and possibly from portions of First Street. (Continental 2, Q. 4)
26. There is a potential for a cable system to interfere with aircraft navigation; however, the FCC has reviewed Continental's system and disallowed the use of two channels to prevent interference with aircraft. (Continental 2, Q. 1)
27. Even though this site is adjacent to Bradley Airport, no additional FCC review would be required. (Continental 2, Q. 3)
28. There are no wetlands or water courses on or within 100 feet of the proposed tower site. (Continental 2, Q. 10)
29. Continental does not foresee need for blasting at the proposed site. (Continental 2, Q. 7)
30. The proposed tower design is based on the Electronic Industries Association (EIA) RS-222-C Standard, Zone B. Zone B refers to 100

mph steady wind with ½ inch of radial ice. (Continental 1, p. 2; EIA Standard RS-222-C)

31. There are no known hazards to human health associated with the facility as proposed. The calculated power densities for the proposed site is several orders of magnitude lower than any existing U.S. standard. (Continental 1, p. 7; Continental 2, Q. 11)
32. The proposed tower might need lights pursuant to pending Federal Aviation Administration rulings. (Continental 1, p. 6)
33. A tower tall enough to receive signals from Hartford or Springfield could not be erected at the proposed site. (Continental 2, Q. 12)
34. An alternate site for the facility was considered but proved inadequate for the company's needs. (Continental 1, p. 7)
35. Land use rights for the 2,783 square foot plot have been negotiated with the property owners. (Continental 1, pp. 4, 5)
36. The total cost of the facility is estimated to be \$117,215. This includes the following:

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| Engineering and site improvements | \$ 8,800; |
| Building and standby power | \$10,400; |
| Tower structure | \$36,000; and |
| Electronic equipment and antenna | \$62,015. |

(Continental 1, Exhibit A)
37. To underground utility service from and cable service to the nearest utility pole would cost \$1,074.35 while overhead service would cost \$225.00. (Continental 2, Q. 8)
38. The total cost of constructing the entire Continental system would be approximately \$23 million over a period of seven years. (Continental 2, Q. 1)