

## 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 Internet: ct.gov/csc

September 24, 2007

Julie Kohler, Esq. Carrie Larson, Esq. 1115 Broad Street Bridgeport, CT 06604

RE: **DOCKET NO. 343** - MCF Communications bg, Inc and Omnipoint Communications, Inc. application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 237 Sandy Hollow Road, Groton, Connecticut.

Dear Ms. Kohler and Ms. Larson:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requests your responses to the enclosed questions no later than October 10, 2007. To help expedite the Council's review, please file individual responses as soon as they are available.

Please forward an original and 15 copies to this office and a .pdf file on a compact disc. In accordance with the State Solid Waste Management Plan, the Council is requesting that all filings be submitted on recyclable paper, primarily regular weight white office paper. Please avoid using heavy stock paper, colored paper, and metal or plastic binders and separators. Fewer copies of bulk material may be provided as appropriate.

S. Derek Phelps

**Executive Director** 

c: Council Members
Parties and Intervenors



- 33. What is the tower type of each of the towers listed behind Tab G of the application?
- 34. What is the distance and direction of the towers listed behind Tab G of the application to the proposed site?
- 35. Does T-Mobile have equipment located on any of the existing towers listed behind Tab G of the application? At what height?
- 36. Which of the existing towers listed behind Tab G of the application would interact with the proposed facility?
- 37. Identify each site shown in the coverage plot behind Tab F by address.
- 38. Could T-Mobile install internally or externally flush mounted antennas at the proposed site?
- 39. Could T-Mobile install t-bar antenna platforms at the proposed site?
- 40. What type of equipment would T-Mobile install at the proposed site? What are the dimensions of this equipment?
- 41. What frequency band is T-Mobile licensed to operate under in this area?
- 42. What is T-Mobile's minimum signal level threshold to provide adequate service in Groton?
- 43. Would T-Mobile require a generator or battery back up in the case of power failure?
- 44. Would T-Mobile be willing to use a fuel cell at the proposed site?
- 45. Does T-Mobile have any plans to install fuel cells at any existing or future sites in Connecticut?
- 46. What is the length of T-Mobile's existing gap in coverage along I-95?
- 47. What is the length of adequate T-Mobile coverage along I-95 that the proposed site would provide?
- 48. What would be the total footprint area of T-Mobile coverage provided by the proposed site?
- 49. What is T-Mobile's existing signal strength in this area?
- 50. Provide a multi-signal level propagation plot (including the signal levels T-Mobile designs for), at a scale of 1:40,000, depicting existing coverage in the area.
- 51. Provide a multi-signal level propagation plot (including the signal levels T-Mobile designs for), at a scale of 1:40,000, depicting coverage from the following:
  - a) existing sites and the proposed site at an antenna height of 130 feet above ground level.
  - b) existing sites and the proposed site at an antenna height of 120 feet above ground level.
  - c) existing sites and the proposed site at an antenna height of 110 feet above ground level.

## PRE-HEARING INTERROGATORIES DOCKET NO. 343 – GROTON MCF COMMUNICATIONS BG, INC. AND OMNIPOINT COMMUNICATIONS SEPTEMBER 24, 2007

- 1. Provide a hard copy the Affidavit of Publication for the published legal notices that were published in <u>The Day</u> and <u>The Norwich Bulletin</u>.
- 2. Did the Applicants receive return receipts for all adjacent landowners listed behind Tab E of the application? If not, was any additional effort made to make sure that notice was received by these property owners?
- 3. Behind Tab C of the application, it appears that the Applicants notified State Representative Edward E. Moukawsher of the proposed project; however, the proposed site is in the 41<sup>st</sup> Assembly District under State Representative Elissa Wright. Did the Applicants notify Representative Wright of the proposed project also?
- 4. Did the Applicants move the proposed site as far west as possible without disturbing the 50-foot wetland buffer, as requested by the Town of Groton?
- 5. When was a search ring first established in the area of the proposed site?
- 6. Provide the boundaries of the site search ring on a topographic map at a scale of 1:1,000.
- 7. What is the size/area, shape and zoning of the search area?
- 8. Did the Applicants investigate any properties, other than the proposed site, within the site search area for the construction of a telecommunications structure? If yes, document analysis of those potential properties.
- 9. Please clarify the apparent inconsistency between the size of the leased area for the proposed site, which on page 10 of the application [1,750 square feet] and in the lease behind Tab I of the application [2,400 square feet].
- 10. Would the proposed landscaping on the southern side of the equipment compound be within the lease area for the proposed site?
- 11. What would be the diameter of the proposed monopole at the base and top of the structure?
- 12. What structural standards would the proposed tower be designed in accordance with?
- 13. At what height on the proposed tower would the pre-engineered fault point be located?
- 14. Could the proposed tower be constructed as a flagpole or other camouflage design?
- 15. How many carriers would be accommodated by the proposed initial 35-foot by 50-foot equipment compound?

- 16. According to the site drawings behind Tab A in the application, it appears that T-Mobile would install equipment in the 15-foot by 15-foot bump out area that would be developed in the future, if needed. Is this correct?
- 17. Would the proposed site be located entirely within the paved portion of the property?
- 18. Do the Applicants expect blasting to be necessary for the construction of the proposed site?
- 19. What is the land use of the properties to the south of the proposed site?
- 20. Please clarify the discrepancy between the costs listed under numbers 1, 2 and 3 on page 20 of the application and the total estimated cost of construction.
- 21. Provide details regarding sediment and erosion controls that would be installed on the proposed site to protect the wetland to the west.
- 22. What is the nearest active airport to the proposed site? What is the distance and direction of that airport?
- 23. What is the distance and direction of the nearest area of year-round and seasonal visibility from the stretches along public streets listed behind Tab K of the application to the proposed tower?
- 24. What is the land use in the area of year-round visibility? What is the land use in the area of seasonal visibility?
- 25. Explain why photo locations nos. 6 and 7 are within an area labeled "seasonal visibility" on the Viewshed Analysis Map, behind Tab K of the application but were determined "not visible" on photographs.
- 26. Behind Tab O of the application, BL Companies estimates the tree heights near the proposed site range from 15 to 30 feet above ground level. The Viewshed Analysis estimates a uniform tree height of 65 feet in the surrounding area, clarify and estimate potential visibility of the proposed tower.
- 27. What is the expected visibility from trails within Pequot Woods Park?
- 28. Page 19 of the application states that "final determination from the FAA will be forwarded to the Council upon receipt," has the final determination been received by the Applicants to date?
- 29. Why was the height of the proposed monopole changed from 120 feet above ground level to 130 feet above ground level?
- 30. Would any nearby residences have a year-round view of the proposed facility?
- 31. The site plans in the application show limits of clearing for the proposed site; however the application also states that no trees with diameters of six inches or greater would be removed for the construction of the proposed site or access road. What type of vegetation would be removed to accommodate the proposed site?
- 32. Has Heritage Consultants LLC consulted with the Office of State Archeology at UCONN as suggested by the State Historic Preservation Officer? What was the outcome of that consultation?