

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

IN RE: :  
: :  
APPLICATION OF CELLCO PARTNERSHIP : DOCKET NO. 354  
D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS FOR A :  
CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL :  
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR :  
THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE :  
AND OPERATION OF A WIRELESS :  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY OFF :  
OLD BAIRD ROAD IN WATERTOWN, :  
CONNECTICUT : JANUARY 18, 2008

RESPONSES OF CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS TO  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL PRE-HEARING INTERROGATORIES, SET ONE

On December 20, 2007, the Connecticut Siting Council (“Council”) issued Pre-Hearing Interrogatories to the Applicant, Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (“Cellco”), relating to the above-captioned docket. Below are the Cellco’s responses.

Question No. 1

What are the frequencies Cellco is licensed to use in Litchfield County?

Response

In Litchfield County, Cellco is licensed to operate in the PCS F Block (1970-1975 MHz) and the PCS C3 Block (1975-1980 MHz) frequency bands.

Question No. 2

Would Cellco’s antennas be compliant with E911 requirements?

Response

Yes.

Question No. 3

Identify distances and directions to the adjacent sites with which the proposed site would hand off signals?

Response

The Watertown West cell site is designed to fill significant coverage gaps along Route 6 in Watertown between Cellco's existing Woodbury North cell site, located 1.4 miles to the west, Watertown Central cell site, located 2.9 miles to the northeast, and Watertown South cell site, located 2.9 miles to the southeast.

Question No. 4

Provide the following information: number of channels per sector for each antenna system that would be installed on the proposed tower, ERP per channel for each antenna system, and frequency at which each antenna system would operate.

Response

**Site A:**

<u>Alpha Sector – 150 Ft.</u>	<u>Beta Sector – 150 Ft.</u>	<u>Gamma Sector – 150 Ft.</u>
Antenna Type: LPA – 185080/12CF	Antenna Type: LPA – 185080/12CF	Antenna Type: LPA – 185080/12CF
Frequency: 1970-1975 MHz and 1975-1980 MHz	Frequency: 1970-1975 MHz and 1975-1980 MHz	Frequency: 1970-1975 MHz and 1975-1980 MHz
No. Channels: 6	No. Channels: 6	No. Channels: 6
ERP/Channel: 485 W Max	ERP/Channel: 485 W Max	ERP/Channel: 485 W Max

**Site B:**

Alpha Sector – 160 Ft.

Antenna Type: LPA –  
185080/12CF

Frequency: 1970-1975 MHz  
and 1975-1980 MHz

No. Channels: 6

ERP/Channel: 485 W Max

Beta Sector – 160 Ft.

Antenna Type: LPA –  
185080/12CF

Frequency: 1970-1975 MHz  
and 1975-1980 MHz

No. Channels: 6

ERP/Channel: 485 W Max

Gamma Sector – 160 Ft.

Antenna Type: LPA –  
185080/12CF

Frequency: 1970-1975 MHz  
and 1975-1980 MHz

No. Channels: 6

ERP/Channel: 485 W Max

Question No. 5

What is the lowest height at which Cellco’s antennas could achieve its coverage objectives from this site? Submit propagation maps showing the coverage at ten feet below this height.

Response

Cellco antennas are located at the lowest level needed to satisfy its coverage objectives in the area from both Site A and Site B. Coverage plots showing Cellco’s coverage from Site A at the 140-foot level and from Site B at the 150-foot level are included behind Attachment 1. The table below quantifies the differences in coverage as proposed and with antenna heights ten feet lower than proposed.

<u>Tower Site and Height</u>	<u>Coverage</u>	
	<u>Route 6</u>	<u>Overall</u>
Site A @ 150’ (Proposed)	2.42 miles	11.6 square miles
Site A @ 140’	2.3 miles	10.4 square miles
Site B @ 160’ (Proposed)	2.45 miles	11.9 square miles
Site B @ 150’	2.25 miles	10.6 square miles

Question No. 6

Of the letters sent to abutting property owners, how many certified mail receipts did Cellco receive? If any receipts were not returned, which owners did not receive their notice? Did Cellco make additional attempts to contact those property owners?

Response

All but three certified mail receipts have been returned. One of the three outstanding letters was returned marked "Unclaimed". That notice letter was resent by regular mail. The two remaining letters were marked "Return to Sender, Unclaimed, Unable to Forward". Cellco confirmed with the Watertown Tax Collector's office that the owners' addresses for these two mailings were correct. These two notices were resent by regular mail.

Question No. 7

What is the signal strength for which Cellco designs its system? For in-vehicle coverage? For in-building coverage?

Response

Cellco's signal coverage threshold is -85 dBm for in-vehicle coverage and -75 dBm for in-building coverage.

Question No. 8

What is the existing signal strength in those areas Cellco is seeking to cover from this site? How were these signal strengths determined?



Response

Cellco's existing signal strength in the area ranges from -86 dBm to -107 dBm. These signal levels are determined through the use of Cellco's propagation modeling tool and are confirmed using baseline drive data that Cellco receives for its existing network.

Question No. 9

Did Cellco conduct any drive tests for this site? If so, provide information depicting the results of these tests.

Response

No.

Question No. 10

What is the size of the coverage gap on Route 6 that Cellco is seeking to cover from the proposed sites?

Response

The existing coverage gap along Route 6 is approximately 2.2 miles. As depicted on the coverage maps provided behind Tab 8 of the Application, Cellco can effectively cover the entire Route 6 coverage gap from either Site A or Site B.

Question No. 11

How many trees with a diameter of 6" or greater at breast height would be removed to develop Site A? Site B?

Response

For Site A, Cellco anticipates the need to remove 34 trees with a diameter of 6" or greater. At Site B, Cellco anticipates the need to remove 24 trees with a diameter of 6" or greater will need to be removed.

Question No. 12

Quantify the amounts of cuts and fills that would be required to develop Site A. Site B.

Response

Site A	Fill – 20 cy	Cut – 0 cy
Site B	Fill – 5.2 cy	Cut – 8.3 cy

Question No. 13

How many antenna placements would the tower be designed to accommodate?

Response

Four wireless carriers and the Town of Watertown.

Question No. 14

When was Cellco’s search ring for this area first issued? How large was the ring? Where was it centered? Submit a map showing the search ring (with compass and scale).

Response

Cellco’s Watertown West search ring was established in August of 2003. The ring is approximately 3/4 miles in diameter and is centered on a hill north of Route 6. A copy of the Watertown West search area map is included behind Attachment 2.

Question No. 15

Has Cellco contacted any other carriers about the possibility of using this site? If so, have any other carriers shown a potential interest in this site? Provide any supporting documentation.

Response

Yes. Cellco originally asked other carriers if they were interested in this site in July of 2007 and asked again in December 2007. The only response received to date was from T-Mobile representatives who stated that T-Mobile had a need in the area but did not currently have a

budget to construct a cell site at this location. Representatives of AT&T and Sprint Nextel did not respond.

Question No. 16

Would any blasting be required to develop Site A? Site B?

Response

Until final geotechnical surveys are completed following the approval of a cell site and the development of a D&M Plan, Cellco will not know whether blasting will be required to construct either the Site A or Site B facility.

Question No. 17

Did any of the boards or commissions of the Town of Watertown conduct any meetings about this proposal or issue any statements or recommendations regarding it? If so, provide such documentation.

Response

No.

Question No. 18

How many kilowatts does Cellco require its back up generator to provide for reliable service? Are there fuel cells available that could supply this amount of power?

Response

As discussed in recent dockets, Cellco has recently deployed, in an “in the field” test a 12 kilowatt (“kW”) hydrogen fuel cell at a cell site in West Milford, New Jersey. A 12 kW fuel cell is sufficient to power Cellco’s Lucent Mod Cell equipment and provide back-up power for approximately 14 to 16 hours before requiring refueling.

Question No. 19

Does Cellco operate fuel cells at any of its Connecticut sites? What is Cellco's corporate position on employing fuel cells as a sole power source or emergency back-up power?

Response

Cellco does not currently operate fuel cells at any of its Connecticut cell site locations. Cellco's one "in the field" test of a fuel cell application is currently being monitored to determine if such systems of back-up power can be appropriately and reliably used throughout Cellco's network of cell sites.

Question No. 20

Why would Cellco use a propane-fueled generator at this site?

Response

Given the Town of Watertown's use of the property surrounding the Site A and Site B locations, including a solid waste transfer station, highway department maintenance facilities, sand and salt storage areas, etc., Cellco decided that it would utilize a propane-fueled generator at either the Site A or Site B location. By doing so, Cellco and the Town would be better able to distinguish between fuel supplies used at the site, and identify more quickly the source of any unintended release.

Question No. 21

How far is the nearest residential property to the proposed facility? Who owns this property?



Response

Site A

The nearest residential property is located approximately 830 feet to the east and is owned by Sandra J. and Robert J. Samojedny, 480 Hamilton Avenue.

Site B

The nearest residential property is located approximately 1,100 feet to the southeast and is owned by Richard A. and Elizabeth M. Noble, 32 Old Baird Road.

Question No. 22

Did Cellco investigate any properties other than the town properties as potential sites for its facility? If so, identify these properties by address and owner.

Response

No. As stated in the site search summary, behind Tab 10 of the Application, Cellco entered the site search process in Watertown on the heels of an AT&T option to lease property near the proposed Site A and Site B cell site locations. Due to the Town's willingness to lease land for a tower site and the remoteness of the two alternative locations, Cellco felt comfortable that the municipal property provided it with an appropriate location for the proposed cell site.

Question No. 23

Is the parcel on which Site A is located being used for anything by the town?

Response

No.

Question No. 24

How would Cellco mount its antennas at the proposed site(s)?

Response

In the Application, Cellco has proposed to attach its antennas to a low-profile platform at the appropriate level on either the Site A or Site B towers. As stated in the past, Cellco could and would, if deemed appropriate by the Council, utilize T-arms at either site. In either instance, Cellco would be able to install 12 antennas at the appropriate level on the tower.

Question No. 25

How would utilities be extended to Site A? Above ground or underground?

Response

Cellco anticipates that utilities would extend to Site A above ground from existing above ground service along the westerly side of Old Baird Road.

Question No. 26

Would the tower's setback radius encroach on any adjoining properties at Site A or Site B?

Response

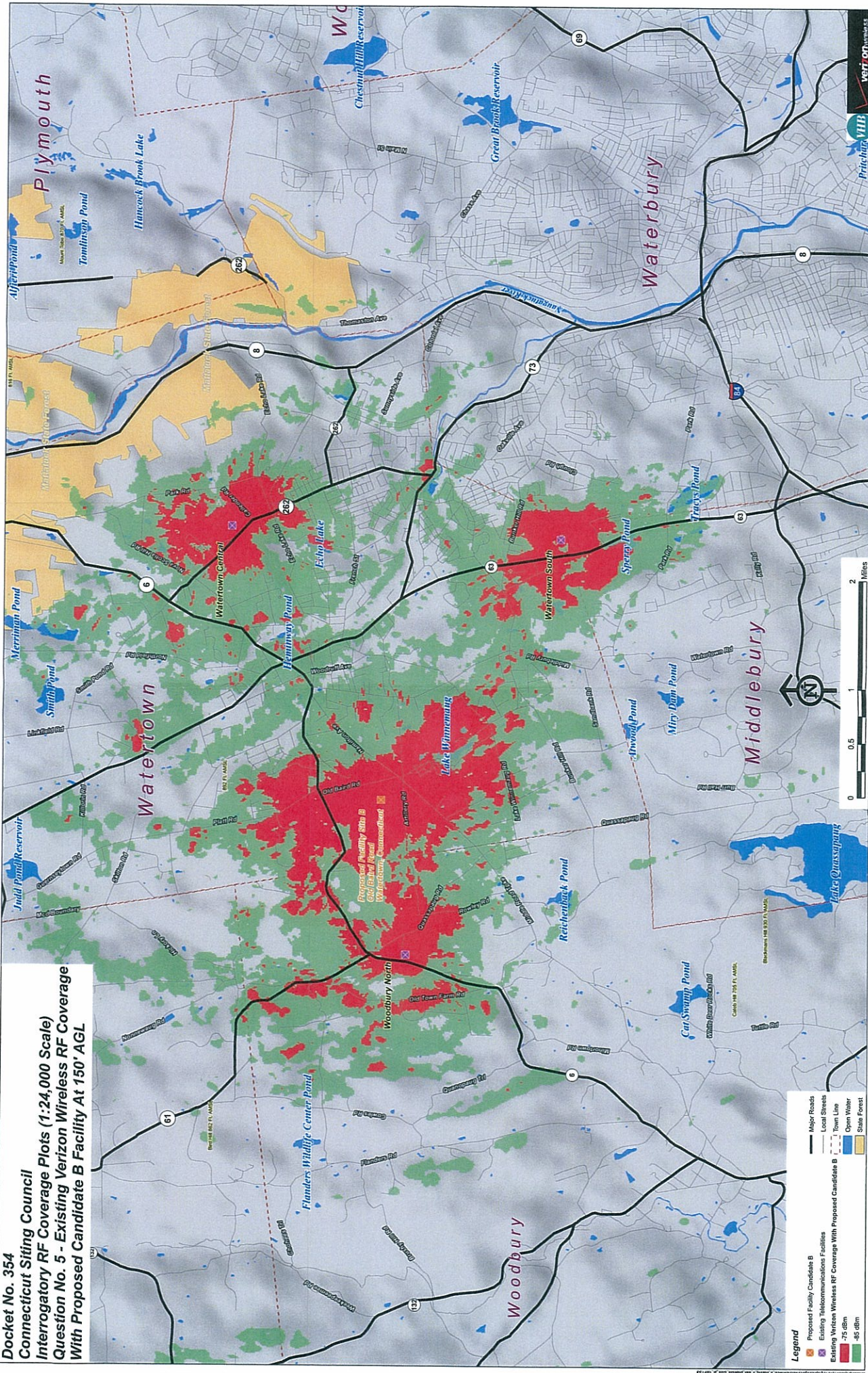
At Site A, the tower radius would extend beyond the limits of the 0.24 acre Town-owned parcel. The tower radius at Site B would remain completely within the Town-owned parcel.







**Docket No. 354**  
**Connecticut Siting Council**  
**Interrogatory RF Coverage Plots (1:24,000 Scale)**  
**Question No. 5 - Existing Verizon Wireless RF Coverage**  
**With Proposed Candidate B Facility At 150' AGL**



**Legend**

- Major Roads
- Local Streets
- Town Line
- State Line
- Proposed Facility Candidate B
- Existing Telecommunications Facilities
- Existing Verizon Wireless RF Coverage With Proposed Candidate B
- 25 dBm
- 65 dBm
- Open Water
- State Forest

verizon  
 Pritchard VHB

PLANNED BY DATE: 10/15/2014



Litchfield Search Ring - L113 - Watertown West

