

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

IN RE:

APPLICATION OF CELLCO PARTNERSHIP : DOCKET NO. 355
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 AT :
359 LITCHFIELD ROAD IN NEW MILFORD, :
CONNECTICUT :

APPLICATION OF OPTASITE TOWERS : DOCKET NO. 342
INC. AND OMNIPOINT :
COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR A :
CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL :
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR :
THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE :
AND OPERATION OF A WIRELESS :
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY :
LOCATED AT 425 LITCHFIELD ROAD, :
NEW MILFORD, CONNECTICUT : MARCH 5, 2008

MOTION FOR ORDER

Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless ("Cellco") hereby respectfully requests that the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council") issue an order to Optasite Towers, Inc. ("Optasite") and Omnipoint Communications, Inc. ("OCI") to fly a balloon at the tower location proposed in pending Docket No. 342 on the day of the combine Docket No. 355 and 342 public hearing on March 11, 2008.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

On December 4, 2007, Cellco filed, with the Council, an Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (“Certificate”) for the development of a wireless telecommunications facility on property owned by the Northville Volunteer Fire Department (“NVFD”) at 359 Litchfield Road in New Milford, Connecticut (the “NVFD Facility”). The Council issued the Cellco application Docket No. 355.

On June 22, 2007, Optasite Towers Inc. (“Optasite”) and Omnipoint Communications, Inc. (“OCI”) filed a Certificate Application with the Council for the development of a wireless telecommunications facility on property owned by Edward Drzal at 425 Litchfield Road in New Milford, Connecticut (the “Optasite Facility”). The Council issued the Optasite/OCI application Docket No. 342.

The proposed NVFD and Optasite Facilities are located within approximately ½ mile of each other. The Council will hold a combined public hearing on the Docket No. 355 and Docket No. 342 applications on March 11, 2008. The purpose of the combined hearing is to provide the Council with information regarding Cellco’s ability to share the proposed Optasite Facility and, conversely, OCI’s ability to share the proposed NVFD Facility.

The combined hearing will also give the Council the opportunity to evaluate and compare the NVFD and Optasite Facilities pursuant to the Council’s siting evaluation criteria including each facility’s overall environmental effect. As the Council is aware, one of the most important “environmental effects” that it will consider is the visual impact of each tower on the surrounding community. To assist the Council with its assessment of visual impact, applicants seeking a Council Certificate are required to fly a balloon at the proposed tower height and location on the day of the Council hearing. This exercise gives the Council an opportunity to

assess the visual impact of the proposed tower from various locations surrounding the proposed facility location. Cellco intends to fly a balloon at the proposed NVFD Facility between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on March 11, 2008.

According to information in the Docket No. 342 record, Optasite flew a balloon at proposed cell site location prior to its initial hearing on Docket No. 342, six months ago on September 10, 2008. Optasite and OCI now object to Cellco's request that a balloon be flown at the Optasite Facility location again on March 11, 2008.

ARGUMENT

The circumstances surrounding these two pending dockets are unique. In two separate docket applications, the Council is being asked to consider and choose between two alternative cell site locations that would provide comparable coverage for both Cellco and OCI. In comparing the two sites, the Council will review information contained in each application and visit each site to get a "lay of the land" before attending the March 11, 2008 combined public hearing and ultimately making a decision on each proposal. The best way for the Council to adequately and fairly compare the visual impact elements of both the NVFD Facility and the Optasite Facility is to have balloons flown at both proposed cell site locations on March 11, 2008, prior to the commencement of the combined public hearing.

It is unreasonable to expect the Council to recall the details of a particular site visit and balloon float from a proceeding that occurred six months ago. According to the Council's schedule, since the first site visit and hearing on the Optasite Facility on September 10, 2007, Council members have participated in twenty-one (21) public hearings and have attended twenty-eight (28) separate field reviews at various proposed tower sites, electric transmission line facilities, power plants and electric substations around the State of Connecticut. Given the

Council's recent workload and schedule, remembering the details of a balloon float at the Optasite Facility alone will be a challenge. Being able to compare visual impacts of the two proposed facilities will be virtually impossible. The burden on Optasite and OCI to perform one additional balloon float is clearly outweighed by benefits to the Council's decision making process.

CONCLUSION

Cellco, therefore, respectfully requests that the Council issue an order, requiring Optasite and OCI to fly a balloon at the Optasite Facility location at 425 Litchfield Road on March 11, 2008 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in accordance with Council procedures.

Respectfully submitted,
CELLCO PARTNERSHIP d/b/a
VERIZON WIRELESS

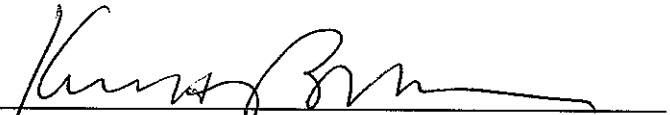
By 

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Its Attorneys

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that on this 5th day of March, 2008, a copy of the foregoing was mailed,
postage prepaid, to the following:

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