

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL**

IN RE:

**APPLICATION OF OPTASITE TOWERS LLC
AND OMNIPOINT COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR
THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND
OPERATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS
FACILITY AT 39 MAENNERCHOR AVENUE
NORWICH (TAFTVILLE), CONNECTICUT**

DOCKET NO. 365

Date: AUGUST 12, 2008

PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF BENJAMIN RIEGER

Q1. Please state your name and position.

A. My name is Benjamin Rieger and I am a Project Manager for Kleinfelder East, Inc. ("Kleinfelder"). Kleinfelder is a leading professional services firm in natural and developed environments. Kleinfelder is located at 99 Lamberton Road, Suite 201, Windsor, Connecticut.

Q2. Please state your qualifications.

A. I have a bachelor's degree in Biology from Houghton College and a master's degree in Water and Wetlands Resources from the State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry. I have more than 10 years of experience in the environmental planning and permitting field. I have conducted numerous ecological, wetlands and environmental assessments and managed remediation of the same.

Q3. Please describe your involvement in this matter.

A. Kleinfelder was retained by Optasite Towers LLC (“Optasite”) to review environmental resource information under the National Environmental Policy Act (“NEPA”) and to conduct a wetlands and watercourse delineation of the property located at 39 Maennerchor Avenue in Norwich (the “Property”).

Q4. Please describe the results of the NEPA conducted by Kleinfelder.

A. At the request of Optasite, Kleinfelder conducted a NEPA screen to determine if the proposed Facility falls under any listed categories of Section 1.1307 under NEPA. Based upon Kleinfelder's review, the proposed Facility does not fall under any listed categories of Section 1.1307. In addition, Kleinfelder corresponded with numerous agencies including the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (“DEP”), the United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, the Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism, Historic Preservation & Museum Division (“SHPO”), among others. Both DEP and SHPO have responded and confirmed that the proposed Facility will have no effect on any endangered, listed or threatened species or on any historic resources. Based upon the NEPA screen and Kleinfelder's in-field review of the Site, the Site will be categorically excluded from any requirement for further environmental review by the FCC in accordance with NEPA and no permit is required by that agency prior to construction of the proposed Facility.

Q5. Please describe the results of the wetlands and watercourses delineation conducted by Kleinfelder.

A. At the request of Optasite, Kleinfelder conducted a wetlands and watercourses delineation of the Property. Based upon Kleinfelder's review of relevant documents from the City of Norwich and State of Connecticut and based upon Kleinfelder's in-field investigation, there are no wetlands or watercourses on the Property. Therefore, the construction and maintenance of the proposed Facility will have no direct or indirect impact on any wetlands or watercourses.

8/12/2008
Date


Benjamin Rieger

Subscribed and sworn before me this 12th day of August, 2008.

By:


Notary

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 11/2010