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September 5, 2008

S. Derek Phelps
Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: **Docket No. 367 - Application Of Cellco Partnership 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 343 Daleville Road, Willington, Connecticut**

Dear Mr. Phelps:

On August 25, 2008, Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless ("Cellco") filed an application with the Siting Council for the establishment of a wireless telecommunications facility at 343 Daleville Road in Willington, Connecticut. Behind Tab 11 of that application, Cellco provided the Council with information from the Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP"), specifically related to the DEP's concerns for construction related impacts on the Wood Turtle, a state special concern species. In an effort to respond to the DEP's comments, Cellco asked Dean Gustafson at VHB to prepare a Wood Turtle habitat survey. This survey includes recommendations on how the Wood Turtle would be dealt with, if encountered during construction and detailed information on isolation measures, contractor education and reporting requirements. Mr. Gustafson's report is included in the Cellco application. The attached letter confirms that the Wildlife Division of the DEP concurs with Mr. Gustafson's proposed precautions to avoid unnecessary impacts on the Wood Turtle.



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S. Derek Phelps
September 4, 2008
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We respectfully request that this item be added to Cellco's list of exhibits in this docket. If you have any questions regarding this DEP letter please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Kenneth C. Baldwin

KCB/kmd
Attachment
Copy to:

Sandy M. Carter
Michael Libertine, L.E.P.
Dean Gustafson
Francis D. Kobylenski, PE
Alejandro Restrepo





STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
FRANKLIN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
391 ROUTE 32
NORTH FRANKLIN, CT 06254
TELEPHONE: (860) 642-7239



August 29, 2008

Mr. Dean Gustafson
Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.
54 Tuttle Place
Middletown, CT 06457

re: proposed Verizon Wireless Facility, Willington

Dear Mr. Gustafson:

Your additional materials were received by me on 8/26/08. The Wildlife Division concurs with your proposed precautions to avoid impacts to a state species of special concern, the Wood turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*) in the vicinity of your project, namely:

1. to conduct a visual inspection of the work zone for turtles and to install silt fencing around the construction area.
2. To educate the contractor about wood turtles, their possible presence and to avoid harming them.

The Wildlife Division thanks you for planning to report any observations and would encourage you to have the contractors move the turtles out of harm's way but to keep them as close to the area that they were found in as this species has a relatively small home range. Again, standard protocols for protection of wetlands should be followed and maintained during the course of the project. Additionally, all silt fencing should be removed after soils are stable so that reptile and amphibian movement between uplands and wetlands is not restricted.

Please be advised that the Wildlife Division has not made a field inspection of the project. Consultation with the Wildlife Division should not be substituted for site-specific surveys that may be required for environmental assessments. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me at Julie.Victoria@ct.gov, please reference the NDDB # at the bottom of this letter when you e-mail. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Julie Victoria
Wildlife Biologist
Franklin Swamp Wildlife Management Area
391 Route 32
N. Franklin, CT 06254

cc: NDDB - 15989

