



M. Jodi Rell
GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

April 29, 2009

Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Application of SBA Towers II
Docket No. 378

Dear Mr. Caruso:

It has come to my attention that an application seeking to construct a telecommunications tower at one of two alternative locations on a 106- acre parcel off Rabbit Hill Road in Warren, Connecticut has been filed with the Siting Council.

I have several concerns that I bring to your attention. First, I question the location of this tower in an area known for its pristine and natural beauty. The location of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment, which includes a 160 foot tower, in the midst of this natural treasure will be nothing short of an eyesore. Second, relative to Parcel A, the development rights to that 182-acre parcel were sold to the State of Connecticut in 1996. It is the State that retains the exclusive rights to the property, and absent the express authorization from the State, the tower must not be situated on that property. Third, although the State does not have a property interest in Parcel B, I ask that you take into consideration the scenic and rustic nature of the Warren area and the fact that the area has become a natural habitat for several kinds of wildlife in our State.

I fully understand the need for telecommunications towers in our State, particularly in our more rural areas where cell phone coverage can be spotty; but those decisions cannot be made in a vacuum, without fully considering the effects on our environment, our natural habitats and our landscape. The Siting Council must consider the historic and unspoiled landscape of this scenic section of our State. The value we place such land and our commitment to open space is evident by the State's purchase of 182 acres in February 1996 for the sum \$725,000.

I urge the Siting Council to consider an alternate site for the telecommunications facilities; one that will meet the wireless service needs of the residents in the greater Warren/Washington area and will have nominal impact on our environment and our pristine landscape.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "M. Jodi Rell".

M. Jodi Rell
Governor

cc: Bruce Coleman, President CROWW