

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL**

IN RE:

APPLICATION OF SBA TOWERS II LLC
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR
THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND
OPERATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS
FACILITY AT 44 GAVITT ROAD,
BARKHAMSTED, CONNECTICUT

DOCKET NO. 387

Date: November 17, 2009

**APPLICANT'S RESPONSES TO FIRST SET OF INTERROGATORIES FROM
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL**

Applicant SBA Towers II LLC ("SBA") hereby submits the following responses to the Siting Council's first set of pre-hearing interrogatories:

- Q1. How many of the return receipts for the notices sent to abutting landowners did SBA receive? If some return receipts were not received, did SBA make other attempts to notify the landowners? If yes, explain.**
- A1. SBA has received return receipts from all but one abutting property owner, Pleasant Valley Company, LLC, located at 45 Gavitt Road. A second attempt, sent both certified and regular mail, was sent on November 6, 2009.
- Q2. To what engineering standard would the proposed tower be built? What would be the dimensions of the tower (diameter of tower at base; diameter of tower at top)?**
- A2. The tower will be designed in accordance with ANSI/TIA-222-G, Structural Standards for Steel Antenna Towers and Antenna Supporting Structures (EIA) in accordance with the International Building Code. The diameter at the top will be approximately 24" and the diameter at the base will be approximately 60". Actual tower dimensions will be determined upon final tower design.
- Q3. How much cut and fill would be required to develop the proposed site?**
- A3. Approximately 500 cubic yards of fill is required to level the south side of the compound and miscellaneous low spots along the road. Approximately 1,100 cubic yards of cutting is required to level the northwest side of the compound and to skim a majority of the access road for installation of the gravel surface.

Q4. Would any blasting be required to develop the site?

A4. Exposed ledge was not visible on the property but it is possible ledge may be encountered during excavation. The presence of ledge will be confirmed upon completion of a geotechnical investigation. If ledge is encountered, chipping is preferred to blasting.

Q5. Have any boards or commissions of the Town of Barkhamsted held any meetings on SBA's proposed facility? Have any boards or commissions issued any comments regarding the proposed facility? If so, provide copies of such comments.

A5. SBA is not aware of any town board or commission meeting held to discuss this application. In addition, SBA has not received any comments from any of the town's boards or commissions.

Q6. Has SBA received any written correspondence from the Town of Barkhamsted indicating an interest in locating antennas on the proposed tower? If so, please provide a copy.

A6. SBA has received a letter from the president of the fire department stating they may have need of the proposed tower. Please see letter attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

Q7. When did this site search begin? Where was the site search centered? What was the extent of the search ring? Provide a map, with scale and compass, of the search ring.

A7. SBA began its site search in November, 2008. SBA focused its search along Routes 219 and 179. Given the large area of state forest land and the Barkhamsted reservoir, the extent of the search area was limited to the Gavitt Road and Legeyt Road areas. There was no physical search ring map. SBA had a general knowledge of lack of coverage in this area of Barkhamsted.

Q8. What prompted SBA to begin a search for a site in this area?

A8. SBA personnell had personal knowledge of a lack of wireless coverage in this area of Barkhamsted, experiencing frequent dropped calls or ineffective attempts to make calls in this area.

Q9. Supply a color aerial photograph of the vicinity of the proposed site.

A9. See aerial photograph attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

Q10. How would SBA address the potential presence of the Northern Spring Salamander, a state endangered species, in the vicinity of the proposed facility?

A10. An investigation of Northern Spring Salamander and its habitat has been recently performed by Michael W. Klemens, PhD. Preliminary findings from Dr. Klemens' investigation reveal that areas of suitable Northern Spring Salamander habitat on the site are very marginal and the proposed SBA development will not have adverse impacts to spring salamander habitat. A final report will be completed in the near future and forwarded to Connecticut DEP for review requesting a concurrence of the report's findings. A copy of the report along with future correspondence from Connecticut DEP will be forwarded to the Connecticut Siting Council.

SBA intends to comply with any recommendations contained in the forthcoming report as well from Connecticut DEP and such recommendations would be incorporated into SBA's development and management plan.


Q11. How would SBA address recommendations made by Dean Gustafson in his memorandum (Exhibit J) in which he recommends the preparation of a detailed erosion and sedimentation control plan and the hiring of an independent environmental inspector to monitor construction activities and to look for amphibians?

A11. SBA intends to follow the recommendations contained in Exhibit J and those recommendations will be incorporated into SBA's development and management plan.

Q12. Identify the type of tower located at 2 South Road in East Hartland and 54 North Canton Road in Barkhamsted?

A12. The towers located at 2 South Road in East Hartland and 54 North Canton Road in Barkhamsted are both light weight lattice towers. In addition, a field review conducted by SBA personnel revealed one additional tower located within a four mile radius of the proposed Facility, located at Beach Rock Road. That tower consists of a 50 foot self-supporting lattice tower. A revised four mile map is attached hereto as Exhibit 3.

Respectfully Submitted,

By: 
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Certification

This is to certify that a copy of the foregoing has been mailed this date to all parties and intervenors of record.

Joey Lee Miranda
Robinson & Cole LLP
280 Trumbull Street
Hartford, CT 06103

First Selectman Donald S. Stein
Town of Barkhamsted
67 Ripley Hill Road
Pleasant Valley, CT 06063

Daniel M. Laub
Christopher B. Fisher
Cuddy & Feder LLP
445 Hamilton Avenue
14th Floor
White Plains, New York 10601



Carrie L. Larson

EXHIBIT 1



**BARKHAMSTED
FIRE DISTRICT**

P. O. Box 199, Pleasant Valley, Connecticut 06063

860-738-8237

October 27, 2009

Hollis M. Redding
SBA Network Services, Inc.
One Research Drive
Suite 200 C
Westborough, MA 01581

Dear Hollis,

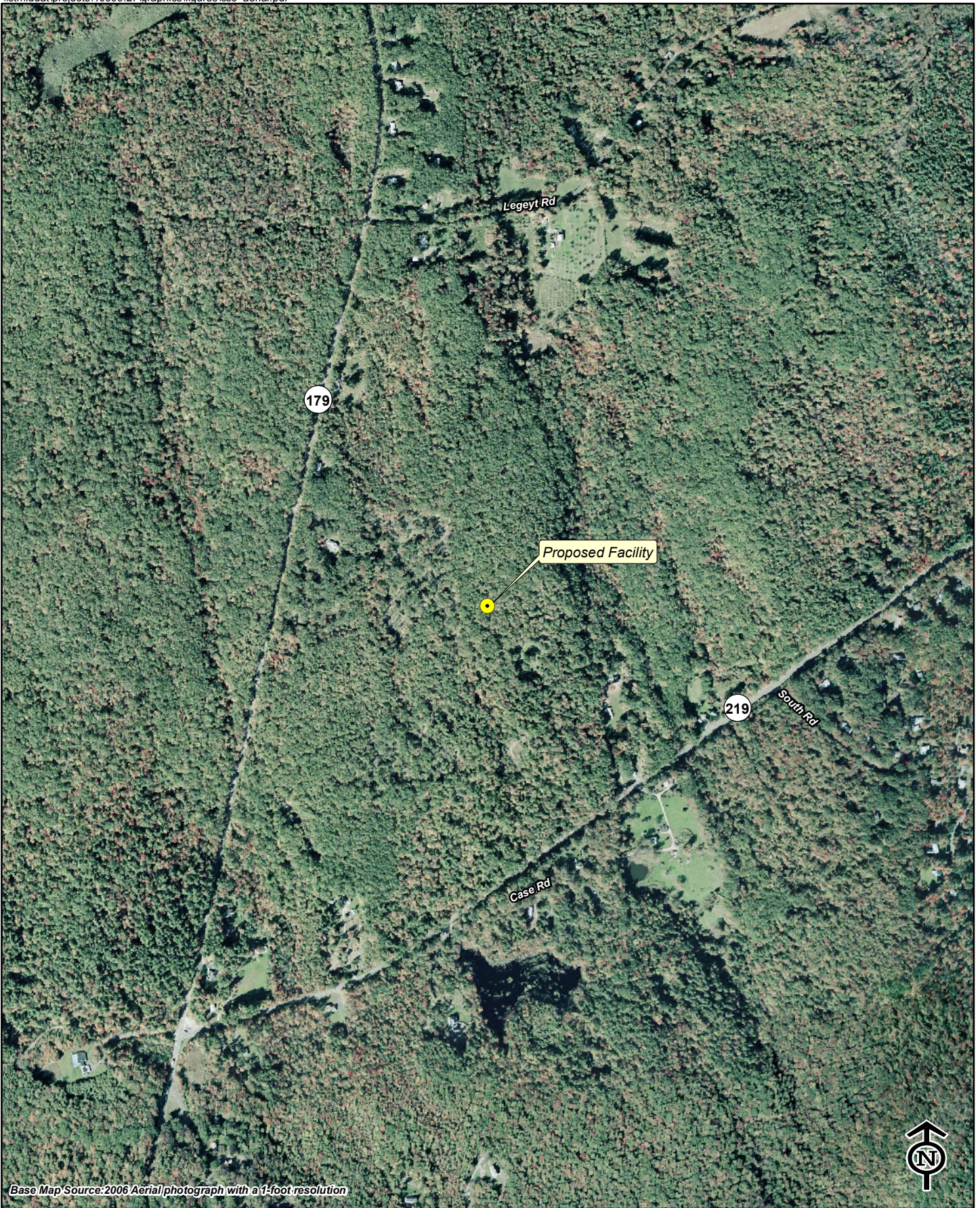
The Barkhamsted Fire District is presently working on a solution to a communications problem. The tower that is proposed by SBA Network Services, Inc. may be a possible solution. We are presently working with Litchfield County Dispatch, Inc. (LCD) on options. LCD provides emergency dispatch service to Barkhamsted and numerous other Litchfield County municipalities. Presently two of our three fire stations do not have clear communications. An antenna on your tower might be one of the solutions. I will keep in touch with you as we proceed forward. Thanks for offering use of your tower.

Sincerely yours;

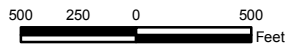
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard Winn".

Richard Winn, President
(860) 738-9254 (Home)
(860) 309-4375 (Cell)
richard.t.winn@snet.net

EXHIBIT 2

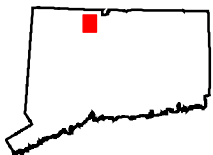


Base Map Source: 2006 Aerial photograph with a 1-foot resolution



Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.

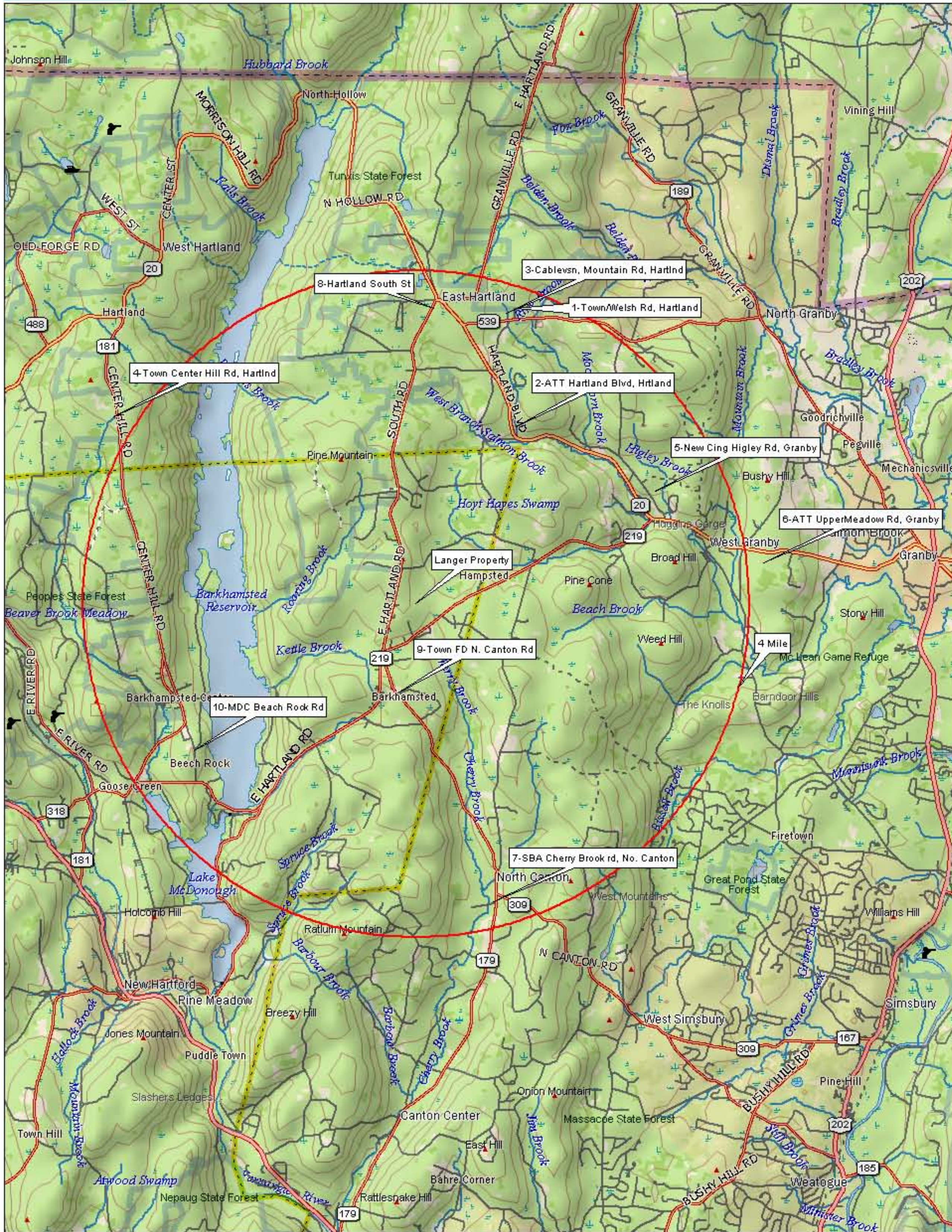
2006 Aerial Photograph
 Proposed SBA Towers II LLC
 Wireless Telecommunications Facility
 Barkhamsted
 44 Gavitt Road
 Barkhamsted, Connecticut



Quadrangle Location



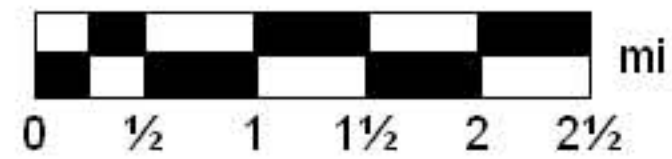
EXHIBIT 3



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