

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950 E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov www.ct.gov/csc

February 3, 2012

TO:

Parties and Intervenors

FROM:

Linda Roberts, Executive Director

RE:

DOCKET NO. 401 - T-Mobile Northeast, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 208 Valley Road, New

Canaan, Connecticut.

By its Decision and Order dated February 2, 2012, the Connecticut Siting Council granted a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 208 Valley Road, New Canaan, Connecticut.

Enclosed are the Council's Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order.

LR/jbw

Enclosures (3)

c: State Documents Librarian





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February 3, 2012

Julie D. Kohler, Esq. Jesse A. Langer, Esq. Cohen and Wolf, P.C. 1115 Broad Street Bridgeport, CT 06604

RE:

DOCKET NO. 401 - T-Mobile Northeast, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 208 Valley Road, New Canaan, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Kohler and Attorney Langer:

By its Decision and Order dated February 2, 2012, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) granted a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (Certificate) for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 208 Valley Road, New Canaan, Connecticut.

Enclosed are the Council's Certificate, Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order.

Very truly yours,

Linda Roberts
Executive Director

LR/jbw

Enclosures (4)





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CERTIFICATE

OF

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED DOCKET NO. 401

Pursuant to General Statutes § 16-50k, as amended, the Connecticut Siting Council hereby issues a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to T-Mobile Northeast, LLC for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 208 Valley Road, New Canaan, Connecticut. This Certificate is issued in accordance with and subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Decision and Order of the Council on February 2, 2012.

By order of the Council,

Colin C. Tait, Vice Chairman

February 2, 2012





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NOTICE

Pursuant to General Statutes § 16-50p (a), the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) announces that, on February 2, 2012, the Council issued Findings of Fact, an Opinion, and a Decision and Order approving an application from T-Mobile Northeast, LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 208 Valley Road, New Canaan, Connecticut. This application record is available for public inspection in the Council's office, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut.



LIST OF PARTIES AND INTERVENORS $\underline{SERVICE\ LIST}$

Status Granted	Document Service	Status Holder (name, address & phone number)	Representative (name, address & phone number)
Applicant	⊠ U.S. Mail	T-Mobile Northeast, LLC	Julie D. Kohler, Esq. Jesse A. Langer, Esq. Cohen and Wolf, P.C. 1115 Broad Street Bridgeport, CT 06604 (203) 368-0211 (203) 394-9901 fax jkohler@cohenandwolf.com jlanger@cohenandwolf.com
Intervenor (granted on 07/1/2010)	⊠ E-mail	Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless	Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esq. Robinson & Cole LLP 280 Trumbull Street Hartford, CT 06103-3597 (860) 275-8200 (860) 275-8299 fax kbaldwin@rc.com
Intervenor (granted on 11/18/2010)	⊠ U.S. Mail	New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC	WITHDRAWN

DOCKET NO. 401 - T-Mobile Northeast LLC application for a	}	Connecticut
Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a	}	Siting
telecommunications facility located at 208 Valley Road, New Canaan, Connecticut.	}	Council
	,	February 2 2012

Findings of Fact

Introduction

- 1. T-Mobile Northeast LLC (T-Mobile), in accordance with provisions of Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) §§ 16-50g through 16-50aa, applied to the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) on April 6, 2010 for the construction, maintenance and operation of a 120-foot wireless telecommunications facility at 208 Valley Road in New Canaan, Connecticut. Refer to Figure 1. (T-Mobile 1, p. 1)
- 2. T-Mobile originally received a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for a 120-foot monopole with internal antennas at the proposed site on October 26, 2004 in Docket No. 243. Order No. 9 in the Council's Decision and Order (D&O) document approving the proposed facility states that the decision shall be void unless the facility is operational "within one year of the effective date of this Decision and Order or within one year after all appeals to this Decision and Order have been resolved." The D&O further states that, if an extension of time is necessary to make the facility operational, the Certificate holder should ask the Council in writing at least 60 days prior to the expiration date. The expiration date lapsed without T-Mobile requesting an extension of time; the Certificate therefore became void. (Council Admin. Notice 23, D&O; T-Mobile 1, p. 2)
- 3. T-Mobile is a limited liability company, organized under the laws of Delaware, with an office in Connecticut. T-Mobile and its affiliated entities are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to construct and operate a personal wireless services system in Connecticut. (T-Mobile 1, p. 3)
- 4. The party in this proceeding is the applicant. Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Cellco) is an intervenor in this proceeding. (Transcript 1, July 13, 2010, 3:00 p.m. [Tr. 1], p. 7; Transcript 2, July 13, 2010, 7:00 p.m. [Tr. 2], pp. 7, 8)
- 5. The purpose of the proposed facility is to provide service to coverage gaps identified by T-Mobile along Valley Road and Silvermine Road, just east of Route 123, as well as the surrounding area. (T-Mobile 1, p. 6)
- 6. Pursuant to CGS § 16-50l (b), public notice of the application was published in <u>The Stamford Advocate</u> on March 24 and March 26, 2010 and in <u>The Norwalk Hour</u> on March 26 and March 29, 2010. (T-Mobile 1, p. 5, Tab F)
- 7. Pursuant to CGS § 16-50m, the Council, after giving due notice thereof, held a public hearing on July 13, 2010, beginning at 3:00 p.m. and continuing at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of New Canaan Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan, Connecticut. (Tr. 1, p. 3; Tr. 2, p. 3)
- 8. The Council and its staff conducted an inspection of the proposed site on July 13, 2010, beginning at 2:00 p.m. The applicant flew a balloon from 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to simulate the height of the proposed tower. Weather conditions during the balloon float were windy and rainy, which made it difficult to keep the balloon at the intended height. (Tr. 1, p. 25)

- 9. On November 2, 2010, T-Mobile submitted a Motion to Reopen the Evidentiary Hearing in this proceeding in accordance with CGS § 4-181a for the limited purpose of: submitting a reconfiguration of the monopole to accommodate three wireless carriers while also providing a more narrow tower structure; and allowing New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) to intervene in this proceeding. (T-Mobile's Motion to reopen hearing, p. 1)
- 10. On November 18, 2010, the Council voted to reopen the evidentiary hearing for this docket and to make AT&T an intervenor in this proceeding. On August 25, 2011, AT&T withdrew its intervenor status in this proceeding. (Minutes of November 18, 2010 Council meeting; Record)
- 11. On December 8, 2011, the Council held a public hearing for the reopened record of this application. The hearing was held at the offices of the Council, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut. (Transcript 3, December 8, 2011, [Tr. 3], p. 3)
- 12. Pursuant to CGS § 16-50l(b), notice of the application was provided to all abutting property owners by certified mail. T-Mobile received return receipts from all adjacent landowners. (T-Mobile 1, p. 5, Tab G; T-Mobile 2, R. 1)
- 13. Pursuant to CGS § 16-50l (b), T-Mobile provided notice to all federal, state and local officials and agencies listed therein. (T-Mobile 1, p. 5, Tab E)

State Agency Comment

- 14. Pursuant to CGS § 16-50j (h), on May 24, 2010, July 14, 2010 and December 12, 2011 the following state agencies were solicited by the Council to submit written comments regarding the proposed facility: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Department of Public Health, Council on Environmental Quality, Public Utility Regulatory Authority, Office of Policy and Management, Department of Economic and Community Development, Department of Agriculture, Department of Transportation; and Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. (Record)
- 15. None of the agencies listed above responded with comment on the application. (Record)

Municipal Consultation

- 16. On January 29, 2010, T-Mobile submitted a technical report regarding the proposed facility to New Canaan's First Selectman, the Honorable Jeb Walker. T-Mobile also submitted a technical report to Wilton's First Selectman, the Honorable William F. Brennan, because the proposed facility is within 2,500 feet of the Wilton town boundary. (T-Mobile 1, pp. 18, 19, Tab R)
- 17. On March 3, 2010, T-Mobile met with First Selectman Walker and Administrative Officer Thomas R. Stradler, regarding the proposed facility. (T-Mobile 1, p. 19)
- 18. In a letter dated March 25, 2010, the First Selectman's Office expressed support for the proposed tower and co-location of other carriers on the structure. The letter also indicated that the town would be interested in installing municipal antennas on the structure. (T-Mobile 2, Attachment A)
- 19. T-Mobile would provide space on the tower for the New Canaan municipal public safety communications antennas, for no compensation. (T-Mobile 1, p. 10)

Public Need for Service

- 20. In 1996, the United States Congress recognized a nationwide need for high quality wireless telecommunications services, including cellular telephone service. Through the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, Congress seeks to promote competition, encourage technical innovations, and foster lower prices for telecommunications services. (Council Admin. Notice 7)
- 21. In issuing cellular licenses, the federal government has preempted the determination of public need for cellular service by the states, and has established design standards to ensure technical integrity and nationwide compatibility among all systems. The FCC licensed T-Mobile to provide personal wireless communication service to Fairfield County, Connecticut. (Council Admin. Notice 7; T-Mobile 1, p. 8)
- 22. The Telecommunications Act of 1996 prohibits local and state entities from discriminating among providers of functionally equivalent services. (Council Admin. Notice 7)
- 23. The Telecommunications Act of 1996, a federal law passed by the United States Congress, prohibits any state or local entity from regulating telecommunications towers on the basis of the environmental effects, which include human health effects, of radio frequency emissions to the extent that such towers and equipment comply with FCC's regulations concerning such emissions. This Act also blocks the Council from prohibiting or acting with the effect of prohibiting the provision of personal wireless service. (Council Admin. Notice 7)
- 24. In 1999, Congress passed the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act (the 911 Act) to facilitate and encourage the prompt deployment of a nationwide, seamless communication infrastructure for emergency services. (T-Mobile 1, p. 7)
- 25. Following the enactment of the 911 Act, the FCC mandated wireless carriers to provide enhanced 911 services (E911) to allow public safety dispatchers to determine a wireless caller's geographical location within several hundred feet. T-Mobile uses Time Difference of Arrival (TDOA) network technology to comply with E911 requirements. The proposed facility would become a component of T-Mobile's and Cellco's E911 network in this part of the state. (T-Mobile 1, p. 7; Cellco 3, R. 5)

Existing and Proposed Wireless Coverage

T-Mobile

- 26. T-Mobile operates a personal communications service network within the 1900 and 2100 MHz frequency signals allocated by the FCC. T-Mobile designs the system for in-vehicle coverage with a minimum signal level threshold of -84 dBm, and in-building coverage with a minimum signal level threshold of -76 dBm. (T-Mobile 1, Tab H, Tab P)
- 27. T-Mobile seeks to provide coverage to Valley Road and Silvermine Road, just east of Route 123, as well as the surrounding area. (T-Mobile 1, p. 6)
- 28. The existing signal strength in the area of the proposed facility ranges from -80 dBm to -110 dBm. (T-Mobile 2, R. 15)
- 29. In the area of the proposed facility, T-Mobile's service has an average dropped call rate of 4.11 percent. (T-Mobile 2, R. 14)

- 30. T-Mobile would install three antennas at the 117-foot level of the revised structure. (T-Mobile 5, R. 22, R. 24; Tr. 3, pp. 20, 21)
- 31. T-Mobile would provide approximately 3.2 square miles of coverage from the proposed tower at a signal strength of -84 dBm. (T-Mobile 2, R. 16)
- 32. At -84 dBm, T-Mobile currently has an approximately 2-mile coverage gap along Valley Road and Silvermine Road, which travels from the northwest to southeast; and an approximately 1.7-mile coverage gap along Route 106 (Silvermine Road and New Canaan Road), which travels from northeast to southwest. Refer to Figure 2. (T-Mobile 2, R. 17)
- 33. The proposed tower would provide T-Mobile with approximately 2.6 miles of coverage along Valley Road and Silvermine Road (northwest to southeast) at -84 dBm, including approximately 1.6 miles of new coverage; and 1.7 miles of coverage along Route 106 (Silvermine Road and New Canaan Road), including approximately 1.4 miles of new coverage. Refer to Figure 3. (T-Mobile 2, R. 18)
- 34. None of the existing facilities within a three-mile radius of the proposed site provides adequate coverage to the target area. Adjacent T-Mobile facilities that would interact with the proposed facility include:

Location	Antenna Height above ground level	Approximate Distance from Site
46 Fenwood Lane, Wilton	122 feet	2.0 miles northeast
39 Locust Ave, New Canaan	46 feet	1.5 miles southwest
95 Country Club Road,	106 feet	1.6 miles northwest
New Canaan		•
187 Danbury Road, Wilton	65 feet	2.9 miles northeast
15 Old Danbury Road, Wilton	96 feet	2.9 miles northeast

(T-Mobile 1, Tab J; T-Mobile 2, R. 20)

35. T-Mobile currently has no additional search rings beyond the proposed site to provide coverage within New Canaan. (Tr. 1, p. 24)

Cellco

- 36. Cellco is licensed to operate in the cellular (850 MHz), long-term evolution (LTE) (700 MHz) and personal communications system (PCS) (1900 MHz) frequency ranges. Cellco designs its system for -85 dBm signal level threshold. (Cellco 2, p. 2; Cellco 3, R. 2)
- 37. Cellco currently has cell sites located at 39 Locust Street in New Canaan, Waveny Park in New Canaan, 173 West Rocks in Norwalk, 50 Danbury Road in Wilton, and 187 Danbury Road in Wilton. The nearby existing facilities do not provide Cellco with adequate coverage to the target area. (Cellco 2, p. 2)
- 38. Cellco would install three dual band dual-pole PCS/cellular antennas at a centerline height of 106 feet agl and three LTE antennas at a centerline height of 96 feet agl on the revised structure. (Cellco 5, R. 1)

- 39. At -85 dBm, Cellco would provide approximately 3.2 square miles of PCS coverage, approximately 6.7 square miles of cellular coverage and approximately 8.1 square miles of LTE coverage. (Cellco 3, R. 3)
- 40. At cellular frequencies, Cellco currently has an approximately 3.5-mile coverage gap along Valley Road and Silvermine Road; and an approximately 3.8-mile coverage gap along Route 106 (Silvermine Road and New Canaan Road). Refer to Figure 4. With the installation of Cellco antennas at the proposed site, an approximately 0.4 mile gap would remain in Cellco's cellular coverage along Valley Road. Refer to Figure 5. (Cellco 2, Tab 1)
- 41. At LTE frequencies, Cellco currently has an approximately 3.1 mile coverage gap along Valley Road and Silvermine Road, and an approximately 3.2 mile coverage gap along Route 106. Refer to Figure 6. With the installation of Cellco antennas at the proposed site, an approximately 0.3 mile gap would remain in Cellco's LTE coverage along Valley Road. Refer to Figure 7. (Cellco 2, Tab 1)
- 42. At PCS frequencies, Cellco currently has an approximately 4.2 mile coverage gap along Valley Road/Silvermine Road, and an approximately 3.8 mile coverage gap along Route 106. Refer to Figure 8. Following the installation of Cellco's PCS antennas at the proposed site, an approximately 2.4 mile coverage gap would remain along Valley Road and an approximately 2-mile coverage gap would remain along Route 106. Refer to Figure 9. (Cellco 2, Tab 1)
- 43. If Cellco were to reduce the height of its antennas to 87 feet agl, its coverage would be significantly reduced from what Cellco has proposed for the target area. (Tr. 1, p. 97)
- 44. Cellco's dropped call rate in the area of the proposed site is 2.59 percent. (Tr. 1, p. 101)

Changes to the Originally Approved Facility of Docket No. 243

- 45. The currently proposed monopole is approximately 26.5 feet north of the previously approved monopole at an elevation approximately 4.5 feet lower. In addition, the tower would be located within a 25-foot by 50-foot equipment compound/lease area rather than the 40-foot by 60-foot compound within the 75-foot by 75-foot lease area that was negotiated for Docket No. 243. (T-Mobile 2, R. 2)
- 46. The utility route would be shorter than originally proposed in Docket No. 243. (T-Mobile 2, R. 2)
- 47. T-Mobile would remove five trees with a diameter of six inches or greater instead of eight, as proposed in Docket No. 243. (T-Mobile 2, R. 2)
- 48. Changes to the proposed facility approved in Docket No. 243 were the result of T-Mobile's consultation with the property owner. (T-Mobile 2, R. 2)

Site Selection

- 49. No existing structures are suitable for co-location in this area of New Canaan. (T-Mobile 1, p. 9)
- 50. The only feasible alternative to the proposed site that T-Mobile found was the water company property, which was the originally proposed site in Docket 243. During those proceedings, the Town of New Canaan and intervenors in the proceeding agreed that the Silver Hill Hospital property was superior to the Water Company property. (T-Mobile 1, p. 9)

51. Microcells, repeaters, distributed antenna systems (DAS) and other transmitting technologies are not practical alternatives to the proposed facility as a means of providing service to the coverage gap in this area. Terrain, topography and tree cover limit coverage provided by these technologies and preclude their use as alternatives. A DAS would not provide adequate coverage to the area due to variable terrain. (T-Mobile 1, p. 8; Tr. 1, pp. 66, 67)

Facility Description

- 52. The proposed site is located on an approximately 42-acre parcel owned by Silver Hill Hospital, Inc., a psychiatric hospital, at 208 Valley Road in New Canaan. The host property actually consists of two smaller parcels (parcel A is 23.26 acres; parcel B is 18.79 acres). The proposed facility would be located in the north-central portion of the Silver Hill Hospital property. (T-Mobile 1, pp. 4, 10, Tab C)
- 53. In the original Docket No. 401 proceeding, the Council was to consider a 120-foot monopole with a diameter of 76 inches at the base tapering to 54 inches at the top. On December 1, 2011, T-Mobile submitted a revised site plan with a narrower diameter monopole for Council consideration. (T-Mobile 7; Cellco 2, p. 3)
- 54. In the revised site plan, T-Mobile would construct a 120-foot monopole painted brown with antennas concealed within the structure. T-Mobile would install panel antennas within the structure at a centerline height of 117 feet agl. Cellco would locate three dual band antennas at each of two levels of antennas within the proposed structure at centerline heights of 106 feet and 96 feet agl. (T-Mobile 1, p. 10, Tab C; T-Mobile 6, p. 2; Cellco 3, R. 1; Tr. 3, p. 10)
- 55. The antennas are proposed to be mounted inside the monopole structure at the request of Silver Hill Hospital. (Tr. 1, p. 32)
- 56. Any municipal whip antennas located on the structure would extend off the top of the proposed structure. (Tr. 1, p. 38)
- 57. The monopole would have a diameter of 62 inches at the base of the structure tapering to a diameter of 40 inches at the top. (T-Mobile 7)
- 58. The diameter of the structure would be determined not only by the size of the antennas, but by the size of the associated coaxial cables. The cables and antennas have to be spaced apart to avoid radiofrequency interference. T-Mobile would install %-inch diameter cable and Cellco would install 15%-inch diameter cable. (Tr. 1, p. 14, 18, 19, 77)
- 59. The Silver Hill Hospital property is zoned two-acre residential. The town allows towers and antennas under town jurisdiction by Special Permit. New Canaan's Zoning Regulations do not address telecommunications facilities that are under Council jurisdiction. (T-Mobile 1, p. 17; Zoning Regulations dated June 16, 2007, p. 141)
- 60. The New Canaan Plan of Conservation and Development identifies a need for enhanced communications, particularly for emergency services. (T-Mobile 1, p. 17)
- 61. The site is on a slope. Construction of the facility would require approximately 375 cubic yards of cut and 10 cubic yards of fill. (T-Mobile 2, R. 11)
- 62. T-Mobile does not anticipate a need for blasting for the construction of the proposed site. (T-Mobile 2, R. 12)

- 63. A 25-foot by 50-foot equipment compound enclosed by an eight-foot brown cedar board fence would be established at the base of the tower. T-Mobile would install equipment and its battery backup system on a 15-foot by 15-foot concrete pad. The battery backup would provide power to T-Mobile's equipment for 12 to 16 hours. The size of T-Mobile's battery backup system is similar to the size of a fuel cell cabinet in order to accommodate potential future replacement by a fuel cell. (T-Mobile 1, p. 10, Tab C; T-Mobile 7; Tr. 1, pp. 42, 65; Tr. 3, pp. 10, 11)
- 64. T-Mobile could use a generator to provide backup power. This would require noise mitigation techniques to be used and the installation of the generator within a separate structure. (Tr. 3, p. 32)
- 65. Cellco would install a 12-foot by 24-foot equipment shelter and diesel emergency backup generator within the equipment compound that would provide backup power to the site for 72 hours. (Cellco 2, p. 3; Cellco 3, R. 6; Tr. 1, pp. 28, 29, 101; Tr. 3, p. 40)
- 66. One generator could be installed at the site to provide backup power for both carriers. (Tr. 3, p. 47)
- 67. The equipment compound would include a retaining wall extending on all sides. The retaining wall would be approximately six feet on the west side of the compound and approximately two feet on the east side of the compound with the north and south sides tapering from west to east. (T-Mobile 7; Tr. 3, pp. 11, 12)
- 68. T-Mobile would install a double row of six to eight foot arborvitae trees along the eastern side of the compound. (T-Mobile 6, p. 2)
- 69. To handle drainage, T-Mobile would construct a swale along the western and northern edges of the compound that would discharge into a new level spreader at the northeast corner. In addition, two level spreaders would be installed on the eastern side of the compound area and one level spreader would be installed adjacent to the existing driveway. Also, a drainage outlet would extend from the mid-point of the eastern side of the compound to the northeast and end at a proposed riprap energy dissipater. (T-Mobile 7)
- 70. The tower setback radius would extend approximately 49 feet onto the property at 270 Valley Road, owned by the First Taxing District of the City of Norwalk. The nearest portion of the proposed compound is approximately 39 feet from the nearest property boundary. The tower would be approximately 71 feet from the nearest property boundary. (T-Mobile 1, Tab C; T-Mobile 2, R. 8)
- 71. T-Mobile could install a yield point in the monopole at approximately 70 feet to allow the structure to remain on the host property in the event of a structure failure. (Tr. 1, p. 56)
- 72. Access to the site would extend from Valley Road, along the existing Silver Hill Hospital driveway. T-Mobile would create a 29-foot by 13-foot parking area along the side of the existing driveway. The site plan includes a 10-foot wide driveway extending 60 feet from the proposed parking area to the site. (T-Mobile 1, p. 11; T-Mobile 2, R. 10; T-Mobile 7)

73. The estimated construction cost of the facility, not including antennas, is:

Tower and foundation (including installation) \$72,000.
Site development 70,000.

Utility installation 45,000.

<u>Total</u> <u>\$187,000.</u>

(T-Mobile 1, p. 20; T-Mobile 5, R. 29)

74. The estimated cost of T-Mobile antennas and associated ground equipment for the proposed facility is between \$55,000 and \$65,000. (T-Mobile 5, R. 29)

Environmental Considerations

- 75. The proposed facility would have no effect upon historic, architectural, or archaeological resources listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. (T-Mobile 1, Tab O)
- 76. T-Mobile consulted with four Native American Indian tribes regarding potential impact of the proposed facility, including Delaware Nation, Mashantucket Pequot Tribe, Narragansett Indian Tribe, and Delaware Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma. With the exception of the Narragansett Indian Tribe, all responded that they do not have interests that would be affected by the proposed facility. The FCC attempted further contact with the Narragansett Indian Tribe and received no response. The FCC concluded that the proposed facility would not affect the interests of the Narragansett Indian Tribe. (T-Mobile 1, p. 16)
- 77. Two federally endangered species (piping plover and roseate tern) and one federally threatened species (bog turtle) are found in Fairfield County. The proposed facility would not be located in habitat for any of these species. (T-Mobile 1, p. 15)
- 78. There are no known state listed endangered, threatened or special concern species within the vicinity of the proposed site. (T-Mobile 1, Tab O)
- 79. The proposed site is in an upland forested area dominated by sugar maple, tuliptree and Eastern hemlock. (T-Mobile 1, Tab K)
- 80. The nearest wetland is approximately 400 feet northeast of the proposed site. (T-Mobile 1, p. 11)
- 81. The nearest public airfield is the Westchester County Airport in White Plains, New York, which is approximately 14 miles southwest of the proposed facility. The nearest private airfield is the Flying Ridge Airstrip in Newtown, Connecticut, which is approximately 16.9 miles northeast of the proposed facility. Obstruction marking and lighting of the tower would not be required. (T-Mobile 1, p. 19; T-Mobile 2, R. 6)
- 82. The cumulative worst-case maximum power density from the radio frequency emissions from the operation of T-Mobile's and Cellco's proposed antennas is 29 percent of the standard for Maximum Permissible Exposure, as adopted by the FCC, at the base of the proposed tower. This calculation was based on methodology prescribed by the FCC Office of Engineering and Technology Bulletin No. 65E, Edition 97-01 (August 1997) that assumes all antennas would be pointed at the base of the tower and all channels would be operating simultaneously, which creates the highest possible power density levels. Under normal operation, the antennas would be oriented outward, directing radio frequency

emissions away from the tower, thus resulting in significantly lower power density levels in areas around the tower. (T-Mobile 1, pp. 14, 15; Tr. 2, pp. 58, 59; T-Mobile 5, R. 28; Cellco 5, R. 4)

Visibility

- 83. The proposed tower would be visible year-round from approximately eight acres within a two-mile radius of the site (refer to Figure 10 of this document). Most of the year-round visibility of the tower would be on the host property and along the nearby portion of Valley Road. There would also be areas of year-round visibility of the tower from the north, northeast and southeast of the facility. The tower would be seasonally visible from an additional 16 acres within a two-mile radius of the site. (T-Mobile 1, Tab N)
- 84. The tower would be visible year-round from approximately four residences, including three along Valley Road and one on Wardwell Drive. Year-round visibility would also extend onto the adjacent Norwalk water treatment facility property. (T-Mobile 1, Tab N)
- 85. The tower would be seasonally visible from approximately one-tenth of a mile along Valley Road, adjacent to the host property; portions of Wardwell drive northwest of the facility; portions of Turning Mill Lane; and along Huckleberry Hill Road. (T-Mobile 1, Tab N)
- 86. The proposed tower would be seasonally visible from eight additional residences, including three along Valley Road, two along Turning Mill Lane, one along Huckleberry Hill Road, one along Thayer Drive and one along Wardwell Drive. (T-Mobile 1, Tab N)
- 87. There are 23 residences within 1,000 feet of the proposed tower. The nearest residence is approximately 290 feet east of the facility at 253 Valley Road, owned by Christopher Starr Jones. (T-Mobile 1, Tab C, Tab L)
- 88. The adjacent property to the north is a City of Norwalk water treatment facility. Land use in the remaining surrounding area is medium-density residential. (T-Mobile 1, Tab N)

89. Visibility of the proposed tower from specific locations within a two-mile radius of the site is shown in the table below (the location numbers correspond with the numbers on the Viewshed Analysis map in Figure 10):

Location	Visible	Approx. Portion of Tower Visible	Approx. Distance and direction from
1 1/11 D 1/ C C'1 TT'11	37	45 C 4 1	Tower
1. Valley Road (across from Silver Hill	Yes	45 feet – above trees	0.23 miles southeast
Hospital admission building)	37	25.6-4 -1 - 4 - 9	0.10
2. Host Property (Silver Hill Hospital)	Yes	35 feet – above trees &	0.19 miles southeast
0.11.11.12.14.19.070	**	35 feet – through trees	0.00 11 11
3. Valley Road (adjacent to #270)	Yes	35 feet – above trees &	0.09 miles north
		15 feet – through trees	
4. Valley Road (adjacent to #225)	No		0.1 miles southeast
5. Valley Road (adjacent to #229)	Yes	45 feet – through trees	0.09 miles southeast
6. Valley Road (adjacent to #229)	Yes	70 feet – above trees	0.07 miles southeast
7. Valley Road (adjacent to #253)	Yes	45 feet – above trees	0.05 miles northeast
8. Valley Road (adjacent to #269)	Yes	40 feet – above trees	0.07 miles northeast
9. Turning Mill Road (at bend)	Yes	20 feet – through trees	0.21 miles northeast
10. End of Turning Mill Road	No	_	0.21 miles northeast
11. Huckleberry Hill Road (adjacent to	Yes	20 feet – through trees	0.36 miles north
#80)		·	
12. End of Wardwell Drive	Yes	10 feet – through trees	0.09 miles west
13. Intersection of Route 106 and Old	No	_	0.55 miles southeast
Kings Highway			
14. Valley Road (adjacent to #58)	No	· -	0.44 miles southeast
15. Devonwood Lane (adjacent to #79)	No	-	0.39 miles southwest
16. Intersection of Huckleberry Hill Road	No	-	0.27 miles northwest
and Valley Road			
17. Thayer Drive (adjacent to #113)	No	-	0.16 miles west
18. End of Parkers Glen	No	<u> </u>	0.2 miles southwest

(T-Mobile 1, Tab N)

- 90. The facility location is within a wooded area, which would cover the majority of the bottom of the tower from nearby receptors. (Tr. 1, pp. 46, 47)
- 91. The site plan includes a narrower monopole than was contemplated in the previous proceeding. The visibility of the structure would not change substantially. The profile would be narrower, which would result in an improvement in near-field views. (Tr. 3, p. 9)
- 92. The equipment compound is designed to eliminate the view of Cellco's equipment shelter from the nearest down-gradient residential structure on the property. (T-Mobile 6, p. 2)

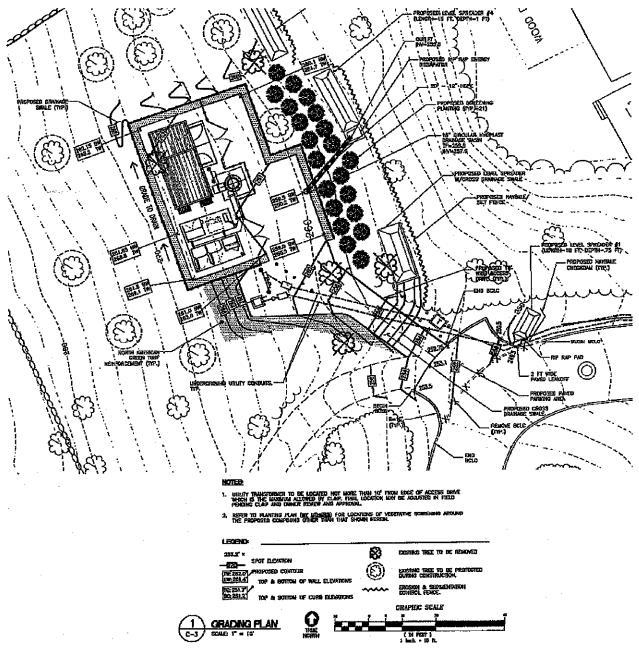


Figure 1. Revised Site plan for the proposed facility at 208 Valley Road in New Canaan. (T-Mobile 7)

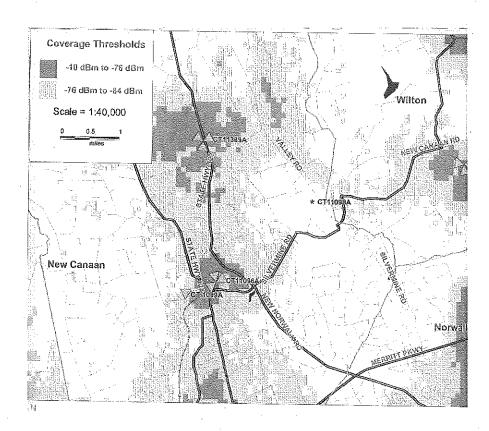


Figure 2. T-Mobile's existing coverage in the area of the proposed site. (T-Mobile 1, Tab H)

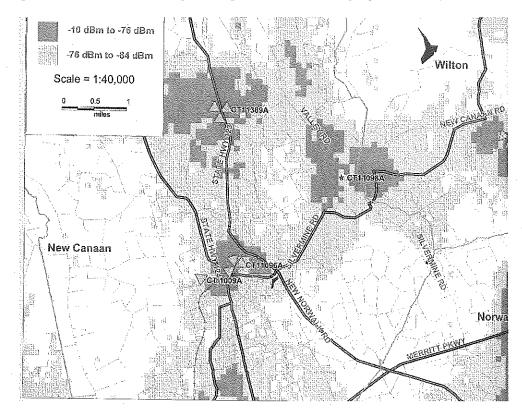


Figure 3. T-Mobile's existing coverage and proposed coverage at 117 feet agl. (T-Mobile 1, Tab H)

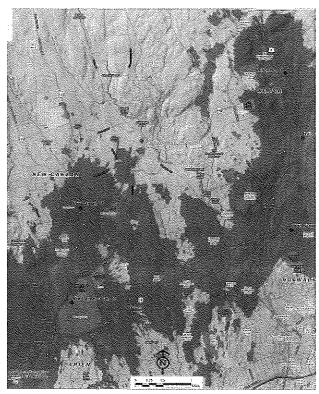


Figure 4. Existing Cellco cellular coverage near the proposed site. (Cellco 2, Tab 1)

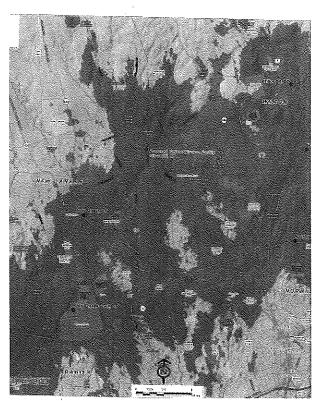


Figure 5. Existing Cellco cellular coverage and coverage from the proposed site. (Cellco 2, Tab 1)

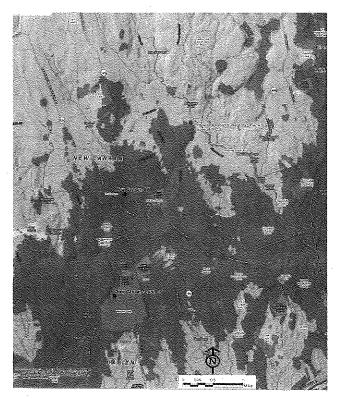


Figure 6. Existing Cellco LTE coverage near the proposed site. (Cellco 2, Tab 1)



Figure 7. Existing Cellco LTE coverage and coverage from the proposed site. (Cellco 2, Tab 1)



Figure 8. Existing Cellco PCS coverage near the proposed site. (Cellco, Tab 1)

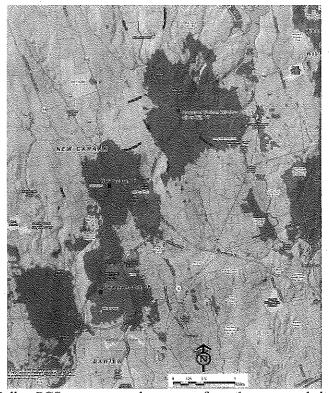


Figure 9. Existing Cellco PCS coverage and coverage from the proposed site. (Cellco 1, Tab 2)

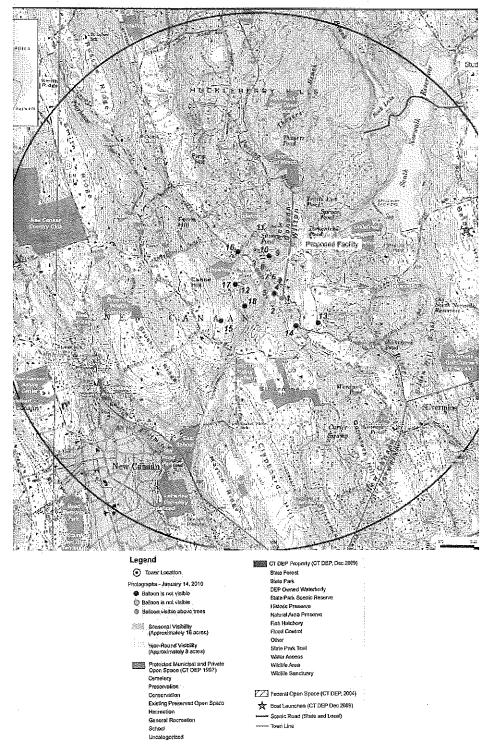


Figure 10. Viewshed analysis of the proposed 120-foot monopole structure. (T-Mobile 1, Tab N)

DOCKET NO. 401 - T-Mobile Northeast LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a Siting telecommunications facility located at 208 Valley Road, New Canaan, Connecticut.

Siting Council

February 2, 2012

Opinion

On April 6, 2010, T-Mobile Northeast LLC (T-Mobile) applied to the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (Certificate) for the construction, maintenance and operation of a wireless telecommunications facility to be located in the Town of New Canaan, Connecticut. T-Mobile is seeking to develop a facility on property owned by Silver Hill Hospital, Inc., a psychiatric hospital, at 208 Valley Road in New Canaan. T-Mobile's objective is to provide coverage to gaps in service along Valley Road and Silvermine Road, just east of Route 123, as well as surrounding areas. Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Cellco) was an intervenor in this proceeding.

T-Mobile had originally received a Certificate for a 120-foot monopole with internal antennas at the same site on October 26, 2004 in Docket No. 243. The Decision and Order (D&O) for Docket No. 243 (Order No. 9) states that the decision shall be void unless the facility is operational "within one year of the effective date of this Decision and Order or within one year after all appeals to this Decision and Order have been resolved." The D&O further states that, if an extension of time is necessary to make the facility operational, the Certificate holder should ask the Council in writing at least 60 days prior to the expiration date. The expiration date lapsed without T-Mobile requesting an extension of time; the Certificate therefore became void.

In the Docket No. 401 proceeding, the Council was to consider a 120-foot monopole with a 76-inch diameter at the base tapering to a 54-inch diameter at the top.

On November 2, 2010, T-Mobile submitted a Motion to Reopen the Evidentiary Hearing in this proceeding for the limited purpose of: submitting a reconfiguration of the monopole to accommodate three wireless carriers while also providing a more narrow tower structure; and allowing New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) to intervene in the proceeding.

On November 18, 2010, the Council voted to reopen the evidentiary hearing for this docket and to make AT&T an intervenor in this proceeding. On August 25, 2011, AT&T withdrew its intervenor status in this proceeding.

T-Mobile now proposes to construct a 120-foot monopole with antennas concealed within the structure with a diameter of 62 inches at its base tapering to a diameter of 40 inches at its top. T-Mobile would locate antennas at the 117-foot level of the structure. Cellco would locate its antennas at the 106-foot and 96-foot levels of the structure.

The facility would be located in the north-central portion of the Silver Hill Hospital property within a 25-foot by 50-foot equipment compound. The equipment compound would be surrounded by a retaining wall and an eight-foot brown cedar board fence.

Access to the site would extend from Valley Road along the existing Silver Hill Hospital driveway. T-Mobile would create a new 29-foot by 13-foot parking area along the side of the existing driveway. A new 10-foot wide driveway would extend from the parking area to the proposed compound.

Docket No. 401 Opinion Page 2

The tower setback radius would extend approximately 49 feet onto the property at 270 Valley Road, owned by the First Taxing District of Norwalk.

The tower would be visible year-round from four residences and seasonally visible from eight additional residences. The facility is within a wooded area and would be painted brown, which would disguise the bottom portion of the tower from nearby visual receptors by allowing it to blend in with its background.

The nearest wetland is approximately 400 feet northeast of the proposed site. Five trees that are six inches or greater in diameter would be removed for the construction of the proposed compound and driveway. The proposed facility would have no effect upon historic, architectural, or archaeological resources listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

There are no known state-listed endangered, threatened or special concern species near the proposed site. There are two federally endangered species (piping plover and roseate tern) and one federally threatened species (bog turtle) found in Fairfield County; however, the proposed site is not located in appropriate habitat for these species.

In Docket No. 243, the Council had previously determined the need for a tower to be constructed at the same proposed site given that the facility has minimal environmental and visual impact. The Council finds that there is still a need for the proposed facility. T-Mobile and Cellco have each demonstrated a coverage gap in this portion of New Canaan, especially along Valley Road and Silvermine Road (Route 106) and surrounding areas. While some nearby residents would have views of the structure, the brown color of the tower and the fact that the antennas would be concealed will lessen the impact to those residents. Also, T-Mobile revised the diameter of the proposed structure to a narrower design. This would not lessen the area from which the proposed tower would be seen but would make the proposed tower less obtrusive to those areas.

According to a methodology prescribed by the FCC Office of Engineering and Technology Bulletin No. 65E, Edition 97-01 (August 1997), the combined worst case radio frequency power density levels of T-Mobile's and Cellco's antennas proposed to be installed on the tower have been calculated to amount to 29 percent of the FCC's Maximum Permissible Exposure, as measured at the base of the tower. This percentage is well below federal and state standards established for the frequencies used by wireless companies. If federal or state standards change, the Council will require that the tower be brought into compliance with such standards. The Council will require that the power densities be recalculated in the event other carriers add antennas to the tower. The Telecommunications Act of 1996 prohibits any state or local agency from regulating telecommunications towers on the basis of the environmental effects of radio frequency emissions to the extent that such towers and equipment comply with FCC's regulations concerning such emissions.

Based on the record in this proceeding, the Council finds that the effects associated with the construction, maintenance and operation of the telecommunications facility at proposed site, including effects on the natural environment; ecological integrity and balance; public health and safety; scenic, historic, and recreational values; forests and parks; air and water purity; and fish and wildlife are not disproportionate either alone or cumulatively with other effects when compared to need, are not in conflict with policies of the State concerning such effects, and are not sufficient reason to deny this application. Therefore, the Council will issue a Certificate for the construction, maintenance and operation of the revised 120-foot monopole telecommunications facility at the proposed site, 208 Valley Road, New Canaan, Connecticut.

DOCKET NO. 401 - T-Mobile Northeast LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 208 Valley Road, New Canaan, Connecticut.

Council

February 2, 2012

Decision and Order

Pursuant to the foregoing Findings of Fact and Opinion, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) finds that the effects associated with the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility, including effects on the natural environment; ecological integrity and balance; public health and safety; scenic, historic, and recreational values; forests and parks; air and water purity; and fish and wildlife are not disproportionate, either alone or cumulatively with other effects, when compared to need, are not in conflict with the policies of the State concerning such effects, and are not sufficient reason to deny the application, and therefore directs that a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need, as provided by General Statutes § 16-50k, be issued to T-Mobile Northeast LLC (T-Mobile), hereinafter referred to as the Certificate Holder, for a telecommunications facility at 208 Valley Road, New Canaan, Connecticut.

Unless otherwise approved by the Council, the facility shall be constructed, operated, and maintained substantially as specified in the Council's record in this matter, and subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The tower shall be constructed as a monopole with concealed antennas, no taller than necessary to provide the proposed telecommunications services, sufficient to accommodate the antennas of T-Mobile, Verizon Wireless and other entities, both public and private, but such tower shall not exceed a height of 120 feet above ground level. The height at the top of the Certificate Holder's antennas shall not exceed 120 feet above ground level.
- 2. The Certificate Holder shall prepare a Development and Management (D&M) Plan for this site in compliance with Sections 16-50j-75 through 16-50j-77 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. The D&M Plan shall be served on the Town of New Canaan for comment, and all parties and intervenors as listed in the service list, and submitted to and approved by the Council prior to the commencement of facility construction and shall include:
 - a) a final site plan(s) of site development to include specifications for the tower, tower foundation, antennas, equipment compound, radio equipment, access road, utility line, and landscaping; and
 - b) construction plans for site clearing, grading, landscaping, water drainage, and erosion and sedimentation controls consistent with the 2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, as amended.
- 3. Prior to the commencement of operation, the Certificate Holder shall provide the Council worst-case modeling of the electromagnetic radio frequency power density of all proposed entities' antennas at the closest point of uncontrolled access to the tower base, consistent with Federal Communications Commission, Office of Engineering and Technology, Bulletin No. 65, August 1997. The Certificate Holder shall ensure a recalculated report of the electromagnetic radio frequency power density be submitted to the Council if and when circumstances in operation cause a change in power density above the levels calculated and provided pursuant to this Decision and Order.

- 4. Upon the establishment of any new state or federal radio frequency standards applicable to frequencies of this facility, the facility granted herein shall be brought into compliance with such standards.
- 5. The Certificate Holder shall permit public or private entities to share space on the proposed tower for fair consideration, or shall provide any requesting entity with specific legal, technical, environmental, or economic reasons precluding such tower sharing.
- 6. The Certificate Holder shall provide reasonable space on the tower for no compensation for any Town of New Canaan public safety services (police, fire and medical services), provided such use can be accommodated and is compatible with the structural integrity of the tower.
- 7. Unless otherwise approved by the Council, if the facility authorized herein is not fully constructed with at least one fully operational wireless telecommunications carrier providing wireless service within eighteen months from the date of the mailing of the Council's Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order (collectively called "Final Decision"), this Decision and Order shall be void, and the Certificate Holder shall dismantle the tower and remove all associated equipment or reapply for any continued or new use to the Council before any such use is made. The time between the filing and resolution of any appeals of the Council's Final Decision shall not be counted in calculating this deadline. Authority to monitor and modify this schedule, as necessary, is delegated to the Executive Director. The Certificate Holder shall provide written notice to the Executive Director of any schedule changes as soon as is practicable.
- 8. Any request for extension of the time period referred to in Condition 7 shall be filed with the Council not later than 60 days prior to the expiration date of this Certificate and shall be served on all parties and intervenors, as listed in the service list, and the Town of New Canaan. Any proposed modifications to this Decision and Order shall likewise be so served.
- 9. If the facility ceases to provide wireless services for a period of one year, this Decision and Order shall be void, and the Certificate Holder shall dismantle the tower and remove all associated equipment or reapply for any continued or new use to the Council before any such use is made.
- 10. Any nonfunctioning antenna, and associated antenna mounting equipment, on this facility shall be removed within 60 days of the date the antenna ceased to function.
- 11. In accordance with Section 16-50j-77 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the Certificate Holder shall provide the Council with written notice two weeks prior to the commencement of site construction activities. In addition, the Certificate Holder shall provide the Council with written notice of the completion of site construction, and the commencement of site operation.
- 12. The Certificate Holder shall remit timely payments associated with annual assessments and invoices submitted by the Council for expenses attributable to the facility under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v.
- 13. This Certificate may be transferred in accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50k(b), provided both the Certificate Holder\transferor and the transferee are current with payments to the Council for their respective annual assessments and invoices under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v. In addition, both the Certificate Holder\transferor and the transferee shall provide the Council a written agreement as to the entity responsible for any quarterly assessment charges under Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-50v(b)(2) that may be associated with this facility.

Docket No. 401 Decision and Order Page 3

- 14. The Certificate Holder shall maintain the facility and associated equipment, including but not limited to, the tower, tower foundation, antennas, equipment compound, radio equipment, access road, utility line and landscaping in a reasonable physical and operational condition that is consistent with this Decision and Order and a Development and Management Plan to be approved by the Council.
- 15. If the Certificate Holder is a wholly-owned subsidiary of a corporation or other entity and is sold/transferred to another corporation or other entity, the Council shall be notified of such sale and/or transfer and of any change in contact information for the individual or representative responsible for management and operations of the Certificate Holder within 30 days of the sale and/or transfer.

Pursuant to General Statutes § 16-50p, the Council hereby directs that a copy of the Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order be served on each person listed below, and notice of issuance shall be published in The Stamford Advocate and The Hour.

By this Decision and Order, the Council disposes of the legal rights, duties, and privileges of each party named or admitted to the proceeding in accordance with Section 16-50j-17 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

The parties and intervenors to this proceeding are:

Applicant

T-Mobile Northeast, LLC

Intervenor

Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless

Its Representative

Julie D. Kohler, Esq. Jesse A. Langer, Esq. Cohen and Wolf, P.C. 1115 Broad Street Bridgeport, CT 06604

Its Representative

Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esq. Robinson & Cole LLP 280 Trumbull Street Hartford, CT 06103-3597

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned members of the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) hereby certify that they have heard this case, or read the record thereof, in **DOCKET NO. 401** - T-Mobile Northeast, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 208 Valley Road, New Canaan, Connecticut, and voted as follows to approve the proposed telecommunications facility located at 208 Valley Road, New Canaan, Connecticut:

Council Members	Vote Cast
	Absent
Robert Stein, Chairman	-
Colin C. Tait, Vice Chairman	Yes
Commissioner Kevin M. DelGobbo	Yes
Designee: Larry P. Levesque	
Bi Holulouster	Yes
Commissioner Dan Esty Designee: Brian Golembiewski	
Designee. Ditail Golembiewski	
Philip T. Ashton	Absent
Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.	Yes
James J. Murphy, Jr	Yes
Barbara Currier Bell Dr. Barbara Currier Bell	Yes
Edward S. Wilensky	Yes

Dated at New Britain, Connecticut, February 2, 2012.



CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950 E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov www.ct.gov/csc

February 3, 2012

TO:

Classified/Legal Supervisor

401100713

The Stamford Advocate (Daily)

75 Tresser Blvd. P.O. Box 9307

Stamford, CT 06904

Classified/Legal Supervisor

401100713

The Norwalk Hour (Daily)

346 Main Street Norwalk, CT 06851

FROM:

Jessica Brito-Weston, Secretary I

RE:

DOCKET NO. 401 - T-Mobile Northeast, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 208 Valley Road, New

Canaan, Connecticut.

Please publish the attached notice as soon as possible, but not on Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday.

Please send an affidavit of publication and invoice to my attention.

Thank you.

JBW



STATE OF CONNECTICUT)
ss. New Britain, Connecticut	:
COUNTY OF HARTFORD)

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order issued by the Connecticut Siting Council, State of Connecticut.

ATTEST:

Linda Roberts
Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council

I certify that a copy of the Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order in Docket No. 401 has been forwarded by Certified First Class Return Receipt Requested mail, on February 3, 2012, to all parties and intervenors of record as listed on the attached service list, dated August 25, 2011.

ATTEST:

Jessica Brito-Weston Secretary I

Connecticut Siting Council