

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

IN RE:

APPLICATION OF HOMELAND TOWERS, LLC
(HOMELAND) AND NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS
PCS, LLC (AT&T) FOR A CERTIFICATE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND
PUBLIC NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION,
MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF A
TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER FACILITY IN
RIDGEFIELD, CONNECTICUT

DOCKET NO. 445

April 17, 2014

**SUPPLEMENTAL SUBMISSION OF
HOMELAND TOWERS AND NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS**

Homeland Towers, LLC (“Homeland”) and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (“AT&T”) (together the “Applicants”), submit the following supplemental information to the State of Connecticut Siting Council in furtherance of the captioned proceeding:

- A. Pre-Filed Statement Of Facts In Lieu Of Direct Testimony, April 17, 2014; and
- B. Titicus Valley Aquifer Assessment prepared by All-Points Technology Corporation, P.C., dated April 15, 2014.

ATTACHMENT A

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WIRELESS PCS, LLC (AT&T) FOR A
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APPLICANTS' PRE-FILED STATEMENT IN LIEU OF DIRECT TESTIMONY

- Town emergency communications networks and all major wireless carriers lack reliable wireless services in northwestern parts of Ridgefield Connecticut (parts of which are known as Ridgebury).
- The lack of service is fundamentally due to the absence of any existing tower infrastructure or adequate structures for wireless facility siting in the northwestern part of the community which has significant changes in terrain elevation.

- Over the course of the past several years, numerous wireless carriers, tower companies and the Town of Ridgefield have explored various siting options in northwestern Ridgefield.
- AT&T's site search efforts in this part of Ridgefield date back six or more years and included direct communications with Town officials beginning in 2008 regarding this search ring.
- The Town of Ridgefield explored its own acquisition of an approximately 28 acre private parcel of land with access from Old Stagecoach Road and above Ledges Road for both conservation purposes and the development of a communications tower facility to be utilized by Town agencies and commercial wireless carriers in serving northwestern Ridgefield in 2010.
- The Town issued a request for proposals ("RFP") for a wireless carrier or tower company to develop the tower facility and enter into a long term lease agreement with the Town and, Homeland Towers, a company that specializes in the development of tower infrastructure needed to serve a community's communications needs and works closely with commercial wireless carriers and public safety agencies, was selected by the Town to partner with it in furtherance of the RFP in 2011.

- Residents in the neighborhood to the north along Old Stagecoach and Aspen Ledges Roads objected to the tower component of the Town's project which included a monopine design and at a Town Meeting in 2011, the project failed to gain a majority of votes (with only approximately 2% of registered voters town wide voting).
- From 2010 through 2013, Homeland investigated various sites including the potential of a 3.18 acre Parcel of undeveloped wooded land abutting which had been in foreclosure and offered for sale as a residential lot and the Parcel was subsequently acquired by Insite, a national wireless infrastructure company that Homeland will sometimes convey its towers to.
- The tower facility is proposed as a 150' monopole structure within a 4,650 square foot fenced compound and would be used by the Town for public safety communications, AT&T and other wireless carriers to serve the public on both sides of a ridge that runs throughout northwestern Ridgefield.
- The Applicants and non-party witnesses from the Town's Radio Communications Taskforce will testify that there is a public need for a tower in this specific area to effectively serve the community including approximately 5,000 residents in the area, 5 public schools (which include

over 1,000 elementary students, 500 middle school students, and 1800 high school students as referenced in publicly available Town of Ridgefield information at www.ridgefield.org) and along numerous miles of state and local roads in northwestern Ridgefield.

- The Applicants and their consultants will testify that there are no other known practical or feasible alternative sites or combinations of tower sites in this area of Ridgefield.
- The Applicants and their consultants will testify that the potential environmental effects from the Facility as proposed in this Application are consistent with or less than those that would be associated with construction of a single family home on the Parcel and that visibility of any tower structure(s) from some of the resources located in the community are unavoidable in meeting the public need for public safety and wireless communications services in this part of Ridgefield.