

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
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

March 25, 2014

Kevin B. Tappe, Acting Fire Chief
Ridgefield Fire Department
6 Catoonah Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877

RE: **DOCKET NO. 445** - Homeland Towers, LLC and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at Ridgefield Town Assessor Map Parcel #D08-124, southwest of the intersection of Old Stagecoach Road and Aspen Ledges Road, Ridgefield, Connecticut.

Dear Mr. Tappe:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of your recent correspondence dated March 20, 2014 concerning the above-referenced application. Thank you for taking the time to provide the Council with your comments.


Before reaching a final decision on an application, the Council carefully considers all of the facts contained in the evidentiary record that is developed by the Council, the applicant, parties and intervenors in the proceeding, and members of the public who speak at the public hearing or submit written statements to the Council.

In the event that the Town of Ridgefield or the Fire Department does not seek formal party or intervenor status under Connecticut General Statutes §16-50n, which provides full participation at the public hearing, including, but not limited to, cross examination of witnesses, parties and intervenors, your comments shall nevertheless become part of the official record in this proceeding in the form of a limited appearance defined under subsection (f) of Connecticut General Statutes §16-50n.

Please note you can view all of the documents related to this proceeding on our website at www.ct.gov/csc under the "Pending Proceedings" link. You may also keep apprised of Council events on the website calendar and agenda.

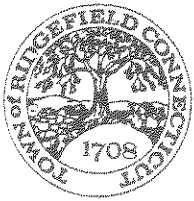
Thank you for your interest and concern in this very important matter.

Very truly yours,


Melanie A. Bachman
Acting Executive Director

MAB/laf

c: Service List, dated March 20, 2014



Town of Ridgefield
FIRE DEPARTMENT

6 Catoonah Street
Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877
Office: 203-431-2726
Fax: 203-431-2562
www.ridgefieldct.org

March 20, 2014

Melanie A. Backman; Acting Executive Director
State of CT Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

RECEIVED
MAR 24 2014
CONNECTICUT
SITING COUNCIL

RE: Siting Council Hearing; Ridgefield, CT; April 24, 2014

Ms. Backman:

On behalf of the Ridgefield Fire Department, I would like to voice our utmost support for the proposed cell tower in northern Ridgefield to be located near Old Stagecoach Road. That area has been devoid of cellular telephone service which has affected us in many ways.

The entire area around Ridgefield High School and Scotts Ridge Middle School is a dead area for cell service. We rely on cell service for EMS treatment protocols. Patient electrocardiograms are sent to Danbury Hospital via cellular modem, we must use a cell phone to contact the physician at the hospital emergency department to request medical orders for certain patients. Whenever we respond to a critically ill patient in that dead cell area, we cannot accomplish either task.

There are many sporting events as well as other school events that take place here. When an emergency occurs, it is almost impossible for someone to dial 911 for assistance. As you know, pay telephones are not available anymore so people rely heavily on cell service for emergency reporting. Many times there are outdoor events at the schools and the school building is locked so there is no access to land line phones. We also staff a fire station on Old Stagecoach Road which is located within the dead cell area. This results in no cell service to the fire station.

In the interest of emergency notification as well as patient treatment, The Ridgefield Fire Department strongly urges the Siting Council to approve the cell tower application.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin B. Tappe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Kevin B. Tappe
Acting Fire Chief