

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

IN RE:	:	
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APPLICATION OF CELLCO PARTNERSHIP	:	DOCKET NO. 446
D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS FOR A	:	
CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL	:	
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR	:	
THE CONSTRUCTION OF A WIRELESS	:	
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY AT 60	:	
COMMERCE DRIVE, TRUMBULL,	:	
CONNECTICUT	:	APRIL 22, 2014

RESPONSES OF CELLCO PARTNERSHIP d/b/a VERIZON WIRELESS  
TO CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL PRE-HEARING QUESTIONS

On March 28, 2014, the Connecticut Siting Council (“Council”) issued Pre-Hearing Questions to Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (“Cellco”), relating to the above-captioned docket. Below are Cellco’s responses. Cellco identifies this facility as its “Trumbull SE 4” cell site.

Question No. 1

Were return receipts received for each abutting landowner identified in the application? If not, list the abutters that did not receive notice and describe any additional effort to serve notice. When was the abutter list compiled?

Response

Yes, all certified mail receipts have been returned. The abutters’ information was compiled from Town of Trumbull Assessor’s records on February 12, 2014. (*See Cellco Application, Tab 4 – Abutting Property Owners List*).

Question No. 2

Is the wooded portion of the Pilot Corporation property immediately north of the proposed tower site designated as the Merritt Industrial Park Greenbelt? If so, what restrictions,

if any, are placed on this land? Are there any public walking trails in the “greenbelt”?

Response

The only reference to the “Merritt Industrial Park Greenbelt” appears on the base map used for Cellco’s coverage plots. The reference was traced back to the CT ECO web site and a 1997 database of Municipal and Private Open Space<sup>1</sup>. There is no reference to this greenbelt area in the title report for the subject parcel, in the Town Assessor’s records or in the Town’s Plan of Conservation and Development. Cellco has not discovered nor is it aware of any use restrictions on the wooded area to the north of the Trumbull SE 4 cell site. There are no maintained or blazed walking trails in this wooded area.

Question No. 3

Estimate the number of residences with year-round and “leaf-off” seasonal views of the proposed tower.

Response

Cellco estimates that up to eight (8) residential properties may have views of at least a portion of the 80-foot tower on a year-round basis. Approximately 30 additional residential properties may have obstructed views of a portion of the tower during “leaf-off” conditions. Field verification activities during the balloon float are restricted to publicly accessible areas. Cellco must, therefore, rely on the computer model to compile a comprehensive list of residential properties that could have seasonal views of the tower. The model also has its limitations because it is designed to answer a very simple “yes-no” question: can at least the top of the tower be seen from any point within a 2-mile radius Study Area, given the intervening topography and vegetation. Theoretically, if one inch of the tower is detected from any given point in the Study

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<sup>1</sup> [http://cteco.uconn.edu/guides/1997\\_Municipal\\_Private\\_Open\\_Space.htm](http://cteco.uconn.edu/guides/1997_Municipal_Private_Open_Space.htm)

Area, it is considered visible, although in real world conditions the tower might not be discernable to the human eye. Therefore, the computer based calculations tend to over-predict visibility. This is a conservative analysis that evaluates potential visibility from a residential property by interpreting if a property falls within shaded areas of potential visibility on the Viewshed Maps presented in Tab 9 of the Application. It does not necessarily mean that views would be achieved from within residential dwellings, exterior decks, porches or patios that might be located on those properties. It may be possible to view the tower from within portions of shaded areas on the Viewshed Maps, but not necessarily from all locations within those shaded areas.

#### Question No. 4

What would be the respective run time for Cellco's diesel generator before it would need to be refueled, assuming it is running at full load?

#### Response

At full load Cellco's Generac SD050 (50 kW) generator, with a 210 gallon fuel tank could run continuously for approximately 49 hours before refueling would be required. As Cellco has stated in numerous prior proceedings, at less than full load, under more "normal" operating conditions, the same generator could run for up to four (4) days before refueling would be required.

#### Question No. 5

Could the proposed generator be shared by other carriers that may locate at the proposed facility? What effect would a shared generator have on the run time of the generator if at full load?

#### Response

It is possible that a properly-sized generator at this site could be shared by two or more

wireless carriers. Generally, larger generators will maintain larger fuel tanks resulting in run times comparable to that of a smaller generator. Prior to filing this application, Cellco contacted representatives for both T-Mobile and AT&T, asking if they had any interest in sharing this proposed tower site. Neither carrier expressed any interest in sharing the Trumbull SE 4 cell site.

Question No. 6

Identify the safety standards and/or codes by which equipment, machinery, or technology would be used or operated at the proposed facility.

Response

Cellco is not aware of any specific manufacturer's safety standards for the equipment, machinery and technology to be installed and used at the Trumbull SE 4 cell site. The facility described in this Application will be designed and constructed in accordance with the appropriate State Building Code requirements and the standards of the Electronic Industries Association.

Question No. 7

What measures are proposed for the site to ensure physical security?

Response

The Trumbull SE 4 cell site compound will be surrounded by an 8-foot chain link fence. The building is a prefabricated structure with steel doors and locks restricting access to Cellco's radio equipment and generator room. The shelter maintains silent intrusion alarms which are monitored remotely at the main switching office in Wallingford.

Question No. 8

What is the signal strength Cellco uses to design its system? Are there different levels for voice and data systems?

Response

Cellco's minimum design threshold signal strength is -85 dBm for in-vehicle service and

-75 dBm for in-building service. These thresholds are the same for Cellco's voice and data services.

Question No. 9

Are all frequencies used to transmit voice and data?

Response

Currently, no. Cellco is utilizing its 850 MHz and 1900 MHz frequencies to transmit CDMA voice services and data services, and its 700 MHz and 2100 MHz frequencies to transmit Long Term Evolution (LTE) data services only. Cellco plans to launch LTE voice services sometime later this year. Initially, Cellco will deploy only 700 MHz and 2100 MHz frequencies at the Trumbull SE 4 cell site.

Question No. 10

Provide an estimate of the residential population within the proposed service area.

Response

According to 2010 Census information, the proposed Trumbull SE 4 cell site will cover a population of 7,631 within its 700 MHz frequencies coverage footprint, 4,267 within its 2100 MHz frequencies coverage footprint, 4,898 within its 850 MHz frequencies coverage footprint, and 4,592 within its 1900 MHz frequencies coverage footprint.