

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

December 12, 2014

TO:

Parties & Intervenors

FROM:

Melanie Bachman, Acting Executive Director

RE:

DOCKET NO. 451 – 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 the Cheshire Wastewater Treatment Plant, Cheshire Tax Assessor Map 38, Lot 180, 1325 Cheshire Street, Cheshire,

Connecticut.

During a meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) held on December 11, 2014, the Council voted to deny the Motion to Reopen the Evidentiary Record received on December 1, 2014, from Mr. Fred Kudish.

MB/cm

c: Fred Kudish, Hickory Hill Orchards



Docket 451: Cheshire Motion to Reopen Staff Report December 11, 2014

The Council has received a Motion to Reopen Docket 451 in order to explore the possibility of locating the cell tower being proposed next to the town's water pollution control plant off of Cheshire Street on property located at 351 South Meriden Road instead. The motion has been submitted by Fred Kudish, the owner of the South Meriden Road property which is also known as Hickory Hill Orchards. Intervenors Jennifer Arcesi and Gary Wassmer have requested that the Council grant this motion.

The property at 351 South Meriden Road was previously proposed as a cell tower site in Docket 231, in which it was the preferred location of two properties included in the application. On this property, the applicant, Tower Ventures, proposed building a 180-foot tower at either of two proffered locations. Hickory Hill Orchards is located approximately 1.9 miles south of the Cheshire Street site being considered in Docket 451 (see map on following page).

Docket 231 generated considerable opposition to the tower proposed on the South Meriden Road property. In addition to nearby residents, the town's Planning and Zoning Commission also expressed its opposition in a letter in which it stated:

- 1. The area chosen is very important to the Town. Not only is it a beautiful, rural piece of land immediately adjoining the Town Center, but the orchards are what gave Apple Valley its name. These considerations should weigh heavily against any benefit the tower provides.
- 2. We, therefore, oppose construction unless the applicant can show the tower is essential to provide adequate (i.e. 70%) coverage to the area via any means (i.e. digital, PCS, analog, etc.) and that the applicant be required to demonstrate the need for 6 carriers on this tower.

This docket (231) was eventually withdrawn when the applicant reached an agreement with the town to replace the tower at the Police Department, which currently hosts five carriers in addition to town antennas. A tower on the South Meriden Road property would be approximately 1.1 miles from the Police Department tower.

