



Transcript of the Hearing of

Date: February 3, 2015

Volume: I

Case: SITING COUNCIL - DOCKET NO. 454

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Phone: 866-534-3383

Fax: 877-534-3383

Email: info@unitedreporters.com

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Docket No. 454

Tower Holdings, LLC, Application for a
Certificate of Environmental Compatibility
and Public Need for the Construction,
Maintenance, and Operation of a
Telecommunications Facility Located at
Farmington Tax Assessor Parcel ID Maps 25 and
26, Lots 3A and 3B, 199 Brickyard Road,
Farmington, Connecticut

Council Meeting held at the Farmington
Town Hall, Council Chambers, 1 Monteith
Drive, Farmington, Connecticut, Tuesday,
February 3, 2015, beginning at 3 p.m.

H e l d B e f o r e :

ROBERT STEIN, Chairman

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1 A p p e a r a n c e s:
2 Council Members:
3 SENATOR JAMES J. MURPHY, JR.,
4 Vice Chairman
5 COMM. MICHAEL CARON,
6 PURA Designee
7 PHILIP T. ASHTON
8 DR. MICHAEL W. KLEMENS
9 DR. BARBARA C. BELL
10
11 Council Staff:
12 MELANIE BACHMAN, ESQ.,
13 Executive Director and
14 Staff Attorney
15 ROBERT MERCIER
16 Siting Analyst
17
18 For Tower Holdings, LLC:
19 UPDIKE, KELLY & SPELLACY, P.C.
20 265 Church Street
21 New Haven, Connecticut 06510
22 By: JESSE A. LANGER, ESQ.
23
24
25

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1 A p p e a r a n c e s (Cont'd):
2 For New Cingular Wireless, PCS, LLC, and
3 Message Center Management, Inc.:
4 CUDDY & FEDER, LLP
5 445 Hamilton Avenue, 14th floor
6 White Plains, New York 10601
7 By: LUCIA CHIOCCHIO, ESQ.
8
9 For the Town of Farmington:
10 HALLORAN & SAGE
11 225 Asylum Street
12 Hartford, Connecticut 06103
13 By: DUNCAN F. FORSYTH, ESQ.
14
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1 THE CHAIRMAN: Good afternoon,
2 ladies and gentlemen. I'd like to call to
3 order this meeting of the Connecticut Siting
4 Council for Docket 454, today, Tuesday,
5 February 3, 2015, at approximately 3 p.m.
6 My name is Robin Stein. I'm
7 Chairman of the Connecticut Siting Council.
8 Other members of the Council present are
9 Senator Murphy, our Vice Chairman;
10 Commissioner Caron, designee from the Public
11 Utilities Regulatory Authority; Mr. Ashton;
12 Dr. Klemens; and Dr. Bell.
13 Members of the staff present
14 are our attorney and Executive Director
15 Melanie Bachman and Robert Mercier, our
16 Siting Analyst.
17 This hearing is held pursuant
18 to the provisions of Title 16 of the
19 Connecticut General Statutes and of the
20 Uniform Administrative Procedure Act upon an
21 application from Tower Holding, LLC, for a
22 certificate of environmental compatibility
23 and public need for the construction,
24 maintenance and operation of a
25 telecommunication facility located at 199

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1 Brickyard Road in Farmington, Connecticut.
2 The application was received
3 by the Council on November 7, 2014, and
4 deemed complete by the Council on
5 November 12, 2014.
6 As a reminder to all,
7 off-the-record communication with a member of
8 the Council or a member of the Council staff
9 upon the merits of the application is
10 prohibited by law.
11 The parties and intervenors
12 are as follows: The applicant, Tower
13 Holding, LLC, Attorney Langer, intervenor;
14 New Cingular wireless PCS, LLC, Attorney
15 Chiocchio; and the party is the Town of
16 Farmington, and there are a number of
17 attorneys: Attorney Slater, Forsyth and
18 McKeon.
19 We'll proceed with -- in
20 accordance with the prepared agenda, copies
21 of which are available here. Also available
22 are copies of the Citizens Guide to Siting
23 Council Procedure. They're over there on my
24 left.
25 At the end of this afternoon's

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p> <p>1 session, we will recess and resume again at 2 7 p.m. The 7 p.m. hearing session will be 3 reserved for the public to make brief oral 4 statements into the record. And I wish to 5 note that parties and intervenors, including 6 their representatives and witnesses, are not 7 allowed to participate in the public comment 8 session. 9 I also wish to note for those 10 who are here and for the benefit of your 11 friends and neighbors who are unable to join 12 us for the public comment session, that you 13 or they may send written statements to the 14 Council within 30 days of the date hereof, 15 and such written statements will be given the 16 same weight as if spoken at the hearing. 17 If necessary, party and 18 intervenor presentations may continue after 19 the public comment session if time remains. 20 A verbatim transcript will be made of this 21 hearing and deposited with the Town Clerk's 22 Office in Farmington for the convenience of 23 the public. 24 Is there any public official 25 who would like to make a statement at this</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p> <p>1 and seeing none, they are made part of the 2 record. 3 Now, I'll ask Attorney Langer, 4 if you would prepare your witness, Counsel, 5 for the purposes of taking the oath. 6 Introduce, please. 7 MR. LANGER: Absolutely. 8 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 9 To my immediate right is 10 Stephen Savino, Jr., who is the manager of 11 Tower Holdings and the President of Northeast 12 Towers, Inc. To my far right is Mr. Chuck 13 Regulbuto, who is the director of business 14 development for Energy Site Solutions, LLC. 15 To my immediate left is Ernest 16 R. Jones, president and founder of 17 Consolidated Engineering, Incorporated. 18 Next -- next to him, to his left, is Michael 19 Libertine, who is the director of siting and 20 permitting for All-Points Technology 21 Corporation. And to his left is Robert C. 22 Burns, a professional civil engineer, 23 All-Points Technology. 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Please rise to 25 take the oath.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p> <p>1 time? 2 (No response.) 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. 4 There is a request from the 5 applicant, dated January 30th of this year, 6 for the Council to take administrative notice 7 of Siting Council Docket Number 391. 8 Does any party or intervenor 9 have an objection to the Council taking 10 administrative notice of Docket 391? 11 (No response.) 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing and 13 seeing none, we'll make that part of our 14 record. 15 I wish to call your attention 16 to those items shown on the hearing program 17 marked as Roman numerals ID, items 1 through 18 59. 19 Does the applicant or any 20 party intervenor have an objection to the 21 items that the Council has administratively 22 noticed? 23 MR. LANGER: None by the 24 applicant. 25 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Hearing</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p>1 CHUCK REGULBUTO, 2 STEPHEN SAVINO, JR., 3 ERNEST R. JONES, 4 MICHAEL P. LIBERTINE, 5 ROBERT C. BURNS, 6 called as witnesses, being first duly 7 sworn by Ms. Bachman, were examined and 8 testified on their oaths as follows: 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Would you 10 please continue by numbering the exhibits of 11 the files and making requests of the 12 administrative notice. 13 MR. LANGER: Yes. Thank you. 14 At this time, I'd like to 15 offer nine exhibits for identification so 16 that they may be verified by the witness 17 panel. These items are referenced in the 18 agenda as II-B, 1 through 9. 19 And, at this time, I'll ask 20 that -- Mr. Savino, did you prepare or 21 supervise in the preparation of Exhibits 1, 2 22 and 3, 5, 6 and 7? 23 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes. 24 MR. LANGER: Do you have any 25 additions, clarifications or modifications to</p>

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1 make to any of the Exhibits 1 through 3 and 5
2 through 7?
3 THE WITNESS (Savino): No.
4 MR. LANGER: Okay. Are the
5 exhibits true and accurate to the best of
6 your knowledge?
7 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.
8 MR. LANGER: Okay. And do you
9 adopt the information contained in Exhibits 1
10 through 3 and 5 through 7 as your testimony
11 here today?
12 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.
13 MR. LANGER: Okay.
14 Mr. Regulbuto, did you prepare
15 or supervise in the preparation of Exhibits 1
16 through 7 and 8A?
17 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto): Yes,
18 I did.
19 MR. LANGER: Do you have any
20 additions, clarifications or modifications to
21 make to Exhibits 1 through 7 and 8A -- or 8A?
22 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto): No,
23 I don't.
24 MR. LANGER: Okay.
25 Are those exhibits true and

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1 accurate, to the best of your knowledge?
2 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto): Yes,
3 they are.
4 MR. LANGER: Okay.
5 And do you adopt the
6 information contained in Exhibits 1 through 7
7 and 8A as your testimony here today?
8 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto): Yes,
9 I do.
10 MR. LANGER: Okay.
11 Mr. Jones, did you prepare or
12 supervise in the preparation of Exhibits 1,
13 3, 6, 8D and 9?
14 THE WITNESS (Jones): Yes.
15 MR. LANGER: Do you -- do you
16 have any additions, clarifications or
17 modifications to make to those exhibits?
18 THE WITNESS (Jones): No.
19 MR. LANGER: Are they true and
20 accurate, to the best of your knowledge?
21 THE WITNESS (Jones): Yes.
22 MR. LANGER: And do you adopt
23 the information contained in those exhibits
24 as your testimony here today?
25 THE WITNESS (Jones): I do.

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1 MR. LANGER: Okay.
2 Mr. Libertine, did you prepare
3 or supervise in the preparation of Exhibits
4 1, 3, 6 and 7 and 8B?
5 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes.
6 MR. LANGER: Do you have any
7 additions, clarifications or modifications to
8 make to those exhibits?
9 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I
10 have no changes at this time.
11 MR. LANGER: Are the exhibits
12 true and accurate, to the best of your
13 knowledge?
14 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes.
15 MR. LANGER: And do you adopt
16 the information contained in those exhibits
17 as your testimony here today?
18 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I
19 do.
20 MR. LANGER: Thank you.
21 Mr. Burns, did you prepare or
22 supervise in the preparation of Exhibits 1,
23 3, 6, 7 and 8C?
24 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes.
25 MR. LANGER: Okay.

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1 Do you have additions,
2 clarifications or modifications to make to
3 any of those exhibits?
4 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes.
5 Item 3, Applicant's response to Council
6 interrogatories, dated January 5th, response
7 Number 11 should read that there are four
8 residences within a thousand feet and not
9 ten.
10 MR. LANGER: And with that
11 correction, are the exhibits true and
12 accurate, to the best of your knowledge?
13 THE WITNESS (Burns): They
14 are.
15 MR. LANGER: And do you adopt
16 the information contained in those exhibits
17 as your testimony here today.
18 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes.
19 MR. LANGER: Okay.
20 And with that, I invite the --
21 the Council to cross-examine. Thank you.
22 MR. ASHTON: Mr. Chairman, I
23 have a question on several of the exhibits.
24 On the -- Exhibit 1, I believe
25 it is in the application, behind Tab 1, there

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1 are a variety of drawings, A1, topo survey,
2 SB1, et cetera. The scale on there is not
3 correct as has been printed. The -- the
4 drawings have been reduced down to the
5 printed size. The scales, I think, are not
6 therefore correct.
7 Mr. Burns might like to
8 clarify what they have here.
9 THE WITNESS (Burns): That is
10 correct. The scales on there are for full
11 size drawings, and the graphic scales were
12 not put on there.
13 MR. ASHTON: And do you know
14 what the graphic -- what the scales would be
15 on these reduced drawings?
16 THE WITNESS (Burns): Since
17 these are 11-by-17, approximately half of
18 what's shown.
19 MR. ASHTON: Can I suggest
20 from you a late-file listing what the scales
21 are?
22 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes,
23 sir.
24 MR. LANGER: We'd be happy to
25 do so.

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1 THE CHAIRMAN: Does the party
2 or intervenor have any objection to the
3 admission of the exhibits?
4 (No response.)
5 THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing and
6 seeing none, the exhibits are admitted.
7 (Exhibits II-B-1 through
8 II-B-9: Received in evidence - described in
9 index.)
10 THE CHAIRMAN: We now begin
11 with cross-examination starting with staff,
12 Mr. Mercier.
13 CROSS-EXAMINATION
14 MR. MERCIER: Thank you. I'd
15 like to just begin with some of the items
16 that were discussed at the field review
17 today. Could you please describe the
18 security measures that were discussed at the
19 field review, the security for the facility?
20 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.
21 In -- in addition to the compound being
22 fenced in, which -- a 6-foot chain link with
23 a powered operating gate that is key
24 operated, the compound itself, 60-by-60, is
25 going to be 8-foot tall chain-link fence with

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1 two 12-foot opening gates, one basically
2 northeast and the other one would be north,
3 kind of northwest, I suppose.
4 Is that correct?
5 THE WITNESS (Burns): The
6 gates are on the north and the west side.
7 THE WITNESS (Savino): Okay.
8 In addition to that, there are security
9 cameras that are in operation 24-7-365.
10 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Thank
11 you.
12 Would the fence have barbed
13 wire on top of it, or is that not going to
14 feature barbed wire, the compound fence that
15 is?
16 THE WITNESS (Savino): We
17 weren't going to put barbed wire up there.
18 We didn't have any intention of doing that.
19 THE WITNESS (Burns): The
20 fence is supposed be 8-foot high anti-climb
21 chain-link fence.
22 MR. MERCIER: Thank you.
23 THE WITNESS (Burns): About --
24 about a three-quarter inch mesh, I believe.
25 I think it's one quarter.

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1 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I
2 think it's one quarter.
3 MR. ASHTON: Thank you. I
4 didn't recognize the technical term.
5 MR. MERCIER: If you could
6 please describe the types of training
7 Northeast Towers intends to conduct at this
8 site once it's constructed?
9 THE WITNESS (Savino): There's
10 going to be many types of training. First
11 and foremost, what we'd like to accomplish is
12 the use of gin poles and outriggers as to
13 raise steel and/or antennas in the air,
14 dismantle antennas, tower sections, also to
15 be able to raise antenna sector frames over
16 and above existing ones.
17 First and foremost is safety,
18 so we -- we need to show the men all the
19 procedures. They need to be side by side in
20 the air working alongside of our trainers and
21 our safety inspector. Any aspect of raising
22 any object in the air, setting it, and the
23 removal of.
24 MR. MERCIER: Okay.
25 So you'll be, as you said,

1 raising antennas or tower sections to
2 simulate the construction of -- of such
3 equipment?
4 THE WITNESS (Savino): Correct.
5 MR. MERCIER: Is that raised
6 through mechanical means or is that manually,
7 through pulleys and things of that nature?
8 THE WITNESS (Savino): It's
9 mechanical means. It would be with the
10 assistance of powered winches that are
11 hydraulic powered. There's a series of
12 rigging components that go into the fold,
13 such as, blocks that need to be set low,
14 cabling going up to either another block, if
15 we're just going to raise something and not
16 have to go over the top. If we're going to
17 cantilever, we need to have a fixture of some
18 type, whether it's gin pole, a pole, as to
19 gain additional heights, that would all be
20 via mechanical.
21 MR. MERCIER: As you're
22 discussing the gin pole, is there -- is there
23 one specific gin pole you're going to be
24 using on this -- this tower, or are you going
25 to use different lengths?

1 THE WITNESS (Savino): We
2 would use different lengths. We would use
3 different sizes. We would have limitations
4 as to how large of a gin pole we could
5 possibly put on it due to the size of the
6 tower itself.
7 We have very large gin poles
8 that would only go on extremely tall towers,
9 as you see on Rattlesnake Mountain. The
10 poles we'd use on this structure would
11 probably be anywhere from a -- a 4-inch
12 diameter pole, which, typically, they're
13 approximately 20 feet tall, to a gin pole
14 being probably 18-inch square by
15 approximately 80 feet tall. Now, when I say
16 "80 feet tall," we're cantilevered 30 feet
17 above the top of the structure.
18 MR. MERCIER: Okay.
19 So the 80-foot tall gin pole
20 would only extend 30 feet above the very top?
21 THE WITNESS (Savino): That's
22 correct.
23 MR. MERCIER: Okay.
24 And how long would that
25 extension stay up for? Is that a day

1 operation or --
2 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.
3 Depending upon what we were doing, if -- if
4 we were just going through a training segment
5 just with the fixture being the gin pole
6 itself, we would just go through these
7 procedures in a -- in a single day. They
8 would be back down on the ground within the
9 same day.
10 MR. MERCIER: How would the --
11 how does the 80-foot gin pole work if AT&T is
12 located at 140 feet as proposed on the tower?
13 Does it extend through their antenna rack?
14 THE WITNESS (Savino): We
15 would -- we would purposely orientate the
16 tower, whereas their sectors would be looking
17 directly off the center axis of the tower.
18 This would maximize the amount of space we
19 have between each tower leg.
20 So we would have, quote, an
21 open window as to run the gin pole up and
22 through the sectors. And there would be no
23 interference whatsoever to the operation of
24 AT&T, or anyone that had sector antennas at
25 any given location.

1 MR. MERCIER: I'll just go
2 back to the -- the height. I believe the
3 total height would be 210 feet if the -- if
4 30 foot -- if the 80-foot gin pole was used.
5 Is that correct? It's a 180-foot tower, and
6 it would extend 30 feet above?
7 THE WITNESS (Savino): No.
8 MR. MERCIER: No? I missed
9 that.
10 THE WITNESS (Savino): No.
11 No. It -- we would need to stay below the
12 threshold of the FAA, so it would be below
13 200 feet. And if we have 180 feet of
14 structure, we have an 80-foot gin pole, we're
15 only going to go up 16 to 18 feet.
16 MR. MERCIER: Okay. I
17 missed -- I missed that.
18 Well, just looking at the FAA
19 determination, Applicant Exhibit 4, was your
20 filing limited to 180 feet above ground
21 level?
22 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto): Yes,
23 it is.
24 MR. MERCIER: So are you
25 allowed to exceed that?

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1 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto): We
2 would have to refile if we do.
3 MR. MERCIER: If the AT&T
4 array does not interfere with the use of the
5 gin pole, why do you need the extra 80 feet
6 above AT&T's array -- excuse me -- 40 feet?
7 THE WITNESS (Savino): Forty
8 additional feet.
9 MR. MERCIER: Yes.
10 THE WITNESS (Savino): Just to
11 create as a real-world situation as we
12 possibly can. Most of the structures we work
13 on, 80 percent are lattice being either
14 self-supporting and/or guide towers. This
15 way, we could get above that. We could take
16 sections down, put them up. We can set
17 antennas, remove them. We can go through the
18 procedures that we would do on a daily basis.
19 MR. MERCIER: I mean, would --
20 would 30 feet be acceptable? I'm not seeing
21 why -- any reason for the 40 feet, I suppose.
22 But based on the gin pole, it can just go
23 right through the array?
24 THE WITNESS (Savino): I'm
25 sorry?

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1 MR. MERCIER: Right now,
2 you're asking for 40 feet of extra tower
3 space for training purposes?
4 THE WITNESS (Savino): Correct.
5 MR. MERCIER: I'm trying to
6 understand why you say 30 feet would not be
7 acceptable?
8 THE WITNESS (Savino): It
9 wouldn't be optimum, but we could work with
10 it.
11 (Pause.)
12 MR. MERCIER: If a carrier --
13 excuse me. I'm sorry.
14 The tower is designed for four
15 carriers, one at 110, 120, 130 and 140.
16 THE WITNESS (Savino): Correct.
17 MR. MERCIER: With platform
18 mount antennas.
19 If -- if they -- a
20 telecommunications carrier came in and wanted
21 150, could they be accommodated with this
22 particular facility?
23 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes,
24 they could.
25 MR. MERCIER: Or even higher,

Page 24

1 say 160?
2 THE WITNESS (Savino): They
3 can go right up to 175. If we were at 180,
4 they could go 175.
5 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Thank
6 you.
7 I just have a couple questions
8 on the visibility analysis that was in the
9 application, Attachment 11. Just looking at
10 the -- the last page of the analysis, there's
11 a large aerial map -- second to the last
12 page -- excuse me.
13 And up in the -- up in the
14 corner it shows a -- enlargement of the site
15 with a thousand-foot radius designation. I'm
16 just looking at the -- the hashmark where the
17 tower is -- is indicated on the aerial photo.
18 Is that in the correct location?
19 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
20 It's -- it's not. It's just a
21 representation of the general site area. But
22 if we were to be accurate, we would probably
23 want to move that -- well, certainly to the
24 east probably by about two of the sizes of
25 that icon that's being used. It's really in

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1 the eastern portion of the yard that's
2 actually centered over the building right
3 now. That's just a representation of the
4 general site area.
5 MR. MERCIER: Was this
6 1,000-foot radius designation, shown here in
7 the enlargement, was that used to generate
8 the number of residences within a thousand
9 feet?
10 THE WITNESS (Libertine): No,
11 it was not.
12 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Thank
13 you.
14 Now I'm just going to turn to
15 photo simulations Number 16 and 18.
16 I'm looking at the photo key.
17 I see these were taken in relatively close
18 proximity to each other on Basswood Road?
19 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes.
20 MR. MERCIER: Now, are these
21 two photographs typical of the views from
22 this section of Basswood Road?
23 THE WITNESS (Libertine): They
24 are meant to be representative of the views
25 that I would say are from that general area,

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1 but as you can see, there's kind of a -- a
2 rise up to that road. So I would say they
3 are -- they are fairly representative from
4 that immediate area, yes.

5 MR. MERCIER: Okay.

6 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I'd
7 also point out just for everyone's --
8 hopefully to help out. When we did the
9 initial work here, that balloon is actually
10 at 200 feet. And that's why you'll see, if
11 you flip the page to where we show the
12 simulation, it looks like it's below the full
13 height of the balloon, and that's why. It's
14 at 180. The tower is simulated top height of
15 180, but we flew the balloon that time at
16 200.

17 MR. MERCIER: Now, just
18 looking at the photo log map that's at the
19 beginning of your attachment, it just shows
20 the numerous small parcels between Photos 16
21 and 18. So I just want to clarify if --
22 if -- there's probably about eight parcels
23 on -- on the east side of Basswood Road,
24 between photos 16 and 18, according to your
25 photo log map.

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1 depending upon each of those homes' settings
2 and what's intervening and some of the
3 landscaping or -- well, they're not
4 landscaping trees anymore. They're fairly
5 mature trees. But -- but it is a mix.

6 Essentially, for the most part
7 in that entire area, it's primarily seasonal
8 visibility. There are some areas where you
9 will see it above the trees, and that's
10 what's represented in those two shots.

11 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Thank
12 you.

13 Could you just please describe
14 the balloon fly that occurred at the field
15 review today?

16 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
17 Certainly. As requested by
18 the Council, we've had a 4-foot diameter
19 balloon, red helium-filled balloon, tethered
20 to 180 feet at the proposed center point of
21 the tower. And winds this morning were
22 actually fairly calm. It did pick up a
23 little bit today as we got into the middle of
24 the day and by the time the field event
25 occurred.

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1 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
2 Uh-huh. Yes.

3 MR. MERCIER: Would those,
4 I'll say, eight parcels have similar views of
5 the tower above the tree?

6 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
7 It's -- it changes somewhat
8 because there are some fairly large trees in
9 that neighborhood. What we tried to do was
10 to frame each end of the road. And really
11 the -- Photo 16 was really at the -- the
12 intersection of the -- the adjacent road.
13 It's going to vary just because of the
14 intervening trees that are there.

15 MR. MERCIER: But do you
16 believe all of those or a majority of those
17 eight residences would have year-round views?

18 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I
19 would say the majority of those folks -- ahh,
20 it's hard to say. Going up and down that
21 road, depending on your orientation, I'd say
22 it's a mix because it does tend to drop out
23 and you -- you do get views through the trees
24 this time of year throughout that -- that
25 whole roadway. But it does vary, again,

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1 It's still not too bad. We
2 had fairly low winds, probably in the 5- to
3 7-mile-an-hour area, so maybe some gusts up
4 to about ten. We'll keep the balloon up
5 until ten o'clock so -- excuse me -- four
6 o'clock this afternoon. And it's overall
7 visibility has been great today. It's been
8 relatively calm, so it's been a fairly
9 successful day for the balloon float.

10 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Thank
11 you.

12 THE WITNESS (Libertine): We
13 also -- excuse me -- we also did flag the
14 140-foot location above ground level there,
15 as well, just to give the Council a feel for
16 the differential between that 40 feet.

17 MR. MERCIER: Thank you.
18 I have no other questions at
19 this time.

20 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
21 We'll now continue with
22 cross-examination by members of the Council,
23 our Vice Chairman Senator Murphy.

24 SEN. MURPHY: Thank you.
25 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 (Pages 26 to 29)

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1 First off, kind of a
2 housekeeping thing. The owner of this
3 property is Farmington Realty, LLC, and who
4 have leased to AT&T's parent company. And
5 then, in your filing, you have an amendment
6 to an agreement which is between the
7 applicant and the carrier. It alludes to an
8 assignment from the titleholder to the
9 applicant, but I don't see anything in the
10 file.
11 Is there any reason why it
12 didn't get filed?
13 MR. LANGER: No. If -- if
14 you'd like that to be included --
15 SEN. MURPHY: I think it
16 should be in there to show that there really
17 is an interest of the -- I assume there is.
18 I assume that these LLCs are all, you know,
19 different interests at different times, and
20 what have you. But I think, technically, we
21 should -- we should have it also.
22 MR. LANGER: I -- I thought
23 that the assignment was included in the
24 application.
25 SEN. MURPHY: I -- it wasn't

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1 in mine.
2 MR. LANGER: Okay.
3 SEN. MURPHY: And I checked
4 with our executive director and counsel, and
5 she said --
6 MR. LANGER: Okay.
7 SEN. MURPHY: -- no. So a
8 late-file, if that could be done?
9 MR. LANGER: Sure. I'm happy
10 to oblige.
11 SEN. MURPHY: And that's --
12 that's apparently dated 9/13/13, from what's
13 alluded to in -- in the subject of the
14 document.
15 This training that's to take
16 place, it's labeled as being seasonal. Why?
17 Do they train better when the leaves are on?
18 THE WITNESS (Savino): It --
19 it is easier when it's warmer. Yes, indeed,
20 we work through the winter, but it's -- it's
21 much more conducive to -- to go out there in
22 a -- in a warmer environment with -- with
23 less wind.
24 SEN. MURPHY: Okay.
25 THE WITNESS (Savino): And

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1 also, as -- as a courtesy to the surrounding
2 areas, we want to keep as minimum amount of
3 impact going on through leaf -- leaf-off time
4 periods.
5 SEN. MURPHY: In that regard
6 then, having heard you say that, the Siting
7 Council looks favorably upon this
8 application. I assume you got no objection
9 to the training periods being limited under
10 the terms of the decision and in an order
11 that we might issue?
12 THE WITNESS (Savino):
13 Absolutely.
14 SEN. MURPHY: Okay.
15 THE CHAIRMAN: Was that
16 absolutely that would have no problem or
17 absolutely you --
18 THE WITNESS (Savino): I would
19 have no problem.
20 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
21 SEN. MURPHY: Also, the file
22 indicates that presentations were made to the
23 public here in Farmington, at the Town's
24 request, twice, on 4/15, and July 15th of
25 last year. What was the turnout and the

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1 reaction of those in attendance?
2 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto): I'm
3 trying to -- I'm trying to remember both --
4 both dates. I know that we had a rather
5 smaller crowd from the --
6 SEN. MURPHY: On the first or
7 the second?
8 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto): On
9 both of them. Both of them. It was a little
10 large --
11 SEN. MURPHY: More crowd --
12 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto): --
13 it was a little larger in the second one, and
14 also when the town officials were here on --
15 at both -- both bearings. I'd have to say
16 there was about six to -- six to eight people
17 in the first one and maybe about 10 to 12 in
18 the second one, as -- asked some very
19 pertinent questions, and it actually went
20 fairly well.
21 SEN. MURPHY: Okay.
22 I think that's all I have at
23 this point, Mr. Chairman.
24 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
25 Dr. Klemens.

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1 DR. KLEMENS: Thank you,
2 Mr. Chairman.
3 If you were constructing this
4 tower as a training facility, what permits
5 would you need; that is, if you were not
6 collocating with a wireless carrier, if you
7 were just building a training facility, how
8 would you go about that?
9 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto): That
10 application would have to be submitted in
11 front of the -- the Town of Farmington, and I
12 believe it's a special permit application.
13 DR. KLEMENS: So, in a way, we
14 are -- because we are -- because our
15 jurisdiction supersedes the Town of
16 Farmington, by coming to us with this
17 application, you're avoiding having to go
18 through the Town of Farmington's special
19 permit process?
20 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto): Yes,
21 as it is with the Siting Council procedures.
22 DR. KLEMENS: Oh.
23 THE WITNESS (Savino): No.
24 DR. KLEMENS: No or yes?
25 THE WITNESS (Savino): No.

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1 We're -- we're not bypassing. The -- the
2 idea of a training tower and AT&T came
3 together at the same time. I did come to the
4 Town and talk to them about an idea of
5 creating a training tower and wanted to know
6 the procedure. It was a courtesy to the
7 Town.
8 As I was working my way to get
9 everything in place to put this together, we
10 heard, because we're in the industry, that
11 AT&T was in need of coverage in this
12 immediate area. And yes, indeed, we
13 investigated and we put the two together.
14 DR. KLEMENS: So the fact that
15 AT&T wants coverage on this tower gives you
16 the entry to come before the Council with
17 this?
18 THE WITNESS (Savino): Well, I
19 do understand we have to do that.
20 DR. KLEMENS: Yeah.
21 Looking at the site today, you
22 said you searched for different areas. But I
23 mean that was the only area that you really
24 could do this, was the property, your
25 headquarters property. So, in fact, the

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1 whole idea of you were searching for other
2 places is, kind of, not correct, would you
3 say?
4 THE WITNESS (Savino): No.
5 I -- I wasn't searching for other properties.
6 DR. KLEMENS: AT&T was.
7 THE WITNESS (Savino): AT&T
8 was.
9 DR. KLEMENS: Oh, I'm sorry.
10 I withdraw that.
11 THE WITNESS (Savino): I
12 didn't search for any other.
13 DR. KLEMENS: So this has
14 always been your own -- your site to do this
15 training?
16 THE WITNESS (Savino): That's
17 correct.
18 DR. KLEMENS: So, as I read
19 the application, you first -- you determined
20 the need for a training facility, and then
21 you found a carrier, AT&T, to locate onto it
22 to satisfy the CSC process, because we don't
23 permit training towers.
24 THE WITNESS (Savino):
25 Correct.

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1 DR. KLEMENS: We permit
2 telecommunications towers.
3 What did the Town of
4 Farmington tell you about the training tower?
5 Were they in -- were they okay with it?
6 THE WITNESS (Savino): We
7 didn't get in depth as far as details, at
8 that point.
9 DR. KLEMENS: Okay.
10 Now, we've discussed that the
11 training element adds 40 feet to the tower.
12 And in reading Mr. Jones' testimony, he said
13 a minimum of 40 feet, but actually you could
14 use more.
15 And I guess my question is:
16 Can this -- could this tower be extended
17 under the new tower provisions of extending?
18 Could it be extended 20 feet without a
19 hearing?
20 A VOICE: Nineteen feet.
21 DR. KLEMENS: Nineteen feet.
22 Can I ask -- can I ask that question?
23 THE CHAIRMAN: Well, you can
24 ask them the question.
25 DR. KLEMENS: Yes.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: I don't know if
2 they have an answer. I don't --
3 DR. KLEMENS: Okay. Well, I'm
4 looking at you to see if I was stepping where
5 I shouldn't be stepping. That's why I was
6 looking at our counsel.
7 Could this be extended just
8 another 20 feet, 19 feet?
9 THE WITNESS (Savino): I
10 don't -- I don't know that.
11 MR. LANGER: I'd be happy to
12 look into the procedures that were mentioned,
13 and then we could provide a response but --
14 SEN. MURPHY: Is -- is the
15 base initially, if it's approved, going to be
16 made in such a way that you can go higher
17 than 180?
18 THE WITNESS (Savino): That's
19 correct.
20 SEN. MURPHY: I am correct
21 that your going to make the base strong
22 enough to go higher in height?
23 THE WITNESS (Savino): Strong
24 enough to go to 180 feet.
25 SEN. MURPHY: That's the

1 answer, I think.
2 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.
3 It wouldn't be designed to go any further
4 than that, though.
5 SEN. MURPHY: Further than
6 what?
7 THE WITNESS (Savino): Than
8 180.
9 SEN. MURPHY: Well, then your
10 answer is different.
11 My -- my question is: If
12 you're approved for 180, will the initial
13 construction of this tower have a base, from
14 the very start, that would permit the tower
15 to go up higher than 180 strengthwise? Will
16 you --
17 THE WITNESS (Savino): No.
18 SEN. MURPHY: No.
19 Because a number of -- a
20 number of the towers that we hear, they
21 designed the base to take more than they're
22 asking for, so that if they go up they don't
23 have to tinker with the base. So -- so my
24 question to you is --
25 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes, I

1 understand.
2 SEN. MURPHY: -- are you
3 planning now or would you have to tinker with
4 the base if you're on the --
5 THE WITNESS (Savino): We
6 would have to redesign.
7 SEN. MURPHY: Okay. Thank
8 you.
9 DR. KLEMENS: You -- you state
10 that the training element requires a lattice
11 as opposed to a monopole?
12 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes, it
13 does.
14 DR. KLEMENS: Okay.
15 And you also state that the
16 lattice is no more visually intrusive than a
17 monopole, yet from the way I look at it, it
18 certainly looks more visually intrusive.
19 THE WITNESS (Libertine): We
20 might be going down a road of people's, I
21 guess, own opinions. I think, from a safety
22 factor, first and foremost, my experience,
23 over the last 20-plus years, has been that it
24 is typically safer to work on lattice towers
25 than it is on monopoles.

1 DR. KLEMENS: I'm not debating
2 that. I'm talking about the visual.
3 THE WITNESS (Libertine): From
4 a visibility standpoint, there are pros and
5 cons to either style. Again, my experience
6 is that, in some atmospheric conditions, the
7 use of the lattice tower makes for a less
8 intrusive profile on the horizon. On other
9 days that probably doesn't work as much. It
10 depends on the sky and the conditions.
11 This is a relatively narrow
12 lattice tower, certainly the -- the upper
13 portions of it. So my feeling is, when you
14 balance everything out, that it's a fairly
15 good compromise, from that standpoint. But
16 again, I think it comes down to personal
17 opinion on -- on the esthetics, certainly.
18 DR. KLEMENS: Thank you.
19 Where will these trainees come
20 from? What is the catchment that you are
21 serving?
22 I understand reading
23 Mr. Jones' testimony there's only one other
24 training facility, I think, is that correct,
25 in the -- in the country?

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1 THE WITNESS (Jones): Yes.
2 Yes. Right now for gin poles.
3 DR. KLEMENS: For gin poles.
4 So could we expect a lot of
5 people from all over the country to be coming
6 here for training?
7 THE WITNESS (Jones): I -- I
8 think it's probably more of a local area type
9 of condition. The rest of the industry is
10 just going to have to work these things out
11 in regards to using existing towers. And
12 there will be a few new training towers put
13 up for this.
14 DR. KLEMENS: Thank you.
15 The next question I have,
16 there is a -- the Department of Public Health
17 said that you were on the Unionville Aquifer.
18 Your mapping said you weren't. And you said
19 if you were, then you would use a propane
20 generator. Have you figured out if you're
21 not or are? And in any case, why don't you
22 just use the propane generator?
23 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I'll
24 leave the propane generator for the second
25 half of the question.

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1 I have been trying to get in
2 touch with DPH. The publicly available
3 mapping that we have researched clearly shows
4 us outside the limits of the aquifer
5 protection area. But I was hoping to have
6 confirmation for you from someone in the
7 department. I have just not been able to get
8 a call back.
9 THE CHAIRMAN: So if you can't
10 get confirmation or agreement from the
11 department, you are going to use a propane
12 generator?
13 THE WITNESS (Libertine): My
14 understanding is that they're certainly open
15 to that. And since we're so close, it
16 probably makes sense, in this case, to err on
17 the side of caution.
18 DR. KLEMENS: Okay. Thank
19 you.
20 Mr. Libertine, I've got some
21 questions about your -- your maps, your
22 visual analysis maps.
23 And maybe this is my own
24 ignorance of -- of this -- of the process.
25 I'll find it.

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1 Your -- your maps and the
2 visibility analysis, they confuse me because
3 sites 16, 18, 21, 4 and 3 have yellow dots
4 indicating year-round visibility, and yet,
5 they're embedded in a crosshatch matrix
6 showing seasonal visibility. And likewise,
7 Number 6 is a dot for seasonal visibility and
8 it's embedded in a yellow crosshatch. Can
9 you explain that to me?
10 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
11 Certainly. What we try to do
12 is we're do -- we're using a couple of
13 different techniques. The first is the
14 computer modeling. And the computer modeling
15 really gives us a yes or no answer to the
16 basic question, either can you see,
17 potentially, the facility from any of these
18 locations unobstructed, or is it something
19 you can see with obstructions, through the
20 obstructions, or can -- or is it just not
21 visible.
22 So we have these general areas
23 of either seasonal, which are shown in
24 orange, and year round where it's an
25 unobstructed view or is above the trees, the

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1 tree canopy. And a similar answer that I
2 gave to Mr. Mercier earlier, we often have
3 areas where the predominant characteristic of
4 the visibility may be seasonal, but there
5 certainly are areas where you may be able to
6 see that year round. And that really is
7 what's going on in these -- these specific
8 areas that you point out.
9 At these scales, what we do
10 try to do is those dots that are representing
11 the photo locations, I try to use that as a
12 little bit larger area than just where I'm
13 standing. So we're showing -- trying to give
14 the idea that, yes, you know, there are some
15 areas where you're going to have those, what
16 I'll call "unobstructed views," even though
17 the predominant characteristic in that
18 particular neighborhood is going to be a
19 seasonal view through the trees when the
20 leaves are off. So that's what's going on
21 with these -- this, the mapping.
22 DR. KLEMENS: Okay. So
23 they're really two different concepts. One
24 of them is basically where you actually
25 take -- it's a spot, a dot on a map or a

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1 spot. The other one is what you consider to
2 be the predominate nature of that view.
3 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
4 Correct. And one of the
5 reasons I do try to take several of the
6 photos at -- at two different ends of the
7 street are to give that characteristic for
8 you folks to understand better, and also to
9 show that, clearly, it's -- it's very
10 difficult on this scale of a map to show
11 every single location, but again, we're
12 trying to give you a good representation of
13 what's going on in any given area.
14 DR. KLEMENS: Thank you.
15 On page 7, the leaf-on
16 conditions are from April to September. And
17 couldn't May through October be -- more
18 accurately reflect leaf off/on conditions in
19 the central Connecticut lowland?
20 On page seven.
21 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Of
22 the actual executive summary?
23 DR. KLEMENS: Yes. And you
24 talk about the training being done on leaf-on
25 conditions from April through September. All

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1 right. Certainly --
2 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I --
3 I would agree with your statement.
4 DR. KLEMENS: -- May through
5 October makes more sense for that --
6 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
7 Absolutely, yes.
8 DR. KLEMENS: Okay.
9 And the last -- my last
10 question is: On the coverage maps, on all of
11 the coverage maps, I see that Brickyard Road
12 has been changed to Harris Road. And it's my
13 understanding that it's Brickyard Road until
14 the Avon town line and then it's Harris Road.
15 Is that correct?
16 THE WITNESS (Libertine): That
17 is correct. Excuse me. That is correct.
18 I'm not sure anyone here is responsible
19 necessarily for the coverage maps, but that's
20 probably just a layer, a road layer, that's
21 on the mapping software.
22 But you are correct. It does
23 change at the town line.
24 DR. KLEMENS: Thank you.
25 I have no further questions,

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1 Mr. Chairman.
2 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
3 Dr. Bell.
4 DR. BELL: Thank you,
5 Mr. Chair.
6 Mr. Libertine, you flew the
7 balloon -- balloon that -- on the date that
8 is represented in the visual mapping at
9 200 feet as opposed to 180. So my question
10 is: Why did you do that?
11 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
12 Well, this goes back a couple
13 of years when there were first initial
14 discussions about the facility. And at that
15 time, there was no clear direction as to the
16 maximum height that might be used.
17 Mr. Savino has, from day one,
18 at least since I've been involved here, has
19 expressed an interest that if he could have
20 199 feet, that would be really ideal for his
21 training facility. We also realized that
22 there was potential carrier interest at that
23 time, but no -- at that time, nobody had
24 really pinned it down.
25 So, essentially, what we

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1 wanted to do was go out there and see what
2 would be, kind of, the worst-case scenario,
3 for lack of a better term, so that's why we
4 flew it at 200, recognizing that it was not
5 likely going to be at that height ultimately.
6 DR. BELL: Okay. Thank you.
7 I don't know exactly who to
8 ask about the three other commercial
9 organizations that are going to be -- going
10 to be on the tower. But my question is: We
11 don't have any idea, right, of the height
12 that they actually need?
13 We know what heights they want
14 to go on or will go -- would go on if the
15 tower were permitted, but we don't have any
16 notion at all about their flexibility.
17 They're not a party to this matter.
18 How -- who -- how would we
19 know what they would or wouldn't agree to if
20 we were to try and work out, say, a lower
21 height for the tower?
22 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto): The
23 heights that the three parties you're
24 speaking about were the ones that were given
25 to me. And if there's a change in height, we

1 have to go back and talk to them and see if
2 it was still viable for them so -- at this
3 point.
4 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Dr.
5 Bell, are you talking about the three
6 commercial carriers in addition to AT&T, as
7 opposed to some of the other broadcasting
8 folks that are proposed for this tower today?
9 Because we do have some appurtenances at the
10 160 and 170.
11 DR. BELL: Yeah. No, I'm not
12 talking about them. They've -- they've sent
13 us letters -- or two of them have sent us
14 letters. I'm talking about Dunning, Marcus,
15 and the WBMW?
16 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto):
17 Dunning is currently located
18 at 175 -- or it was proposed to be located at
19 175.
20 DR. BELL: Right. I
21 understand that.
22 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto):
23 Okay.
24 DR. BELL: But here -- we have
25 AT&T, who has coverage maps, and we can ask

1 them questions. They're sitting here at the
2 table in their usual --
3 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto):
4 Right.
5 DR. BELL: -- way -- or
6 they're not right here at the table -- but we
7 can ask them questions.
8 But I'm at a loss as to any
9 flexibility of those other carriers. Would
10 they just go off if -- if, say, we were to
11 take Mr. Savino's offer of 30 feet, so now we
12 have 170-foot tower, would these other
13 patrons of the tower just go -- the -- the
14 175 foot, would he just leave?
15 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto):
16 Again, I'm not an RF engineer, so I really
17 don't want to speak for their RF engineering
18 departments. I would have to go back to them
19 and ask them if that -- if that height -- the
20 new proposed change height would be prudent
21 to their network.
22 So I -- I can't answer that
23 right at this point in time. I would go back
24 and talk to them about that.
25 DR. BELL: Okay. Maybe I --

1 you know, we really -- we don't know whether
2 we're going to go down that road or not.
3 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto):
4 Right.
5 DR. BELL: I'm just trying to
6 figure out what would -- who would negotiate
7 with them, and you're saying you would.
8 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto):
9 Yeah, myself and -- and Steve Savino.
10 DR. BELL: Yeah. Okay.
11 So -- and asking about the
12 training, the company provides no training
13 for its workers now, or they train at the one
14 site that Mr. Jones says is available? Or
15 they train where?
16 THE WITNESS (Savino): We do
17 train at our property on our small lamp
18 tower, and that's just for competent climbing
19 certification. As far as training any type
20 of rigging procedures, it's on-the-job
21 training.
22 It's -- when we have a project
23 it happens then, so it's -- it's very
24 difficult. We have to bring new people out,
25 at that point in time, and go through the

1 necessary safety steps and procedures to try
2 to train them while we're trying to
3 accomplish a project for a client in a timely
4 fashion. And that's the way it's been in the
5 industry for many, many years.
6 THE WITNESS (Jones): Yeah. I
7 might interject a little.
8 I've been involved with the
9 standards committees since the mid nineties,
10 and have seen the evolution of the gin pole
11 engineering, required gin pole charts and the
12 training that is now required today. And it
13 has been evolving over this last 20 years.
14 In -- a few years ago, and --
15 and largely because of the fatalities that
16 occurred in the industry over the years -- in
17 the mid nineties, it started to jump up due
18 to the digital build out for the -- for the
19 telephones, and has continued.
20 Since 2003, there's been, I
21 think, 128 fatalities in the industry.
22 That's about -- about a dozen a year, 10 to
23 12 a year. And that's been -- it stayed
24 consistent. And about half of those have
25 been involved with a lifting device of some

1 kind, a lifting pole, a gin pole, a block on
2 a tower, et cetera.

3 So the industry, OSHA and
4 others in the industry, have become more --
5 are requiring contractors, like Northeast
6 Tower, to provide training for their
7 individuals and documented training. In the
8 past, in the years -- and the gin pole has
9 been used since the early fifties, and before
10 in particular, and for the most part, it's
11 been on-the-job training that they've learned
12 how to use these. That's not perceived to be
13 adequate enough anymore.

14 And in just the first of 2014,
15 the NATE's training document came out. And
16 that document now requires classroom
17 training, can be some online training, but
18 in-the-field training in a specific way.
19 That can sort of be done on the job, but it
20 can better be done in a training -- more of a
21 training environment.

22 So since January of 2014, a
23 new requirement has come on the industry,
24 that users of gin poles need to have
25 documented in-the-field training. So that's

1 sponsored by NATE about two years ago and
2 that's -- from that summit came out this NATE
3 Training Manual, or guidelines for training,
4 this particular document, and in -- in
5 conjunction with the standards that -- that
6 are out there.

7 So this is kind of a new
8 thing. And it's better done in a training
9 environment with a specific training program,
10 with the proper kind of eyes and expertise
11 looking over these employees that are
12 learning how to use this, rather than the
13 past, oh, hey, we just figure-it-out-as-we-go
14 type situation, which could be how a lot of
15 the on-the-job training has occurred.

16 And in the last year and a
17 half, there have been three gin pole
18 accidents that have ended up with fatalities,
19 for one reason or the other. So that's kind
20 of the -- the background behind why it's
21 necessary and why it would be better to have
22 a tower, let alone a tower right on a
23 contractor facility where the gin poles and
24 the hoist and the things like that are -- are
25 sitting and readily available.

1 why, in the near future here, we're going to
2 see more requests. It's difficult for
3 contractors to get out and to use other
4 people's towers to just do training. There's
5 liabilities issues with that. There's
6 questions that are raised with that, et
7 cetera. So we're going to see some -- some
8 training facilities pop up all over the
9 country here with this new requirement.

10 Now, the -- the organization
11 that I'm talking about is NATE, National
12 Association of Tower Erectors, in particular.
13 A -- a few years ago, about two years ago, I
14 had a concern for doing gin pole charts and
15 engineering gin poles for gin pole users,
16 that I was quite aware that we had some new,
17 some more sophisticated standards for them to
18 follow. And just to give a company a gin
19 pole chart without knowing whether or not
20 they understood what's behind those standards
21 that we wrote, I had a concern with that.

22 So I went to NATE, and I said,
23 "Look, we need an organization to come out
24 and say what is adequate training for the
25 industry." And we put together a summit

1 DR. BELL: Now, the -- the
2 other tower that's available for training
3 that you mentioned, that's 120 feet tall.
4 Correct?

5 THE WITNESS (Jones): Yes.
6 There's a tower in the Midwest -- there's a
7 tower in the Midwest with a company that --
8 that I worked with that had -- that actually
9 developed -- we really developed engineering
10 for gin poles, so that's why that particular
11 facility has a tower. Because in the late
12 nineties and early 2000s, we tested gin poles
13 on them. We broke them.

14 We put gin poles up, and we
15 pulled on them until they broke. And we
16 checked our calculations and see if we
17 were -- if they were in line. So that
18 facility has one. But it -- it's not a
19 facility that's -- they don't go out and
20 train people out there. So they don't have
21 programs to where other companies can
22 actually come in and use it. So even it's a
23 little bit restrictive.

24 DR. BELL: So -- but,
25 presumably, it's 120 feet. You could use a

1 120-foot pole?
2 THE WITNESS (Jones): You --
3 it's not as -- as desirable. It -- it could
4 be used. Yes, one could train on 120 feet
5 versus 140 feet. The reason we'd like -- I
6 know -- I know Steve's group, Northeast
7 Tower, would like 40 feet over the top sector
8 antennas, is we would like some straight
9 tower to stick this straight gin pole on.
10 And we only want to put 20 or 30 feet of this
11 gin pole over the top. We don't want to go
12 over the, actually, that 199-foot limit. But
13 we want a little gin pole to go to the top.
14 If we have a, for example, a
15 60-foot tall gin pole and we put 24 -- or
16 20 feet over the top, then we need 40 foot of
17 straight -- we would like 40 foot of straight
18 tower to stick it on.
19 So we would like about -- we'd
20 like more than 40 feet, to be frank, but
21 40 feet is, kind of, a relatively ideal
22 straight section over the AT&T cell sector.
23 So we lift the gin pole through the cell
24 sector and stick it on the -- the straight
25 tower section that's relatively open above.

1 Is that a reasonable
2 expectation, Steve?
3 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes, it
4 is.
5 THE WITNESS (Jones): Does
6 that help why we're asking for 40 feet over
7 30 over 20?
8 Yeah, we could do it on a
9 shorter tower, and we could do it with less.
10 It just wouldn't be as ideal.
11 DR. BELL: Thank you.
12 Turning to another question.
13 Mr. Libertine, in the
14 application, it stated that a total of
15 6 percent of the study area year round and
16 seasonal would have views of the facility,
17 3 percent year round, 3 percent seasonal.
18 I know that we often see
19 figures of 1 to 2 percent of a given study
20 area. Do you consider 6 percent a
21 large percent of the study area?
22 THE WITNESS (Libertine): No,
23 not particularly. No, I think it's about --
24 I would say, depending on where we are, you
25 know, in different parts of the state, we

1 have seen as little as 2 to 3 percent, maybe
2 even, you know, less than 2 percent.
3 Typically, in more rugged terrain is where we
4 tend to see that.
5 I was surprised when we did
6 the initial float here at 200 feet as to the
7 limited extent of visibility associated. I
8 expected, because we're in a floodplain --
9 it's a -- it's a little flatter here -- that
10 we'd have a little bit more visibility than
11 we actually saw. I was pleasantly surprised.
12 But to answer your question, I
13 don't think it's a -- I don't think it's a
14 high percentage. I think it's probably just
15 about an average what we typically see, if
16 I -- if I kind of spread out the entire state
17 and, you know, use that as kind of a
18 barometer. Then once you start pushing over
19 10 percent, then you're talking about, you
20 know, usually a little bit higher end of
21 visibility.
22 DR. BELL: Okay.
23 Can -- can we ask Mr. Lavin a
24 question?
25 He isn't -- they're not here.

1 No? Okay.
2 THE CHAIRMAN: You'll have an
3 opportunity.
4 DR. BELL: Then those are all
5 my questions. Thank you, Mr. Chair.
6 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
7 Commissioner Caron.
8 COMM. CARON: No, thank you,
9 Mr. Chairman.
10 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ashton.
11 MR. ASHTON: Thank you.
12 There we go.
13 First question. We -- there
14 was a mention of security cameras being
15 placed on the tower. Is anybody watching the
16 output of the security cameras?
17 You can have all kinds of
18 cameras, but if you ain't got anybody
19 watching it, it's an interesting appendage,
20 and that's about it.
21 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes,
22 we -- we do look at the -- at the footage,
23 probably weekly, just to take a peek.
24 MR. ASHTON: After the fact?
25 THE WITNESS (Savino): No,

1 every week. Then, you know, hopefully, we
2 don't have any reasons --
3 MR. ASHTON: You don't have
4 online monitoring, though?
5 THE WITNESS (Savino): Oh,
6 yeah. Yeah, we do. We have -- we have real
7 time monitoring with this system.
8 MR. ASHTON: Who -- who's
9 doing the real time monitoring?
10 THE WITNESS (Savino): We can,
11 ourselves, when we want.
12 MR. ASHTON: Your camera goes
13 into the building. Is that on site?
14 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes, it
15 does. Yes.
16 MR. ASHTON: And is there an
17 operator, an attendant, 24-7 in that
18 building?
19 THE WITNESS (Savino): No --
20 no, there isn't.
21 MR. ASHTON: All right. So
22 it's not --
23 THE WITNESS (Savino):
24 Remotely, even from a laptop, we can open it
25 up and we can take a look at the property. I

1 can be elsewhere --
2 MR. ASHTON: Right.
3 THE WITNESS (Savino): -- in
4 the U.S. and look at things.
5 MR. ASHTON: But my point is
6 it's not 24/7 live monitoring?
7 THE WITNESS (Savino): Not --
8 no, it's not.
9 MR. ASHTON: Okay.
10 THE WITNESS (Savino): No.
11 MR. ASHTON: And, Mr. Burns,
12 you did illuminate me -- illuminate the fact
13 that it's a -- reduced mesh is the security
14 fencing?
15 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes,
16 sir.
17 MR. ASHTON: Okay.
18 The comment has been made that
19 you need the training session, which I find
20 very intriguing -- and I'll elaborate in a
21 minute -- because there are a lot of lattice
22 towers out in the field. I have some
23 experience in this kind of game. And my
24 experience is that there's a move away from
25 lattice towers, Mr. Libertine, because

1 visibility is perceived -- perceived as being
2 better with a monopole than a lattice tower.
3 Are you finding that there are
4 more lattice towers going up or that there
5 are more monopoles going up?
6 THE WITNESS (Savino): It
7 depends on the area in the United States.
8 Here in the lower Northeast, there's
9 predominately more monopoles going up than
10 there are lattice. But as we get outside and
11 we get into New York State, New Jersey, and
12 head south, there are definitely more
13 lattice-style towers going up.
14 MR. ASHTON: Okay. So the
15 market is there for lattice. It's not one
16 where industry is moving away from the
17 lattice, so you've got to train your people
18 on lattice towers. Fair to say?
19 THE WITNESS (Savino): Indeed.
20 Yes.
21 MR. ASHTON: Okay.
22 Just for the record, I'm a
23 little bit troubled by the claimed need for
24 180 feet driven by three nonparticipating
25 users of the tower. That, I find unusual, if

1 not irregular, but we'll probably hit more on
2 that.
3 As far as training goes,
4 Mr. Jones, isn't it true that utilities
5 require gin pole -- use gin poles pretty
6 regularly?
7 THE WITNESS (Jones): I don't
8 know any utilities that use the gin poles
9 that we do the way that we do. I've not done
10 one load chart throughout the country for a
11 utility company to use this type of gin pole.
12 MR. ASHTON: Do you deal with
13 utilities?
14 THE WITNESS (Jones): No.
15 MR. ASHTON: Okay. So you
16 really don't know. Is that fair to say?
17 THE WITNESS (Jones): Well, I
18 wrote the standard, and I'm one of the very
19 few engineers that knows how to use it and is
20 asked to do these charts. So if a utility
21 company is using a broadcast standards gin
22 pole chart, I would be surprised that I
23 wouldn't have been involved with it.
24 MR. ASHTON: Aren't gin poles
25 generally used in building construction, too?

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1 THE WITNESS (Jones): No, not
2 this type of gin pole.
3 Now, the -- the definition --
4 MR. ASHTON: Well, okay. The
5 answer is, yes, but a different type of pole?
6 THE WITNESS (Jones): Yes,
7 sir. Yes, sir.
8 MR. ASHTON: Okay. So it's
9 not, no. It's, yes, but a different kind of
10 gin pole. The application of a gin pole is
11 ancient, honorable and widespread. Is that
12 fair to say?
13 THE WITNESS (Jones): No.
14 That's -- not the communication broadcast gin
15 pole as detailed in the 1019 standard.
16 MR. ASHTON: Okay. We're
17 getting now into a specific type of gin pole
18 I'm trying to take a broad picture. And gin
19 poles go back for a long, long time?
20 THE WITNESS (Jones): The
21 definition of a current -- a starting gin
22 pole is a pole mounted with cables --
23 supported with cables off -- off the ground.
24 Okay?
25 Now, what we're talking about

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1 is the industry, for whatever reason, maybe
2 not technically totally correct, that the
3 communication industry has started calling
4 their lifting devices gin poles. And it's
5 not the same definition as the earlier
6 industry-standard gin pole, but --
7 MR. ASHTON: I'm not sure
8 where -- I appreciate differences. I
9 appreciate the difference. The concept, the
10 principle, I don't see a difference.
11 THE WITNESS (Jones):
12 Engineeringwise there is. And I could get
13 into that, but only if you asked me to.
14 THE CHAIRMAN: Yeah. Where
15 are we going with this?
16 MR. ASHTON: I'm just trying
17 to find out -- talk a little bit about gin
18 pole training. I do think that there's
19 probably a valid need for it, and I do
20 recognize it having experienced gin pole
21 training personally in the utility industry.
22 A lot of utility towers, transmission towers,
23 are built with gin poles. Some are built
24 with cranes, but a lot of them were built
25 with gin poles for years and years and years.

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1 THE WITNESS (Jones): Okay.
2 MR. ASHTON: If this is -- if
3 there's one of the training facility for your
4 type of application in the country, why would
5 you not make this available for across the
6 country as a training school?
7 THE WITNESS (Savino): I'd be
8 more than happy to do that.
9 MR. ASHTON: Are you planning
10 to?
11 THE WITNESS (Savino): I'd
12 like to.
13 MR. ASHTON: That didn't
14 answer to my question.
15 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes, I
16 will.
17 MR. ASHTON: Oh, okay.
18 I don't mean to quibble,
19 but -- why would it not be reasonable to put
20 in a -- and this is by way of example -- a
21 monopole for a cell tower application -- I
22 don't know what to do about the three that
23 you've got as an appendage here -- and put in
24 a separate structure, training structure, for
25 your training school?

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1 THE WITNESS (Savino): We
2 don't have enough property to put the two in
3 close proximity. The cost would be
4 exorbitant also.
5 MR. ASHTON: What does --
6 what's an acceptable distance away from each
7 other?
8 Your property width, as I
9 recall, is about 150 feet.
10 THE WITNESS (Savino):
11 That's -- that's correct.
12 MR. ASHTON: And one of the
13 applicants, one of the potential users of
14 that structure is your next-door neighbor.
15 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes, he
16 is, on two sides.
17 MR. ASHTON: And you can't
18 take him out, give him a couple of beers, and
19 agree on, you know, what you might use for
20 land?
21 THE WITNESS (Savino):
22 Possibly. But we -- well, why
23 have two structures?
24 I mean, we want to -- we want
25 to satisfy the town also. We don't -- we

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1 don't want to be a bad neighbor.
2 MR. ASHTON: I hear you. I
3 really do. I'm testing the thesis.
4 THE WITNESS (Savino): Okay.
5 MR. ASHTON: And it has some
6 merit on it, in my opinion.
7 Mr. Libertine is going to
8 testify, I'm sure, that the extent of
9 visibility is probably a -- an exponential
10 function of the height of the structure. And
11 I don't think he's going to disagree to
12 violently with that, not based on all the
13 testimony he's given this agency in the 15
14 years I've been on it.
15 Insofar as you can achieve
16 training on a lower structure satisfactorily,
17 80 feet, 90, a hundred, I don't know, and you
18 are able to knock 40 feet off the top of this
19 structure, the three -- the three sharing
20 entities notwithstanding, wouldn't that give
21 a lower visibility and a more attractive
22 utilization of the site?
23 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes, it
24 would.
25 MR. ASHTON: So it really

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1 comes down to one of the three mysterious
2 entities, the sand and gravel operation, the
3 radio station, and I forget who the third one
4 is. Now, the radio has got a transmitter up
5 on the top of West Peak in Meriden. Is that
6 correct?
7 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes,
8 Rattlesnake Mountain here in Farmington and
9 also Avon Mountain.
10 MR. ASHTON: And Meriden?
11 THE WITNESS (Savino): And
12 Meriden, yes.
13 MR. ASHTON: Which is --
14 actually, I think, in Southington, but that's
15 okay.
16 THE WITNESS (Savino): Right.
17 MR. ASHTON: I'm from Meriden.
18 Bob -- Mr. Burns knows me.
19 Do you have any idea what
20 their propagation picture is like as to what
21 we need, what would be helpful to them?
22 THE WITNESS (Savino): I
23 don't.
24 MR. ASHTON: Mr. Langer, I
25 guess I'm troubled. I'm pretty good --

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1 pretty good at understanding with cell
2 phone -- cell applications. But we have a
3 cell phone piggybacking on a -- a training
4 facility, support structure for a sand and
5 gravel operation, which is usually short
6 range telecommunication, and a radio tower.
7 I don't know what the heck to do with the
8 animal.
9 MR. LANGER: We -- we
10 understand that this is -- we're -- we're a
11 bit trailblazing here but -- and, obviously,
12 I'll defer to the panel for testimony on the
13 facts -- but it is, we believe, within the
14 province of the Siting Council to approve
15 this facility.
16 We have a carrier who needs
17 140 feet, and you also have an interest in
18 public safety with the training, the
19 fatalities, and everything that's been --
20 MR. ASHTON: Certainly.
21 MR. LANGER: -- testified, a
22 need to go higher. And that's obviously the
23 reference to Docket 390 -- I think it's 390,
24 that you have administratively noticed. So
25 it's within the -- the province --

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1 MR. ASHTON: The training
2 facility at a hundred feet, probably you
3 could stick in that neighborhood under
4 present zoning, I'd make a guess, because I
5 noticed the sand and gravel operation just
6 south of you has some pretty high structures
7 in it, relatively high.
8 It's the radio that I find
9 anomalous here, and I don't know what in the
10 world to do with the animal. I'm not trying
11 to put you out of business, Mr. Savino, but
12 I -- it's -- it's --
13 THE WITNESS (Savino): I
14 understand.
15 MR. ASHTON: -- we normally
16 have a pretty cut and dry approach to cell
17 towers. And a cell tower often is the
18 beneficiary of municipal antennas at the top,
19 and things like that.
20 THE WITNESS (Savino):
21 Correct.
22 That -- that's not driving the
23 need to go to 180 feet being the WBMW,
24 Dunning and/or Marcus Communications.
25 That -- that was my interest in having 40

1 additional feet over AT&T. And in -- in my
2 eyes, my purpose was to have the ability to
3 rig this structure, either put gin poles,
4 outriggers on, whatever, and then, in the
5 real world scenario that we're out in every
6 day, raise something up over around sector
7 frames and get it to a location, which is
8 higher, which we are confronted with doing
9 very frequently, and/or removing.

10 MR. ASHTON: I do appreciate
11 that. I really do. I'm thinking, in my own
12 experience, of a lattice tower that was used
13 in training linemen. And it was used in
14 training linemen with certain conflicts, too,
15 physical conflicts.

16 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.
17 MR. ASHTON: And so I'm trying
18 to rationalize my experience with what you're
19 proposing here, and it's not completely out
20 of line, but it's a little different.

21 Well, okay. I think that
22 really concludes my questions at this stage.
23 Thank you.

24 I've got to do some soul
25 searching.

1 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto):
2 Unfortunately, I don't think I
3 can explain it a little bit more for you and
4 for the rest of the Council.

5 In -- in speaking with
6 Mr. Marcus, who was actually here during our
7 first -- one of our meetings with the Town,
8 he mentioned that he needed it for his
9 network. And I don't have -- I'm not an RF
10 engineer, and I don't pretend to be, and I
11 did not ask him for his propagation plots.

12 I could go back to him,
13 discuss what his actual distinct requirements
14 are, at what height, the minimum height he
15 requires, as well as Dunning and WBMW.

16 MR. LANGER: We'd be happy to
17 provide that information in a late filing.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: It's not -- I
19 mean, that would be part of it, and that
20 would be helpful, but also, it's critical, at
21 least to this member of the Council, to know
22 from the organizations and emergency services
23 that, apparently, Marcus serves. And if we
24 can't hear from them -- somehow hear from
25 them as to how important, not only that

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you,
2 Mr. Ashton.

3 I have -- I guess, it's sort
4 of a follow-up question because -- also
5 regarding the -- the other providers. And
6 Mr. Ashton mentioned two of them, but the
7 third one is the one that intrigues me. I
8 guess it's Marcus, because it says they
9 provide services to police, fire fighters,
10 medical aid, et cetera, et cetera.

11 So is this, in -- in fact, an
12 important part of the emergency services for
13 the area and -- well, that's the first part
14 of the question. And if the answer is yes,
15 then why haven't we heard more about that
16 need? Because that generally is something
17 very important to everybody, including the
18 Council, that there are -- somehow what is
19 being proposed is also going to enhance the
20 emergency services.

21 But I just see, you know,
22 one -- well, two sentences. It doesn't --
23 like Mr. Ashton, I'm a little bit bewildered,
24 but maybe you can explain a little bit more
25 on this.

1 Marcus may need the height to -- to better
2 serve, but also that these entities are
3 really -- it's critical to their operation
4 and --

5 MR. LANGER: We will follow
6 up.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: I'm not seeing
8 that.

9 MR. LANGER: Thank you.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: And I think
11 most of my questions also on the training
12 have -- have been answered. It's a little
13 hard to believe that there's -- there's only
14 one facility in the -- in the country that's
15 sort of a training facility. But I would
16 think -- well, that -- it is either an
17 important gap in the -- the whole industry
18 or -- or I'm not sure what else.

19 Yes, we have Mr. Mercier.

20 MR. MERCIER: Thank you.

21 I just had one quick question
22 regarding your site plans. I was wondering
23 if you had approximate dimensions of this
24 facility, that is, the width of the face, the
25 tower faces. Has that -- has a design been

1 submitted or contemplated?
2 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto): The
3 tower faces are shown at 18 feet. The tower
4 hasn't been designed yet, so at that point,
5 we'll have a better understanding. From my
6 understanding, they're anywhere from 15 to
7 20 feet.

8 THE WITNESS (Savino): The
9 base spread is 18 feet from left to right,
10 triangular.

11 MR. MERCIER: And as it goes
12 up, I see above AT&T's installation it
13 appears uniform, according to your diagram?

14 THE WITNESS (Savino): That's
15 correct. That was purposely engineered to be
16 straight so that we could do -- do our
17 training on it.

18 MR. MERCIER: Do you have an
19 approximate dimension of one of the
20 triangular faces there?

21 THE WITNESS (Savino): It was
22 projected to be a minimum 5 feet from one
23 length to the next.

24 MR. MERCIER: Thank you.

25 THE WITNESS (Savino):

1 training facility. This has been the, sort
2 of, the real focus of what you've been doing.
3 And I'm concerned, maybe differently from
4 Mr. Ashton and other people, I'm just
5 concerned that we're drifting into an area
6 where we don't really have authority.

7 And you may want to just
8 follow up and file something about this.

9 MR. LANGER: We'd be happy to
10 address the issue of the legality of this
11 filing in our briefs or in an additional
12 filing, as the Council wishes. But it's
13 certainly within the Council's jurisdiction,
14 from a legal perspective, because we have a
15 carrier.

16 Certainly, Mr. Regulbuto and
17 Mr. Savino can address the time line
18 regarding, you know, the presence of AT&T and
19 the training facility, the genesis for you.
20 But for purposes of just the legality, this
21 is certainly -- we have a carrier at the
22 site --

23 DR. KLEMENS: It's legal
24 because it's the carrier.

25 MR. LANGER: Correct.

1 Solid -- solid leg so as to not have a large
2 diameter. Solid leg, at that point, might be
3 two and a half or 3 inch in diameter, all
4 open lattice, which would be X bracing.

5 So that, as compared to a
6 monopole, is going to be quite minimum.
7 Monopole, at that elevation, is going to be
8 probably 20 inches in itself.

9 THE CHAIRMAN: Dr. Klemens.

10 DR. KLEMENS: Thank you,
11 Mr. Chairman.

12 I guess, while we're all
13 getting our concerns out to you, I mean, my
14 concern on this is you have a training
15 facility. You have found a carrier to
16 piggyback on the training facility. My
17 concern is whether or not this is really
18 within our jurisdiction, and whether, in
19 fact, your -- this application is more
20 appropriately a local matter and that we
21 would be stepping on local toes or actually
22 doing something illegal -- I don't know if
23 that's the word -- but whether or not this is
24 Farmington's jurisdiction and not ours.

25 You have stated that this is a

1 DR. KLEMENS: But the training
2 for that, I would be very interested in how
3 this all came together, because from where
4 I'm sitting, it sounded like you had created
5 a training facility, then went out and found
6 a carrier to legitimize it. And I think
7 that's what I'm -- where I'm going, and
8 that's what I'd like you to address.

9 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto):

10 Actually, that's, as
11 Mr. Savino mentioned earlier, it all came
12 together almost all at the same time. I was
13 actually in a meeting with AT&T to -- just
14 talking about developing towers in general.
15 And that was at the January of 2013 -- the
16 end of January 2013.

17 I submitted a site candidate
18 information package. We refer to in the
19 industry as a "SCIP." And not giving out any
20 of our sites, I said, let's just use
21 Mr. Savino's property as a SCIP. So I SCIP'd
22 the whole property and gave him all the
23 information that we would give normally.

24 At that meeting, one of the
25 members of AT&T's staff said, jeez, we might

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1 need something over there. Two months later,
2 I was contacted. So it's not like we went
3 out and solicited them for them. It just
4 happened to be just one of those perfect
5 storm scenarios.
6 DR. KLEMENS: Well, as I said,
7 Attorney Lander, you're going to submit
8 some -- some legal basis of this. Correct?
9 And the timeline?
10 MR. LANGER: I'd be happy to
11 do so.
12 DR. KLEMENS: That would be
13 great to have it in the record. Thank you.
14 MR. LANGER: Sure. Certainly.
15 DR. KLEMENS: Thank you,
16 Mr. Chairman.
17 THE CHAIRMAN: I think there's
18 a reason that they've asked that Docket 391
19 be -- be added. And there's also a more
20 recent one, but we can get -- I'm sure we can
21 ask -- get some more information on the --
22 the issues of -- of legality.
23 At this point, I would like to
24 go continue with cross-examination.
25 AT&T?

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1 MS. CHIOCCHIO: No questions.
2 Thank you.
3 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay.
4 The Town of Farmington, would
5 you please use the podium. I guess I can't
6 apologize on behalf of the Town for not
7 having more space for you.
8 MR. FORSYTH: Go ahead.
9 Mr. Chairman and members of
10 the Council, my name is Duncan Forsyth. I'm
11 an attorney at Halloran and Sage, and we are
12 town counsel for the Town of Farmington.
13 It is my understanding that
14 there's also going to be another session of
15 this hearing, and I would certainly reserve
16 the right to additional cross-examine based
17 upon whatever other submissions have been
18 requested by the Council to the applicant.
19 Okay. My first question is to
20 Mr. Savino.
21 Mr. Savino, isn't it true that
22 the only need for a lattice tower is for your
23 own training purposes?
24 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes,
25 that's correct.

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1 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
2 And isn't it true the only
3 need for a tower of 180 feet in height is for
4 your own training purposes?
5 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes,
6 that's correct.
7 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
8 And a standard 140-foot
9 monopole, suitable for AT&T's need, would not
10 suit your purposes. Would it?
11 THE WITNESS (Savino): No, it
12 would not.
13 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
14 And that's because the primary
15 purpose for this application is a training
16 tower.
17 THE WITNESS (Savino): No.
18 No, it's not.
19 MR. FORSYTH: It's not? Okay.
20 But anything over 140 feet
21 is -- is something that AT&T does not need;
22 it is something that you need for training
23 purposes?
24 THE WITNESS (Savino): That's
25 correct.

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1 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
2 And how does a lattice tower
3 better serve the public need for reliable
4 cellular service coverage than a monopole?
5 THE WITNESS (Savino): It --
6 it would not change.
7 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
8 And isn't a monopole a viable
9 option for providing reliable cellular
10 service if, in fact, such service is needed?
11 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.
12 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
13 But a monopole would not suit
14 your commercial purposes, would it?
15 THE WITNESS (Savino): It
16 wouldn't serve training purposes.
17 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
18 And, in fact, as I understand
19 it, from -- from the submission, any other
20 cellular providers who might want to
21 collocate, even though they've expressed no
22 interest in collocating, would all be below
23 140 feet?
24 THE WITNESS (Savino): I don't
25 know that.

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1 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
2 Do you know how many
3 certificates for lattice towers the Siting
4 Council has issued for wireless
5 communications since 2012?
6 THE WITNESS (Savino): I don't
7 know.
8 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
9 Would it surprise you if the
10 answer was none?
11 THE WITNESS (Savino): No, it
12 wouldn't surprise me. We built probably 25
13 in the past five years here in the state of
14 Connecticut.
15 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
16 And as I understand it, right
17 now, you guys don't know what the width of
18 this tower is going to be?
19 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes, we
20 do.
21 MR. FORSYTH: You do.
22 THE WITNESS (Savino):
23 Eighteen feet, one leg to the
24 next, at the base --
25 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.

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1 THE WITNESS (Savino): --
2 ground level.
3 MR. FORSYTH: How high would
4 it be at a hundred feet -- I'm sorry -- what
5 would the width be?
6 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yeah.
7 MR. FORSYTH: I'm sorry. What
8 would the width be?
9 THE WITNESS (Savino): So it
10 would be approximately 8 feet at 100 feet.
11 MR. FORSYTH: Okay. What
12 would it be at 130 feet?
13 THE WITNESS (Savino): If it
14 continued to taper, it would be 5 feet --
15 MR. FORSYTH: Okay. Is this
16 going --
17 THE WITNESS (Savino): --
18 approximately five.
19 MR. FORSYTH: -- is this going
20 to taper?
21 THE WITNESS (Savino):
22 Depending upon the height, it would have to
23 have a taper, yes.
24 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
25 THE WITNESS (Savino): And

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1 then it would go straight.
2 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
3 Where will it taper?
4 THE WITNESS (Savino): If it
5 was a 180-foot structure, it would taper from
6 140 to the 180, would be straight. The
7 taper, in other words, would be from ground
8 level to 140.
9 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
10 And what would be width be at
11 140?
12 THE WITNESS (Savino):
13 Probably 5 feet.
14 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
15 So it would be 5 feet this
16 way, 5 feet this way, and triangular?
17 THE WITNESS (Savino):
18 Triangular, correct.
19 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
20 And then, from 140 to 180, it
21 would remain at 5 feet?
22 THE WITNESS (Savino): Five
23 feet, correct.
24 MR. FORSYTH: And if I
25 understood correctly, the diameter of a

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1 140-foot monopole would be approximately
2 20 inches?
3 THE WITNESS (Savino): At the
4 top. At ground level, it would be a much,
5 much larger diameter.
6 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
7 Now, in approximately March of
8 2012, Northeast Towers contacted the
9 Farmington town planner with regard to a
10 training tower. Correct?
11 THE WITNESS (Savino): No,
12 March of 2013.
13 MR. FORSYTH: I'm sorry.
14 March of 2013.
15 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yeah.
16 Correct.
17 MR. FORSYTH: In March of
18 2013, your company contacted the Farmington
19 town planner with regard to a possible
20 training tower?
21 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.
22 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
23 And at that point in time,
24 there was no cellular component to the
25 training tower. Correct?

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1 THE WITNESS (Savino): I just
2 stopped in to inquire. I knew Jeff. I just
3 wanted to stop and chat with him about my
4 intentions and thoughts that I had moving
5 forward.
6 MR. FORSYTH: Well, you did
7 more than chat. You actually put together a
8 booklet, did you not?
9 THE WITNESS (Savino): Not --
10 not that -- not right there and then.
11 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
12 But you did prepare a booklet
13 for purposes of presentation to the
14 Farmington Planning and Zoning Commission?
15 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes, we
16 did.
17 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
18 And, in fact, you asked for an
19 informal meeting with the Farmington Planning
20 and Zoning Commission to discuss the
21 possibilities of a training tower on your
22 property?
23 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.
24 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
25 And you subsequently withdrew

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1 the request for a meeting with the planning
2 and zoning commission with regard to a
3 training tower?
4 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto): Yes.
5 Yes, we did. But to -- to go back, the
6 report that submitted was listed as a
7 telecommunications tower.
8 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
9 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto): At
10 the time that we spoke with Mr. Ollendorf, I
11 had a conversation with him. Steve had a
12 conversation with him. We said we were -- we
13 were in discussions with AT&T, but nothing
14 has been solidified.
15 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
16 But at the time you submitted
17 your booklet and asked for a meeting with the
18 planning and zoning commission, there was no
19 cellular component to the training tower that
20 you were seeking some guidance on?
21 THE WITNESS (Regulbuto):
22 Correct. There was nothing
23 listed in the -- the viewshed analysis and
24 photos inside.
25 THE WITNESS (Savino): We were

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1 already in discussion with AT&T. We had no
2 idea what elevation they possibly would want
3 to go to. This was very early in the stages,
4 so nothing was mentioned at that point in
5 time.
6 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
7 In your application, there is
8 a discussion with regard to a search ring.
9 Okay. And a search ring has no relevance for
10 your purposes as a training tower, does it?
11 THE WITNESS (Savino): No.
12 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
13 MR. ASHTON: Excuse me,
14 Counselor.
15 MR. FORSYTH: Yes, sir.
16 MR. ASHTON: Whose search
17 ring?
18 MR. FORSYTH: AT&T's.
19 MR. ASHTON: Oh, okay. It
20 wasn't clear. I don't think he had a search
21 ring. AT&T has it in their -- listed in
22 their materials to be submitted.
23 MR. FORSYTH: There -- there
24 is discussion in the application with regard
25 to a search ring and --

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1 MR. ASHTON: And the need for
2 telecommunications.
3 MR. FORSYTH: Agreed. Oh, no.
4 I'm not -- I'm not disputing that at all.
5 What -- what I'm -- my -- my -- the point of
6 my question is the applicant has information
7 in its application with regard to a search
8 ring which has absolutely no relevance to --
9 MR. ASHTON: That's fine. I'm
10 not disputing that, but I'm disputing
11 ownership of that search ring.
12 MR. FORSYTH: Okay. Fair
13 enough.
14 What is the elevation at 199
15 Brickyard?
16 THE WITNESS (Burns): Ground
17 elevation?
18 MR. FORSYTH: Yes.
19 THE WITNESS (Burns): It's
20 approximately 241 AMSL.
21 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
22 And what is the elevation at
23 various points in the Highlands?
24 And the -- the Highlands is,
25 just so we're all clear, is the residential

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1 neighborhood that is on the western side of
2 Brickyard that goes up.
3 (Pause.)
4 MR. LANGER: To the extent
5 possible, we'd be happy to provide that
6 response after the break.
7 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
8 And do you have any idea how
9 many houses are up in the Highlands?
10 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
11 Numerous.
12 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
13 Can you -- can you be a little
14 bit more specific than that?
15 THE WITNESS (Libertine): No.
16 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
17 And if I understand correctly,
18 at least 120 residential homes would have
19 some view of this tower. Is that correct?
20 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
21 Potentially, yes.
22 MR. FORSYTH: Now, in -- in
23 response to the Siting Council's
24 interrogatories, Number 8, I -- I think you
25 indicated that the tower would have some

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1 We would -- we would rig the tower and raise
2 and lower gin poles, rigging fixtures,
3 outriggers, antennas -- and multiple style
4 antennas. We -- we would like to -- we would
5 like to raise and lower, build FM antenna in
6 the air, microwave, dipole, two-way antennas.
7 MR. FORSYTH: When you say
8 "build it up in the air"?
9 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes, FM
10 antennas require that they are assembled in
11 the air because it depends on the number of
12 bay, elements that are combined, and
13 they're -- and they're too -- they -- they
14 are too vulnerable to damage otherwise. So
15 this is something that has to happen in the
16 air.
17 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
18 And -- and how -- can you
19 explain how that happens?
20 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.
21 For example, we commonly, in -- in this lower
22 area of New England, install four-bay FM
23 antennas. And if it's in a higher extremity,
24 higher area on a tower, they don't have to go
25 to a halfway space to protect from RF

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1 training equipment going along with it. Can
2 you explain what type of training equipment
3 it is and what its function is?
4 MR. LANGER: Could you repeat
5 the interrogatory to which you're referring?
6 MR. FORSYTH: I believe it
7 was -- was Number 8.
8 MR. LANGER: Of the Council's
9 interrogatory?
10 MR. FORSYTH: I think so.
11 MR. LANGER: That's the two
12 tower scenario interrogatory.
13 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
14 Well, let me -- I'll ask it a
15 different way.
16 Will this tower have training
17 equipment associated with it?
18 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes, it
19 would have temporary components that would go
20 up and down off the structure at key times
21 throughout the year.
22 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
23 Can you be a little bit more
24 specific than that?
25 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.

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1 environment for personnel down low.
2 So a typical base basing is
3 about 9 foot 6 inches in between each bay.
4 They're made out of copper. It's very
5 lightweight, so we would assemble on the
6 ground a bay, raise it in the air, set it,
7 and then bring up the other three remaining
8 pieces, bolt it all together, proof it,
9 pressurize it, and then attach a transmission
10 line if it was going to be an operating
11 facility. We wouldn't go as far as that,
12 needless to say.
13 Then we would do the reverse
14 procedure because we do go to many broadcast
15 facilities. It's every 15 to 20 years we are
16 taking existing antennas down and going up
17 with current technology.
18 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
19 And how big would the
20 structure be that you're assembling in the
21 air?
22 THE WITNESS (Savino): The
23 bays are approximately 18-by -- 18-inch-by-18
24 inch. They're copper.
25 MR. FORSYTH: Uh-huh.

25 (Pages 94 to 97)

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1 THE WITNESS (Savino): They're
2 a unique design. The inter bay that feeds
3 it, that would connect one to the next,
4 there's typically a one and five-eighths inch
5 diameter copper, again, with brass fittings
6 which has hardware.
7 So they're -- they're not very
8 large. They're not very visible. They're
9 just vulnerable. They're flexible. So --
10 MR. FORSYTH: And when all is
11 said and done, how big is -- is this thing?
12 THE WITNESS (Savino): Okay.
13 This particular antenna, if indeed we -- we
14 get a four bay, which I probably would do
15 only two because I don't have enough space, a
16 four bay would consume all of 40 feet of
17 tower, if not a little more, probably an
18 extra 5 feet on the base, as the feed, as
19 part of the antenna.
20 MR. FORSYTH: I see.
21 And how high off the ground
22 would this process take?
23 THE WITNESS (Savino): The FM
24 antennas are typically at the top of towers.
25 If a tower is built specifically for an FM

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1 application, that tower has the antenna right
2 at the top.
3 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
4 If -- if you were -- so if you
5 were assembling this structure, this
6 particular FM structure, that would take
7 place up at the very top of the tower?
8 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.
9 Yes, we would put it at the top.
10 MR. FORSYTH: I see.
11 So the workers would be?
12 THE WITNESS (Savino): Above.
13 Above AT&T if we're -- we're just going to
14 talk. We're at 140 feet with AT&T. We're
15 going to be working above it. That's
16 correct.
17 MR. FORSYTH: I see.
18 So you'll be putting this
19 structure together --
20 THE WITNESS (Savino): Correct.
21 MR. FORSYTH: -- between 140
22 and 180 feet in the air, with workers
23 assembling it?
24 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes,
25 that's right.

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1 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
2 And how long does that process
3 take?
4 THE WITNESS (Savino): Well,
5 we would probably only do two bays because
6 that's all we have to work with as a backup
7 for broadcasters. That -- that's a matter of
8 an eight-hour working day. You know, the
9 same day we rig and put it up, we -- we take
10 it down.
11 MR. FORSYTH: I see.
12 So there -- how many workers
13 would it take to assemble this thing?
14 THE WITNESS (Savino):
15 Typically, we would probably have four. We
16 would have one on -- on the hoist operating
17 it, and we would have three men that would
18 end up climbing, working together.
19 MR. FORSYTH: I see.
20 So for, roughly, eight hours
21 on a -- a given day, there would be three
22 individuals up --
23 THE WITNESS (Savino): On the
24 structure.
25 MR. FORSYTH: -- on the

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1 structure --
2 THE WITNESS (Savino): Correct.
3 MR. FORSYTH: --
4 between 180 -- up to 140 and 180 feet --
5 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.
6 MR. FORSYTH: -- working on --
7 working on this particular project?
8 THE WITNESS (Savino): Right.
9 yeah.
10 MR. FORSYTH: And how is any
11 of that relevant to AT&T's abilities to
12 provide cellular service?
13 THE WITNESS (Savino): No.
14 There's no interference. It's not relevant
15 to them whatsoever.
16 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
17 And so, if -- if you had this
18 structure, the 180-foot lattice tower, how
19 many instructors would you employ?
20 THE WITNESS (Savino): We have
21 34 certified climbers right now. And out of
22 the 34, eight of them are foremen, slash,
23 supervisors with multiple years of
24 experience. So what would transpire is we
25 only have three supervisors that have the

1 qualifications and the experience to work
2 with gin poles. Those three men would be
3 working at one point or another.

4 Other men only have experience
5 with the municipal antennas, broadcast
6 antennas, micro -- some crews only have
7 experience with microwave systems. So there
8 would be different men at different times
9 doing different tasks.

10 MR. FORSYTH: Okay. And --

11 THE WITNESS (Savino): We
12 would like the opportunity to cross-train
13 and -- and blend more of the experiences
14 throughout our team. So --

15 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.

16 And in response to somebody's
17 question, you indicated that you certainly
18 would like nothing better than to be a
19 national training facility, for lack -- for
20 lack -- I'm putting words in your mouth, but
21 that was pretty much the gist of what I got
22 sitting behind you. Would that be a fair
23 statement?

24 THE WITNESS (Savino): Not
25 that large, but I would like to service the,

1 MR. LANGER: Mr. Jones, maybe
2 you'd like to respond to that question?

3 THE WITNESS (Jones): Again,
4 most of the training in the past has been
5 on-the-job training on towers that are
6 already out there. And what -- what he would
7 be unique with -- of course, his -- his main
8 goal is to train his people, which he has a
9 responsibility and a liability to do, but
10 he's willing to open it up for others if they
11 wanted to come in and use it.

12 MR. FORSYTH: It would
13 certainly be an attraction to other entities
14 to have this type of facility available.

15 THE WITNESS (Jones): Yeah.
16 It may be. Now, again, your groups out in
17 the Mid-east aren't necessarily going to
18 truck up their people and send them over here
19 to do that. They're going to find a more
20 local place.

21 But in the New England area,
22 for perhaps a handful of -- of other
23 erectors, he could make that available and is
24 willing to do so.

25 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.

1 at minimum, the New England area.

2 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.

3 THE WITNESS (Savino): I've
4 been in this business for 34 years with
5 Northeast Towers and five years prior to
6 that. So it's been a long time, and I want
7 to share all that I know. And it's a great
8 industry for many young men.

9 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.

10 And I think we heard testimony
11 that the only other comparable facility is
12 somewhere out in the Midwest.

13 THE WITNESS (Savino):
14 Apparently.

15 MR. FORSYTH: So, basically,
16 you'd be the only facility east of the
17 Mississippi?

18 THE WITNESS (Savino): At
19 least in New England, that I know.

20 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.

21 Well, do you know of any
22 others east of the Mississippi?

23 THE WITNESS (Savino): I don't
24 know. I really don't.

25 MR. FORSYTH: And --

1 And let's just take it
2 regionally. You had -- you had New England
3 and, say, New York and New Jersey. How many
4 trainees would you foresee coming to -- to
5 learn on this particular structure?

6 THE WITNESS (Savino): I -- I
7 truly have no idea. We would like to train
8 our -- our men and -- and additional men that
9 come on with us.

10 As far as the outside world,
11 I -- I don't know.

12 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.

13 And if I understood
14 correctly --

15 THE WITNESS (Savino): We --
16 we also have put out to local towns that if
17 we -- we build this facility, we're going to
18 offer, at no charge, training for them to
19 become competent climbers and to rescue, if
20 there was ever an issue, on any of the
21 structures throughout Connecticut.

22 MR. FORSYTH: Okay. Okay.

23 So if -- you would open it up
24 to various municipalities for -- for training
25 purposes as well?

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1 THE WITNESS (Savino): All
2 surrounding towns.
3 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
4 So that, in addition to the
5 other training examples that --
6 THE WITNESS (Savino): Gin
7 pole training, yes.
8 MR. FORSYTH: Okay. We'll get
9 there in a couple minutes.
10 THE WITNESS (Savino): Okay.
11 MR. FORSYTH: That, in
12 addition to the training scenarios that
13 you've already outlined for us, you would
14 also invite various municipalities to come
15 have people climb the tower as well?
16 THE WITNESS (Savino): And
17 that would entail probably a single day
18 activity. We probably could have a couple --
19 a couple -- three towns at once come in
20 and -- and go through training with them in a
21 single day.
22 MR. FORSYTH: I see.
23 And -- and how -- how is any
24 of that relevant to AT&T's abilities or needs
25 to provide cellular service?

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1 THE WITNESS (Savino): It's
2 not. But there would be an awful lot of
3 awareness that would come into the eyes of
4 many different people.
5 MR. FORSYTH: Now, if I
6 understood correctly, the gin pole would --
7 is a -- is a structure that sits within the
8 lattice tower that can be raised or lowered
9 above the 180-foot level?
10 THE WITNESS (Savino): On the
11 outside.
12 MR. FORSYTH: On the outside.
13 THE WITNESS (Savino): On --
14 on the outside --
15 MR. FORSYTH: I see.
16 THE WITNESS (Savino): -- of
17 the tower.
18 MR. FORSYTH: I see.
19 And is it something that is
20 permanently affixed to --
21 THE WITNESS (Savino): No.
22 No, it's not.
23 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
24 So whenever you were going to
25 need the gin pole, you would have to affix it

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1 to the lattice tower and then raise it up?
2 Is that --
3 THE WITNESS (Savino): That's
4 correct.
5 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
6 And if I understood correctly,
7 you could then extend beyond the 180-foot
8 level, certainly, at least 19 feet --
9 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yeah.
10 MR. FORSYTH: -- to get -- to
11 stay with -- under -- under the statutory
12 200. Is that correct?
13 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes, it
14 is.
15 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
16 So that takes you from 180 to
17 199?
18 THE WITNESS (Savino): Correct.
19 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
20 And -- and explain -- you said
21 that there was an 80-foot gin pole that was
22 cantilevered, if I -- if I understood
23 correctly?
24 THE WITNESS (Jones): He means
25 not cantilever horizontal. Cantilever

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1 vertical above the top, not horizontal.
2 MR. FORSYTH: All right.
3 Can you explain that to me,
4 please?
5 THE WITNESS (Jones): Like
6 this drawing. This is the tower. Cantilever
7 is this -- the portion that's stuck over the
8 top of the tower.
9 MR. FORSYTH: I see. It's
10 just not -- it's just not attached to
11 anything. It's -- it's, for lack of a better
12 term, it's "freestanding." It -- it's not --
13 THE WITNESS (Jones): Well,
14 it's attached to the side of the tower at --
15 at it's two attachment points.
16 MR. FORSYTH: Right.
17 But then, from 180 --
18 THE WITNESS (Jones): Up
19 above -- but it's cantilevered. That's
20 correct.
21 MR. FORSYTH: It's nothing.
22 THE WITNESS (Jones): It's
23 nothing. That's right.
24 MR. FORSYTH: It's just a pole
25 itself.

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1 THE WITNESS (Jones): It's
2 cantilevering vertically.
3 MR. FORSYTH: Got it. Okay.
4 MR. LANGER: For the record,
5 Mr. Jones is referring to Exhibit 2B9,
6 Attachment 1.
7 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
8 And that gin pole then allows
9 you -- well, with the other assemblies that
10 are associated with it, to lift sections of
11 lattice tower, or FM transmitters, whatever,
12 up -- up into the air?
13 THE WITNESS (Savino): That's
14 correct.
15 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
16 And -- yeah.
17 THE WITNESS (Savino): That's
18 correct.
19 MR. FORSYTH: You might as
20 well just leave it on.
21 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.
22 MR. FORSYTH: And so,
23 basically, this tower is functioning as a
24 crane. Is that a fair statement?
25 THE WITNESS (Jones): The gin

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1 pole is.
2 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
3 THE WITNESS (Jones): The gin
4 pole is a crane, but in a vertical position.
5 MR. FORSYTH: So it is very
6 much like the boom on a crane?
7 THE WITNESS (Jones): Yes,
8 vertical boom.
9 MR. FORSYTH: Okay. And it --
10 and it likewise has, if I understood the
11 diagrams correctly, it has a headache ball
12 hanging off of the rigging?
13 THE WITNESS (Jones): It will
14 have an override ball to -- to pull the
15 rigging up and down. They call them
16 "override balls." They're headache balls in
17 our industry.
18 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
19 Can you explain that to me,
20 please?
21 THE WITNESS (Jones): Well,
22 it -- you've got your load line weight that
23 runs from the top of the gin pole down the
24 tower. And in order to get that back down to
25 the ground on the opposite side, you have to

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1 have something hanging off of it that weighs
2 the weight of that line so it overrides that
3 and will, by gravity, fall to the ground, or
4 be lowered to the ground.
5 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
6 And that likewise is something
7 that you typically see with cranes?
8 THE WITNESS (Jones): Yes.
9 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
10 The sections that you will
11 raise up into the air in -- in these training
12 exercises, how big can they get?
13 THE WITNESS (Savino): It --
14 it depends. A television side mount antenna
15 could be 10 to 12 inches in width --
16 MR. FORSYTH: Uh-huh.
17 THE WITNESS (Savino): -- and
18 maybe in depth also.
19 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
20 THE WITNESS (Savino): And
21 anywhere from 20 feet and -- and longer.
22 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
23 What's the maximum that --
24 THE WITNESS (Savino): Well,
25 it depends -- yeah -- it depends on the

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1 frequency. But from what we have in our
2 possession, that's what we have. We have a
3 20-foot side mount backup television antenna
4 that we would raise up and -- and lower. I
5 mean, it's -- it probably weighs 850 pounds.
6 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
7 Is 850 pounds the maximum
8 that -- of any particular section that might
9 be raised up, or would there -- might be
10 something bigger?
11 I see Mr. Jones kind of
12 nodding his head, so he wants to chime in.
13 THE WITNESS (Jones): That's a
14 decent size. Okay. That -- that's a large
15 size for what they would be dealing with and
16 a large weight.
17 THE WITNESS (Savino): On that
18 structure.
19 THE WITNESS (Jones): Yeah, on
20 this particular one. That's right.
21 THE WITNESS (Savino): We do
22 have larger fixtures and gin poles to -- to
23 lift much heavier weights. But we -- we
24 couldn't -- we couldn't train with it, and we
25 don't need to. We just need to train for the

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1 same procedures that we would work with --
2 with a small pole. It's the same all the way
3 through to the largest gin pole that we have.
4 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
5 So when you talk about bigger
6 sections, you're talking about different
7 towers?
8 THE WITNESS (Savino): That's
9 correct.
10 MR. FORSYTH: All right.
11 Is it possible for these
12 structures that I'm talking about, you know,
13 this 20-foot structure, is it -- is it
14 possible for it to bang into the tower as
15 it's being raised?
16 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes, if
17 you're -- yes, if you're not trained
18 correctly, yes, it -- it could. And I've
19 seen other companies do it.
20 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
21 THE WITNESS (Savino): We
22 don't do that.
23 MR. FORSYTH: And -- and part
24 of -- and -- and --
25 THE CHAIRMAN: You asked for

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1 because they need to get comfortable, number
2 one, and -- and understand what's going on
3 and the dos and the don'ts all the way
4 through from start to finish.
5 MR. FORSYTH: Got it. Okay.
6 So, at a maximum, you know, if
7 you had a -- a particular training session
8 going on, how many people could be on the
9 tower on a given day?
10 THE WITNESS (Savino): A
11 self-supporting tower, if we had a 5-foot
12 face, which this is a lattice --
13 MR. FORSYTH: Uh-huh.
14 THE WITNESS (Savino): -- we
15 could have two people on each face. We could
16 have six people at the same elevation. If we
17 had a monopole, we'd have one person, and
18 then on the ground, we have to try to dictate
19 and show them and explain what's going on up
20 there.
21 You could never put someone on
22 the opposite side of a monopole. There's no
23 way. There's nothing there.
24 MR. FORSYTH: Understood.
25 Okay.

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1 that.
2 MR. FORSYTH: -- and well --
3 and instead of -- part of -- part of the
4 function here is to train people. Correct?
5 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.
6 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
7 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes, it
8 is.
9 MR. FORSYTH: And novices
10 would be up on -- up on this tower. Correct?
11 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes.
12 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
13 And so novices don't
14 necessarily --
15 THE WITNESS (Jones): Yeah.
16 That's right. But they -- they would be
17 novices with guides that -- experienced
18 people, and that's why it's better to do that
19 on a training tower than in the real world --
20 in the --
21 THE WITNESS (Savino): We
22 would never have a training scenario where,
23 up top, on this structure, there wouldn't be
24 someone with more than sufficient experience.
25 And they have to be right alongside someone

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1 And so, on any given day,
2 there could be six people?
3 THE WITNESS (Savino): If
4 we -- if we needed to.
5 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
6 But it's not out of the
7 question?
8 THE WITNESS (Savino): It's
9 not out of the question. You know, if we
10 were to have training going on for first
11 responders, we -- we might do that.
12 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
13 And if -- if a training
14 exercise were -- were going on, would there
15 be people calling out instructions?
16 THE WITNESS (Savino): Oh, by
17 all means.
18 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
19 THE WITNESS (Savino): We use
20 two-way communications for everything that we
21 deal with. We're -- we're not going to yell,
22 in other words.
23 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
24 So you're saying that they --
25 they have radios --

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1 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes,
2 they do.
3 THE CHAIRMAN: Excuse me,
4 Attorney Forsyth.
5 MR. FORSYTH: Yes, sir.
6 THE CHAIRMAN: Can you give me
7 some idea of how much longer, because we are
8 going to break fairly --
9 MR. FORSYTH: A while.
10 THE CHAIRMAN: A while is
11 about as -- okay. I won't ask you to be more
12 specific --
13 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
14 THE CHAIRMAN: -- since you
15 didn't get any more specificity from
16 Mr. Libertine on the -- on the number of --
17 MR. FORSYTH: I appreciate
18 that, Mr. Chairman.
19 THE CHAIRMAN: So -- and we're
20 going to go for another five minutes, and
21 then we are going to break.
22 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
23 And -- and so the -- the
24 height from 140 to 180 is solely for training
25 purposes. Is that correct?

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1 THE WITNESS (Savino): No.
2 No, it's not. For this telecommunication
3 tower, we had the idea in mind to serve not
4 only the local towns, which we came to the
5 Town of Farmington and the Town of Avon and
6 asked their RF engineer if they need any
7 coverage whatsoever, is there any deficit in
8 this immediate area, because we're going to
9 offer free rent for them to be there. I want
10 to take care of the surrounding towns besides
11 Farmington.
12 We immediately looked to see
13 if there was any other needs, and we have
14 three other entities that want to be there.
15 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
16 And -- and we're going to find
17 out whether or not they absolutely need to
18 be --
19 THE WITNESS (Savino): Yes, if
20 they can go to that height or not.
21 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
22 And so a trainee -- let me go
23 back to trainees for just a minute.
24 THE WITNESS (Savino): Okay.
25 MR. FORSYTH: What would a

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1 trainee do when he or she is up on this
2 tower?
3 THE WITNESS (Savino): Pay
4 attention, first and foremost.
5 MR. FORSYTH: Okay. Good
6 thing.
7 THE WITNESS (Savino):
8 Listen -- listen to the commands, and this is
9 all talked about on the ground. When we --
10 just going to jump a little bit. When we go
11 to a job site, we have to have a toolbox
12 meeting. A toolbox meeting is a gathering of
13 everyone that's going to be on that
14 particular site at that particular compound,
15 and what tasks are at hand for the day, and
16 then, all of the risk, all of the dangers
17 that we need to be aware of, and then they
18 need to sign off that they understand.
19 So it's going to start with a
20 toolbox meeting. Here's what we're going to
21 be doing. You're going to climb this
22 structure. It's a hundred percent tied off
23 from the time you leave the ground with your
24 first foot until you're at your destination,
25 and then you're always a hundred percent tied

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1 off. And it goes on and on like that, and
2 that's how they're going to learn.
3 MR. FORSYTH: And what types
4 of functions will they undertake once they're
5 in the air?
6 THE WITNESS (Savino): It
7 depends on the individual. An individual
8 that has some very good common sense that we
9 see, we may allow them to participate a
10 little more aggressively than someone that
11 just doesn't have what we feel as -- as much
12 common sense.
13 So they're going to -- they're
14 going to follow the lead of the instructor.
15 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
16 THE WITNESS (Savino): It
17 depends -- it depends on what we're doing.
18 MR. FORSYTH: Okay. Give us
19 an example.
20 THE WITNESS (Savino): Okay.
21 We're going -- we're going to set that FM
22 antenna.
23 MR. FORSYTH: Okay.
24 THE WITNESS (Savino): They're
25 going to go up top, they're going to climb up

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1 top, and they're going to be right alongside
2 of the instructor as it is raised up,
3 trolled, so that it doesn't smash into the
4 tower, and then brought gently into the
5 tower. Then they're going to deal with the
6 necessary hardware to mount that antenna.
7 They're going to look at a compass. They're
8 going to be setting the azimuth that's
9 required for that particular antenna system,
10 so there's a lot to learn. This is a lot of
11 moving -- moving parts that they're going to
12 have to participate in.
13 MR. FORSYTH: Got it.
14 And they could be up there for
15 as long as eight hours?
16 THE WITNESS (Savino): No.
17 No. No. In a training segment, they're
18 coming down for lunch.
19 MR. FORSYTH: Oh. And then
20 they go back up.
21 THE WITNESS (Savino): Then
22 they're going back up. It's a short climb.
23 MR. FORSYTH: Yeah.
24 THE WITNESS (Savino): You
25 know, it sure beats up on Rattlesnake

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1 Mountain. You climb up, you're bringing
2 lunch.
3 MR. FORSYTH: And how is any
4 of that relevant to AT&T's need to provide
5 reliable service?
6 THE WITNESS (Savino): It's
7 not.
8 MR. LANGER: And I'm going to
9 object to asked and answered.
10 MR. FORSYTH: All right. All
11 right.
12 MR. LANGER: I think you've
13 made it clear, from your perspective, with
14 respect to training and AT&T's need.
15 THE CHAIRMAN: Yeah. Well,
16 I'm going to break it now. But I'm also a
17 little wondering -- the continual questions
18 on the details of the training is relevant,
19 so you might want to think about that.
20 MR. FORSYTH: I'd be happy to.
21 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Mr.
22 Chairman, if I may? I do have an answer to
23 Attorney Forsyth's question, not about the
24 number of homes, because there are obviously
25 several hundred up there, and I really have

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1 no idea, and I didn't mean to be rude or --
2 in any way.
3 But to answer your question,
4 to the west, what we're referring to as the
5 Highlands, those elevations range from about
6 250 feet to pushing 300. So you're anywhere
7 from 10 to 45 to 50 feet. It rises gently as
8 you move westward.
9 MR. FORSYTH: Good. Thank
10 you.
11 THE WITNESS (Libertine):
12 Thank you.
13 THE CHAIRMAN: We're going to
14 recess until 7 p.m, at which time we'll
15 commence the public session. Thank you.
16 (Whereupon, the witnesses were
17 excused, and the above proceedings were
18 adjourned at 5:03 p.m.)
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

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1 CERTIFICATE
2 I hereby certify that the foregoing 124
3 pages are a complete and accurate
4 computer-aided transcription of my original
5 verbatim notes taken of the Council Meeting
6 in Re: DOCKET NO. 454, TOWER HOLDINGS, LLC,
7 APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF
8 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED
9 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND
10 OPERATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY
11 LOCATED AT FARMINGTON TAX ASSESSOR PARCEL ID
12 MAPS 25 AND 26, LOTS 3A AND 3B, 199 BRICKYARD
13 ROAD, FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT, which was held
14 before ROBERT STEIN, Chairman, at Farmington
15 Town Hall, Council Chambers, 1 Monteith
16 Drive, Farmington, Connecticut, on February
17 3, 2015.
18
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20
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23
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25

Robert G. Dixon, CVR-M 857
Court Reporter
UNITED REPORTERS, INC.
90 Brainard Road, Suite 103
Hartford, Connecticut 06114

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WITNESSES	CHUCK REGULBUTO	
1	STEPHEN SAVINO, JR.	
2	ERNEST R. JONES	
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CROSS-EXAMINATION		
5	Mr. Mercier	- Page 15
EXHIBITS		
(Received in evidence.)		
EXHIBIT	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
7	II-B-1 Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need filed by Tower Holdings, LLC, received November 7, 2014, and attached and bulk filing attachments including:	15
8	a.) Town of Farmington, Zoning Regulations, Amended to October 10, 2014	
9	b.) Town of Farmington, Proposed Zone Change Map, November 3, 2011	
10	c.) Town of Farmington, Planning Division Map, Amended to April 5, 2013	
11	d.) Town of Farmington, Environmental Resource Inventory and Plan, August 2005	
12	e.) Town of Farmington, Regulations for Subdivision, Amended to September 26, 2008	
13	f.) Town of Farmington, Regulations for Inland Wetlands, Amended to April 9, 2011	
14	g.) Town of Farmington, Plan of Conservation and Development, Adopted February 22, 2008	
15	h.) Technical report, submitted to Town of Farmington on	

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EXHIBIT	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
1	II-B-2 Applicant's Supplemental Certification, dated November 10, 2014	15
2	II-B-3 Applicant's Responses to Council Interrogatories, dated January 5, 2015	15
3	II-B-4 Applicant's Submission of FAA Determination Letter, dated January 9, 2015	15
4	II-B-5 Affidavit of Sign Posting, dated January 23, 2015	15
5	II-B-6 Applicant's Responses to the Town of Farmington's Interrogatories, dated January 27, 2015	15
6	II-B-7 Applicant's Responses to the Department of Public Health's comments, dated January 27, 2015	15
7	II-B-8 Witness Resumes, submitted January 27, 2015	15
8	a.) Chuck Regulbuto	
9	b.) Michael Libertine	
10	c.) Robert C. Burns	
11	d.) Ernest R. Jones	
12	II-B-9 Pre-filed testimony of Ernest R. Jones, P.E., dated January 5, 2015	15