Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless Southington – East Street Facility 99 East Street Southington, Connecticut

Site Search Summary

Section 16-50j-74(j) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies requires the submission of a statement that describes "the narrowing process by which other possible sites were considered and eliminated." In accordance with this requirement, descriptions of the general site search process, the identification of the applicable search area and the alternative locations considered for development of the proposed telecommunications facility in Southington are provided below.

Site Search Process

To initiate its site selection process in an area where wireless service is needed, Cellco first establishes a "site search ring" or "site search area". In any search ring or search area, Cellco seeks to avoid the unnecessary proliferation of towers and to reduce the potential adverse environmental effects of the cell site, while at the same time maximizing the quality of service provided from a particular facility. These objectives are achieved by initially locating existing towers and other sufficiently tall structures within and near the site search area. If any are found, they are evaluated to determine whether they are capable of supporting Cellco's telecommunications antennas and related equipment at a location and elevation that satisfies its technical requirements.

The list of available locations may be further reduced if, after preliminary negotiations, the property owners withdraw a site from further consideration. From among the remaining locations, the proposed sites are selected by eliminating those that have greater potential for significant adverse environmental effects and fewer benefits to the public (i.e., those requiring taller towers, possibly with lights; those with substantial adverse environmental impacts, or in densely populated residential areas; and those with limited ability to share space with other public or private telecommunications service providers). It should be noted that in any given site search, the weight afforded to factors considered in the selection process will vary depending upon the availability and nature of sites within the search area.

Need

Within approximately two and one half miles of the proposed East Street cell site, Cellco maintains three (3) existing telecommunications facilities, identified as its Milldale, Southington 2 and Berlin 3 cell sites. Cellco's Milldale facility consists of antennas at the 138-foot level on an existing 160-foot monopole tower at 1394 Meriden-Waterbury Road in Southington. Cellco's Southington 2 facility consists of antennas at the 47.5-foot level on the roof of the building at 168 Center Street in Southington. Cellco's Berlin 3 facility consists of antennas at the 95-foot level on an existing 125-foot monopole tower at 1684 Chamberlain Highway in Berlin. Today, these existing facilities provide wireless coverage in southern portions of Southington but cannot

serve the significant area of need described in this report. In addition, Cellco's existing Milldale facility is currently operating at or near its capacity limits, resulting in more significant reductions in reliable wireless service in the area. Cellco's East Street cell site will also provide capacity relief to the Milldale cell site.

Identification of the East Street Search Area

The purpose of the proposed Southington – East Street Facility is to provide coverage along portions of Routes 120 and 364, local roads in the area and residential and commercial areas in southerly portions of Southington. The facility will also provide network capacity relief to Cellco's existing Milldale cell site which is currently operating at or near its capacity limit. (See attached Coverage Maps behind Attachment 1).

Sites Investigated

Cellco investigated a total of seven (7) sites in southern Southington. A listing of the sites investigated is provided below.

- 1. <u>99 East Street, Southington, CT</u>: Cellco has entered into a lease agreement with the Town of Southington, the property owner, for an East Street tower site.
- 2. <u>Village Gate Drive, Southington, CT</u>: This is a parcel owned by the Southington Water Department and is developed with a water tank and a small lattice radio tower. The Water Department was not interested in leasing space to Cellco.
- 3. <u>CT-DOT Garage, Tanya Court, Southington, CT</u>: This is a DOT Garage parcel in an existing residential area. The DOT was not interested in leasing space to Cellco for a tower site.
- **4. 77 Faye Lane:** Cellco investigated and considered a residential parcel at this address. This site was rejected by Cellco's RF engineers.
- 5. <u>630 Savage Street</u> Mountain Grove Club: Cellco investigated and considered a residential parcel at this address. This site was rejected by Cellco's RF engineers.
- 6. <u>150 Savage Street</u> Southington Country Club: Cellco was unable to find a suitable location on the Country Club parcel of a tower site and compound.
- 7. <u>Savage Street</u>: Cellco investigated the use of an 18 acre parcel off Steeplechase Drive. The owner was not interested in leasing space to Cellco for a tower site.

