



Transcript of the Hearing of

**Date:** March 10, 2015

**Volume:** 1

**Case:** SITING COUNCIL - DOCKET NO. 455

Printed On: March 19, 2015

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Docket No. 455

Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless,  
Application for a Certificate of  
Environmental Compatibility and Public Need  
for the Construction, Maintenance, and  
Operation of a Telecommunications Facility  
Located at Southington Tax Assessor Map/Lot  
066053, 99 East Street, Southington,  
Connecticut

Public Hearing held at the Southington  
Town Hall, Council Chambers, 75 Main Street,  
Southington, Connecticut, Tuesday, March 10,  
2015, beginning at 3:00 p.m.

H e l d        B e f o r e :

ROBERT STEIN, Chairperson

SITING COUNCIL - DOCKET NO. 455  
March 10, 2015

Page 2	Page 4
<p>1     A p p e a r a n c e s:</p> <p>2         Council Members:</p> <p>3             COMM. MICHAEL CARON, PURA Designee</p> <p>4             ROBERT HANNON, DEEP Designee</p> <p>5             DR. MICHAEL W. KLEMENS</p> <p>6             DANIEL P. LYNCH, JR.</p> <p>7             PHILIP T. ASHTON</p> <p>8             DR. BARBARA C. BELL</p> <p>9</p> <p>10         Council Staff:</p> <p>11             MELANIE BACHMAN, ESQ.</p> <p>12             Executive Director and</p> <p>13             Staff Attorney</p> <p>14</p> <p>15             FRED CUNLIFFE</p> <p>16             Supervising Siting Analyst</p> <p>17</p> <p>18         For Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon</p> <p>19         Wireless:</p> <p>20             ROBINSON &amp; COLE, LLP</p> <p>21             280 Trumbull Street</p> <p>22             Hartford, Connecticut 06103</p> <p>23             By: KENNETH C. BALDWIN, ESQ.</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>	<p>1     operation of a telecommunication facility</p> <p>2     located at 99 East Street in Southington,</p> <p>3     Connecticut. This application was received</p> <p>4     by the Council on December 30, 2014.</p> <p>5             As a reminder to all,</p> <p>6     off-the-record communication with a member of</p> <p>7     the Council or a member of the Council's</p> <p>8     staff upon the merits of the application is</p> <p>9     prohibited by law.</p> <p>10             The applicant in these</p> <p>11     proceedings is, as mentioned, Celco</p> <p>12     Partnership, Verizon Wireless. Attorney</p> <p>13     Baldwin is their representative.</p> <p>14             We'll proceed in accordance</p> <p>15     with the prepared agenda, copies of which are</p> <p>16     available. Also available are copies of the</p> <p>17     Council's citizen guide to Siting Council</p> <p>18     procedures. At the end of this afternoon's</p> <p>19     session, we will recess and resume again at</p> <p>20     7 p m. The 7 p.m. hearing session will be</p> <p>21     reserved for the public to make brief oral</p> <p>22     statements into the record.</p> <p>23             I wish to note that parties</p> <p>24     and intervenors, including their</p> <p>25     representatives and witnesses are not allowed</p>
Page 3	Page 5
<p>1             THE CHAIRPERSON: Good</p> <p>2     afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. This</p> <p>3     hearing of the Connecticut Siting Council is</p> <p>4     called to order today, Tuesday, March 10th,</p> <p>5     2015, at approximately 3 p m. My name is</p> <p>6     Robin Stein. I'm chairman of the Connecticut</p> <p>7     Siting Council. Other members of the Council</p> <p>8     present are Mr. Hannon, designee from the</p> <p>9     Department of Energy and Environmental</p> <p>10     Protection; Mr. Commissioner Caron, who's the</p> <p>11     designee from the Public Utilities Regulatory</p> <p>12     Authority; Mr. Ashton; Dr. Klemens; Dr. Bell;</p> <p>13     and Mr. Lynch.</p> <p>14             Members of the staff present</p> <p>15     are Attorney Bachman, who's our executive</p> <p>16     director, and Fred Cunliffe who's our</p> <p>17     supervising siting analyst.</p> <p>18             This hearing is held pursuant</p> <p>19     to the provisions of Title 16 of the</p> <p>20     Connecticut General Statutes and of the</p> <p>21     Uniform Administrative Procedure Act upon</p> <p>22     application from Cellco partnership, d/b/a</p> <p>23     Verizon Wireless for a certificate of</p> <p>24     environmental compatibility and public need</p> <p>25     for the construction, maintenance and</p>	<p>1     to participate in the public comment session.</p> <p>2     I also wish to note for those who are here</p> <p>3     and for the benefit of your friends and</p> <p>4     neighbors who are unable to join us for the</p> <p>5     public comment session that you or they may</p> <p>6     send written statements to the Council within</p> <p>7     30 days of the date hereof and such written</p> <p>8     statements will be given the same weight as</p> <p>9     if spoken at the hearing.</p> <p>10             A verbatim transcript will be</p> <p>11     made of this hearing and deposited with the</p> <p>12     town clerk's office in Southington for the</p> <p>13     convenience of the public.</p> <p>14             To start off, is there any</p> <p>15     public official here who would like to speak?</p> <p>16             (No response.)</p> <p>17             THE CHAIRPERSON: I wish to</p> <p>18     call your attention to those items on the</p> <p>19     hearing program marked as Roman numeral 1D</p> <p>20     items, 1 through 61. Does the Applicant have</p> <p>21     any objection to the items that the Council</p> <p>22     has noticed?</p> <p>23             MR. BALDWIN: No,</p> <p>24     Mr. Chairman.</p> <p>25             THE CHAIRPERSON: Accordingly,</p>

2 (Pages 2 to 5)

Page 6

1 the Council hereby notices these existing  
2 document statements and comments.  
3 I'll have the appearance by  
4 the Applicant, and Attorney Baldwin, will you  
5 present your witness panel for the purposes  
6 of taking the oath?  
7 MR. BALDWIN: Yes,  
8 Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon. Kenneth  
9 Baldwin with Robinson & Cole on behalf of the  
10 applicants, Cellco Partnership, doing  
11 business as Verizon Wireless.  
12 Our witness panel today  
13 consists of the following. To my left, the  
14 Council's right, is Mr. Mike Libertine with  
15 All-Points Technology Corporation. To my  
16 immediate left is Sandy Carter, regulatory  
17 manager with Cellco Partnership. To my right  
18 is Jamie Laredo, radio frequency engineer  
19 with Cellco Partnership.  
20 To Mr. Laredo's right is Carlo  
21 Centore, a professional engineer with Sintech  
22 Engineering. And to Mr. Centore's right is  
23 Dean Gustafson, a wetland scientist and  
24 professional soil scientist with All-Points  
25 Technology. And I present them to be sworn

Page 7

1 at this time, Mr. Chairman.  
2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.  
3 Please rise.  
4 MICHAEL LIBERTINE,  
5 SANDY CARTER,  
6 DEAN GUSTAFSON,  
7 CARLO F. CENTORE,  
8 JAMIE LAREDO,  
9 called as witnesses, being first duly  
10 sworn by the Executive Director, were  
11 examined and testified on their oaths as  
12 follows:  
13 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Chairman,  
14 the hearing program identifies eight exhibits  
15 that the Applicant would like to have  
16 admitted into the record this afternoon.  
17 They are listed in the program under Roman  
18 II, Subsection B, items 1 through 8. And I  
19 offer them at this time for identification  
20 purposes subject to verification by the  
21 witnesses.  
22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Is there any  
23 objection?  
24 (No response.)  
25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Continue

Page 8

1 please.  
2 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Chairman,  
3 the only exhibit that I think the Council is  
4 just receiving today is the March 3, 2015,  
5 letter from the State Historic Preservation  
6 Officer. That is a new exhibit that wasn't  
7 in the original packet, just for your  
8 reference.  
9 I'll ask my witness panel, did  
10 you prepare or assist in the preparation of  
11 the exhibits listed in the hearing program  
12 under Roman II, Subsection B, 1 through 8?  
13 Mr. Libertine?  
14 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes  
15 I did.  
16 MR. BALDWIN: Mrs. Carter?  
17 THE WITNESS (Carter): Yes, I  
18 did.  
19 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Laredo?  
20 THE WITNESS (Laredo): Yes, I  
21 did.  
22 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Centore?  
23 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes, I  
24 did.  
25 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?

Page 9

1 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.  
2 MR. BALDWIN: And do you have  
3 any corrections, modifications or amendments  
4 to offer to any of those exhibits at this  
5 time? Mr. Libertine?  
6 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I  
7 have none at this time.  
8 MR. BALDWIN: Mrs. Carter?  
9 THE WITNESS (Carter): Yes, I  
10 do. On the application narrative, on page 21  
11 under United States Fish and Wildlife  
12 Service, Section C, where it says, see  
13 section Roman Numeral III D3B1, it should  
14 read see Section III C4B1.  
15 The second correction is on  
16 the same page, under D, Connecticut  
17 Department of Energy and Environmental  
18 Protection, Subsection 1, where it says, see  
19 section Roman Numeral III D3B2. It should  
20 say see Section III C4B2.  
21 And the last correction is on  
22 the same page under Section E, Connecticut  
23 State Historic Preservation Officer, where it  
24 says see section Roman numeral III D3B3. It  
25 should say Section III C4B4. That is all.

Page 10

1 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Laredo, any  
2 corrections or modifications?  
3 THE WITNESS (Laredo): Yes.  
4 On page 7 of the application narrative under  
5 the need for the East Street facility, the  
6 last part of it should read "as plots showing  
7 coverage from Cellco's existing Milldale,  
8 Southington 2; Berlin 3; Meriden, Southington  
9 North, Plainville 3; New Britain 2; New  
10 Britain 4 and Berlin/Kensington cell sites,  
11 and together with the coverage from the  
12 proposed East Street facility are included as  
13 Attachment 6. That would be all.  
14 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Centore?  
15 THE WITNESS (Centore): No.  
16 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?  
17 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): No  
18 corrections.  
19 MR. BALDWIN: And with those  
20 corrections and modifications, is the  
21 information contained in those exhibits true  
22 and accurate to the best of your knowledge?  
23 Mr. Libertine?  
24 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes.  
25 MR. BALDWIN: Mrs. Carter?

Page 11

1 THE WITNESS (Carter): Yes.  
2 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Laredo.  
3 THE WITNESS (Laredo): Yes, I  
4 do.  
5 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Centore?  
6 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes.  
7 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?  
8 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.  
9 MR. BALDWIN: And do you adopt  
10 the information contained in these exhibits  
11 as your testimony today? Mr. Libertine?  
12 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes,  
13 I do.  
14 MR. BALDWIN: Mrs. Carter?  
15 THE WITNESS (Carter): Yes.  
16 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Laredo.  
17 THE WITNESS (Laredo): Yes.  
18 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Centore?  
19 THE WITNESS (Centore): I do.  
20 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?  
21 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.  
22 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Chairman, I  
23 offer them as full exhibits.  
24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.  
25 The exhibits are admitted. We'll now begin

Page 12

1 with cross-examination by staff, Mr.  
2 Cunliffe.  
3 MR. CUNLIFFE: Thank you,  
4 Mr. Chairman.  
5 CROSS-EXAMINATION  
6 MR. CUNLIFFE: Did you fly a  
7 balloon today at the proposed site?  
8 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes.  
9 There's been a red helium filled balloon at  
10 the site since approximately quarter to eight  
11 this morning. And that will be up until  
12 after 6 p.m. according to the Council's  
13 request.  
14 We did lose one balloon during  
15 the site walk that we all witnessed. It did  
16 get back up. It is tethered, string tethered  
17 at a height of 95 feet with an approximate  
18 4-foot diameter balloon on top of that to  
19 simulate the height of 97 feet.  
20 MR. CUNLIFFE: And could you  
21 describe the weather conditions?  
22 THE WITNESS (Libertine):  
23 Certainly. We had clear skies  
24 and very low winds, probably about 2 miles an  
25 hour or less up until midday -- things got a

Page 13

1 little bit more turbulent, and we're probably  
2 more in the 4 to 6-mile an hour range at the  
3 moment, but for the most part it's been a  
4 fairly good day at keeping the balloon aloft  
5 in place and at its full height, but  
6 obviously, we have some deflections midday.  
7 MR. CUNLIFFE: Thank you. Did  
8 Cellco consider other stealth camouflage type  
9 technologies for the tower?  
10 THE WITNESS (Libertine): We  
11 did have some discussions and went through  
12 kind of the, what I'll consider to be the --  
13 the normal rotation of options. One was to  
14 do something with a concealed pole. The  
15 technology and where it's leading today is  
16 not really -- it doesn't really fit that type  
17 of facility any longer without getting into  
18 much, much wider facilities to be able to  
19 accommodate it. So we felt as though that  
20 wasn't going to work.  
21 We did talk briefly about  
22 doing some kind of a tighter array, but there  
23 were limitations for that, as well, and a  
24 full array, was needed here. So we thought  
25 with the -- the backdrop of trees that are

1 there today we felt combined with the low,  
2 relatively low height that was proposed for  
3 the facility we felt the monopine was our  
4 best option for doing some type of  
5 camouflaging.

6 MR. CUNLIFFE: Would a silo be  
7 one that you thought of?

8 THE WITNESS (Libertine): A  
9 silo in this location, certainly there's, you  
10 know, an agricultural component to the -- the  
11 property. We didn't really consider a silo,  
12 mostly in -- from my own personal -- I can't  
13 speak to any of the other construction  
14 related or RF related issues, but for mine, I  
15 didn't really see the context.

16 There are no structures on  
17 this property. No other buildings. No  
18 barns, and so I felt a silo might actually --  
19 because it would have to be a minimum, we're  
20 talking, 18 feet in diameter. Probably a  
21 little bit more than that. My feeling was  
22 that was going to be a much larger surface  
23 area.

24 And again, because of the  
25 backdrop, it seemed to be -- although I

1 the only other thing is the Town does want to  
2 use this, so -- although the whips could be  
3 affixed on top, it's just one other component  
4 that has to be taken into consideration.

5 And I guess there's another  
6 related issue -- would be, I'm not sure how  
7 the SHPO, State Historic Preservation Office,  
8 might feel about that. We had, as you are  
9 probably aware, we had a bit of a wrestling  
10 match on this site. They -- I can't speak  
11 specifically to silos, but I know any  
12 camouflage technique, we get into quite a bit  
13 of back and forth with that particular  
14 office. So that that's just one other  
15 component that I'm not sure what their  
16 reaction would -- would be to something like  
17 that.

18 MR. CUNLIFFE: So a change in  
19 design would require a second look?

20 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Or a  
21 third in this case, yes, absolutely.

22 MR. CUNLIFFE: In Council's  
23 Question Number 10, the Council requested  
24 data from traffic counts. Cellco provided  
25 numbers of residences. Can Cellco provide

1 wouldn't rule it out as a potential for this  
2 site, I felt as though the tree, from my  
3 perspective, just worked much better in the  
4 context of what we're dealing with out there.

5 MR. CUNLIFFE: And what would  
6 be the confines to maybe sharing something to  
7 that effect as well on a silo?

8 THE WITNESS (Libertine):  
9 Well, I'd probably ask Mr.  
10 Centore to weigh in a little bit on that.  
11 I -- I don't know if there would be  
12 necessarily -- the major drawback there would  
13 be if somebody came in later and wanted to  
14 use a height above us. Then we start to get  
15 into some structural issues and other things.  
16 It certainly can be done, but --

17 THE WITNESS (Centore): There  
18 would only be structural concerns in terms of  
19 making sure that the silo, if that were the  
20 option, that it would be extendable. My  
21 concern would be that any lower heights in  
22 that area within the silo may not accommodate  
23 carriers, but it could be engineered to be  
24 extensible.

25 THE WITNESS (Libertine): And

1 the DOT average annual daily traffic data?

2 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Chairman, I  
3 think we have another correction to offer.  
4 Well, why don't we have our witness speak to  
5 it?

6 THE WITNESS (Laredo): Those  
7 words, "residences," I think should be  
8 translated to trips and actual traffic, not  
9 residences.

10 MR. CUNLIFFE: Vehicles?

11 THE WITNESS (Laredo): Yes.

12 DR. BELL: Mr. Chairman?

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: Yes, we have  
14 a follow-up question by --

15 DR. BELL: I just wanted to  
16 ask, what page are we on with that  
17 correction?

18 MR. BALDWIN: Page 5 of the  
19 interrogatory responses, Dr. Bell.

20 DR. BELL: Thank you.

21 MR. BALDWIN: Response  
22 Number 10.

23 MR. CUNLIFFE: To date have  
24 any other wireless carriers expressed an  
25 interest in collocating on your proposed

1 facility?  
2 THE WITNESS (Carter): No, no  
3 other wireless carrier has expressed  
4 interest, just the Town of Southington.  
5 MR. CUNLIFFE: In response to  
6 Council's Question 6, Cellco provided  
7 percentage of dropped call and effective  
8 attempts. What is Cellco's threshold for  
9 substandard service?  
10 THE WITNESS (Laredo):  
11 Specifically, for this type of  
12 environment it is ideal to have a .5 percent  
13 dropped call rate and ineffective attempts.  
14 MR. LYNCH: Mr. Chairman?  
15 THE CHAIRPERSON: A follow-up,  
16 Mr. Lynch.  
17 MR. LYNCH: Yeah, with regards  
18 to the same question Number 6, and in your  
19 response, second sentence, you use the term  
20 "effective attempts." What does that mean?  
21 Does that mean attempts for calls or  
22 unrelated calls or both?  
23 THE WITNESS (Centore): Just  
24 to clarify, that's "ineffective attempts."  
25 And that refers to CDMA voice.

1 MR. LYNCH: Could you speak  
2 up? I can't hear.  
3 THE WITNESS (Laredo): That  
4 ineffective attempts statistics actually  
5 refers to CDMA voice call access. So when  
6 you try to make a call, that's the -- it  
7 flags whenever you cannot connect to the --  
8 to the network.  
9 MR. LYNCH: Okay. Then my  
10 follow-up question would be, how do you  
11 calculate nonrelated call interruptions for  
12 people that are streaming or going to an app  
13 or, you know, trying to text? Well, text  
14 doesn't really matter, but if your app isn't  
15 functional or you're trying to go to the  
16 clouds, or you're trying to stream something,  
17 you know and it doesn't work and it's  
18 actually ineffective, how do you calculate  
19 that?  
20 THE WITNESS (Laredo): The  
21 main impact of this one is system delay, as  
22 system delay in -- in downloading data. So  
23 it actually drags the call to a point where  
24 the user equipment wasn't able to finish the  
25 data session that it's supposed to do if it's

1 data related transaction or traffic.  
2 MR. LYNCH: I'm not sure I  
3 really got it. So I guess is there another  
4 way -- let me put it this way, is there  
5 another way of monitoring data than how you  
6 monitor calls?  
7 THE WITNESS (Laredo): Other  
8 than statistics, we do routine drive tests in  
9 the area so we were able to pinpoint where  
10 the problem starts and how we can relate it  
11 to the actual RF characteristic in the area.  
12 MR. LYNCH: And as we move  
13 into a more data related environment, rather  
14 than a call environment, do you have to  
15 monitor that more closely than you do the  
16 dropped calls?  
17 THE WITNESS (Laredo): Yes.  
18 Yes, we do, especially everything will be  
19 heading towards voice transmitted on all  
20 packets of data.  
21 MR. LYNCH: Is a voice being  
22 used here, voice IP?  
23 THE WITNESS (Laredo): Yes,  
24 its pretty much activated in all the cell  
25 sites nowadays.

1 MR. LYNCH: Thank you,  
2 Mr. Chairman.  
3 MR. CUNLIFFE: And to  
4 follow-up on substandard service, what is  
5 Cellco's tolerance for that substandard  
6 service?  
7 THE WITNESS (Laredo): We're  
8 talking about CDMA signal level?  
9 MR. CUNLIFFE: Uh-huh.  
10 THE WITNESS (Laredo): It's  
11 neg 85 dBm.  
12 MR. CUNLIFFE: And you stated  
13 the standard threshold was .5 percent. Your  
14 responses were, like, in the over 1 percent  
15 range. So anything over .5 percent is not  
16 tolerant?  
17 THE WITNESS (Laredo): There  
18 are situations that we tolerate that kind of  
19 situation, but for this specific one it's  
20 double than -- than the ideal success rate.  
21 MR. CUNLIFFE: Okay. The  
22 coverage plots for the 700 megahertz and  
23 2100 megahertz refer to signal threshold of  
24 120 dB operational path loss. And the  
25 850 megahertz and the 1900 megahertz

1 frequencies referred to a signal threshold of  
2 negative 85 dBm. Could you describe the  
3 difference between those two thresholds by  
4 carrier?  
5 THE WITNESS (Laredo): The  
6 most obvious difference between the two  
7 metrics, CDMA plots shows RSSI, which is  
8 received signal strength indicator -- that's  
9 the actual transmitted power received by the  
10 user equipment end; while RLOPL, or reverse  
11 link operational path loss, that's actually  
12 all the -- the attenuation that a transmitted  
13 signal from the user equipment will  
14 experience before it reaches receiver in the  
15 wireless facility end.  
16 MR. CUNLIFFE: When you're  
17 speaking of a user's equipment, you're  
18 speaking to a mobile device, like an iPad or  
19 a phone?  
20 THE WITNESS (Laredo): It can  
21 be a tablet, a phone or even data card used  
22 in computers.  
23 MR. CUNLIFFE: All right.  
24 Cellco stated in response to Question 16 that  
25 the tower is designed with 10-foot above

1 Cellco's antennas for future use by the Town.  
2 Did the Town provide data to substantiate the  
3 90-foot height for its use?  
4 THE WITNESS (Centore): They  
5 did not.  
6 MR. CUNLIFFE: And did the  
7 Town provide any information regarding the  
8 types of antennas they might install?  
9 THE WITNESS (Centore): We  
10 had -- we had some preliminary conversations  
11 due to concerns of mounting and attachment,  
12 and they're -- they're looking at a whip --  
13 whip type of antenna. We don't have a -- we  
14 don't have a model number at this point.  
15 MR. CUNLIFFE: Is there a  
16 reason to incorporate the added 10 feet now?  
17 Is there a tower design that, as far as  
18 attaching something in the future it's better  
19 to put it in at this point than putting in  
20 something at 80 and then having to bolt  
21 something to that, and then assuming that it  
22 may go up even higher than that?  
23 THE WITNESS (Carter): The  
24 Town has indicated to us that they do want to  
25 use the site in the future. So we -- we do

1 know that, and normally there's 10 feet of  
2 separation, so we're -- we're locating  
3 80 feet, hence the 90-foot monopine.  
4 We could -- we could certainly  
5 build it to 80 feet and put the top seven  
6 branches on the top. It would be more  
7 difficult to extend it later. It will be  
8 built with a 20-foot extension capability,  
9 and in order to increase the height of the  
10 monopine -- we're doing this in Vermont  
11 presently -- we have to put up the extension  
12 and then push all the branches up. That's  
13 the way it's going to be designed and  
14 disguised. So it would be something would be  
15 more difficult in the future rather than just  
16 incorporating the 10 feet at this time.  
17 MR. LYNCH: Mr. Chairman?  
18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Lynch.  
19 MR. LYNCH: Thank you, Fred.  
20 You're leading into all my questions. I can  
21 get rid of them early.  
22 Do we have any time frame on  
23 when the Town may use -- want to use the  
24 tower? Because you're asking us to bank an  
25 extra 10 feet with no time frame involved.

1 THE WITNESS (Carter): They  
2 did -- they did not give us a time frame.  
3 They just indicated that there -- there would  
4 be a need for some type of antenna on top of  
5 the tower, and considering that it's on Town  
6 owned property they -- they can -- they can  
7 do it.  
8 MR. LYNCH: And another  
9 follow-up. If we don't -- are we sure  
10 they're only going to use whip antennas,  
11 because I know a lot of municipalities are  
12 now using microwave technology. So do we  
13 have any idea on that, Mr. Centore?  
14 THE WITNESS (Centore): We  
15 don't, but I would think that -- we don't  
16 have any idea, but I would think that  
17 whatever -- whatever antenna type, whether  
18 it's a small dish for a -- for a microwave  
19 technology or a whip could be accommodated  
20 within those, those branches.  
21 MR. LYNCH: You answered my  
22 next question which was, you know, would a  
23 microwave have problems getting through the  
24 branches?  
25 THE WITNESS (Centore): We



1 have a -- we have a similar design that was  
2 proposed in -- on Ritch Avenue in Greenwich,  
3 which has a microwave dish at the top behind  
4 the -- behind to the branches.  
5 MR. ASHTON: The branch. Oh,  
6 the branch.  
7 MR. LYNCH: Thank you,  
8 Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Fred.  
9 MR. CUNLIFFE: To follow up on  
10 Mr. Lynch's observations about the types of  
11 antennas at the top, how would they be  
12 disguised or how would they affect the  
13 visibility of the proposed monopine?  
14 THE WITNESS (Centore): In the  
15 case of -- in the case of a panel antenna, if  
16 that were to be implemented here, it would  
17 be -- it would be screened pretty well by the  
18 branches. In the case of the whip antenna  
19 I -- I would think that you would see a  
20 2-inch diameter rod extending up beyond  
21 the -- beyond the top or hidden within the  
22 branches, but at some point would be -- would  
23 be visible if you're looking for it.  
24 THE WITNESS (Libertine):  
25 Yeah, at the distances off the site where

1 this facility will be visible, I think you'd  
2 be hard-pressed to pick out that, especially  
3 with the backdrop of other trees.  
4 MR. CUNLIFFE: If the tower  
5 were extended, how would that affect the  
6 Town's position on the tower? Are they  
7 reserving the top only, so if it went up  
8 20 feet they still have the position at the  
9 top, or it's at the 90-foot level reserved?  
10 THE WITNESS (Centore): That's  
11 a very good question, and I would think that  
12 if -- if a whip antenna technology were to be  
13 used here, it would need to be relocated to  
14 the top for it to -- for it to get the proper  
15 separation.  
16 MR. CUNLIFFE: Thank you. Is  
17 the proposed tower capable of being extended  
18 20 feet in height?  
19 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes.  
20 MR. CUNLIFFE: And does that  
21 20 feet potentially accommodate two  
22 additional carriers?  
23 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes.  
24 MR. CUNLIFFE: And has Cellco  
25 had experience extending a monopine tower? I

1 believe Ms. Carter already started to tell us  
2 a story.  
3 THE WITNESS (Carter): As  
4 stated previously, we are in the process  
5 right now in Hartford, Vermont, to extend a  
6 90-foot monopine 20 feet, so it's -- it's  
7 being proposed and permitted right now.  
8 MR. CUNLIFFE: It was at the  
9 top?  
10 And this would be probably  
11 your only instance that you can speak of, or  
12 have you attempted other extensions of  
13 monopines?  
14 THE WITNESS (Carter): This is  
15 our first experience with extending a  
16 monopine since the tower has probably been up  
17 about 12 years, and so it's our first  
18 experience with extending it.  
19 MR. CUNLIFFE: And have you  
20 had any issues in accommodating new antenna  
21 designs or radio heads being installed with  
22 the rollout of new equipment? Just in  
23 typical monopines, not just extending them,  
24 just adding to them.  
25 THE WITNESS (Carter): Not to

1 my knowledge. We've done antenna changes,  
2 and we have not experienced any problems.  
3 THE WITNESS (Centore): And in  
4 terms of construction we've had cases or  
5 situations where we needed to reinforce or  
6 supplement the T-arm mounts to -- to adapt to  
7 some of the radio heads that need to be  
8 installed up on the towers, still all  
9 screened by the branches and painted to match  
10 the -- the tower.  
11 MR. CUNLIFFE: If the tower  
12 were to be extended, would it require an  
13 additional review by SHPO?  
14 THE WITNESS (Libertine):  
15 There -- there is some,  
16 actually, pending change in the regulations  
17 at the federal level that are still a little  
18 in flux. But to answer your question, there  
19 is the national programmatic agreement that's  
20 in place today -- would allow a 20-foot  
21 extension without a rereview, again provided  
22 you folks at your level need could be  
23 prevented and all of that. But, yeah,  
24 20 feet is kind of the magic number for a  
25 facility of this height.

1 MR. CUNLIFFE: Did Cellco  
2 explore use of an existing 250-foot  
3 self-supporting lattice radio tower located  
4 approximately 5,000 feet due west of the  
5 proposed tower? This tower is located on 40  
6 Old Turnpike Road. I believe this is a radio  
7 tower. It might jog your memory.

8 THE WITNESS (Carter): No, it  
9 was not considered.

10 MR. CUNLIFFE: Could antennas  
11 at a higher height on this tower provide the  
12 necessary coverage?

13 MR. BALDWIN: We're still  
14 talking about the Old Turnpike Road tower?

15 MR. CUNLIFFE: Yes.

16 MR. BALDWIN: Perhaps that's  
17 something we can take a look at over the  
18 dinner break, if we could take that as a  
19 homework assignment?

20 MR. CUNLIFFE: Thank you.

21 Would Cellco agree that use of  
22 an existing electric transmission structure  
23 to support wireless antennas was pursued more  
24 often in the past than it is today?

25 THE WITNESS (Carter): Yes.

1 MR. ASHTON: I saw the remark  
2 in the response to that, and I found it  
3 troubling. You say your last conversation  
4 was two to three years ago. Does that imply  
5 that you are going to get off of existing  
6 towers because of the, I'll use the word,  
7 "inconvenience" that they represent?

8 THE WITNESS (Carter): We are  
9 looking at least one of the towers that we  
10 are trying to relo off of because of the  
11 problems in accessing those towers. For that  
12 particular site, I believe we had to wait two  
13 years before we could change out the antennas  
14 and do any repairs, and that just interrupts  
15 our network reliability.

16 MR. ASHTON: This Council has  
17 had applications as recently as this year  
18 where other carriers have gone on towers.  
19 Can you explain why they would and you won't?

20 THE WITNESS (Carter): I  
21 cannot speak for other carriers or why they  
22 do things or don't do things .

23 MR. ASHTON: What's the  
24 scuttlebutt?

25 THE WITNESS (Carter): It's

1 MR. CUNLIFFE: And can Cellco  
2 recall the last conversation that they've had  
3 with Eversource Energy, formerly known as  
4 CL&P, on collocating on an existing electric  
5 transmission structure?

6 THE WITNESS (Carter): I -- I  
7 can't be certain, but I would say at least  
8 two to three years ago there was a meeting to  
9 discuss the use of the transmission lines.

10 And as indicated in the interrogatories to  
11 Question Number 15, we state why we do not  
12 utilize transmission lines any longer due to  
13 the inability to change out antennas or to  
14 repair antennas and to do our due diligence  
15 on a tower, because they cannot be shut down  
16 very easily, or some of them cannot be shut  
17 down at all.

18 And so, when we do have a  
19 problem with antennas or we have to change  
20 out antennas, we interrupt our service and  
21 our reliability for that service, and so,  
22 therefore, we have not sought out  
23 transmission lines any longer.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Ashton  
25 would like to follow up.

1 just that Verizon takes its network  
2 reliability very seriously and that when our  
3 RF people tell us that we're having problems  
4 with a broken antenna or that an antenna is  
5 not performing the way it should or we have  
6 to do our antenna changes or add new 700 LTE  
7 or AWS antennas to the tower and we cannot,  
8 it is unacceptable to Verizon to not be able  
9 to complete their work.

10 And we've had numerous times  
11 where we -- we were not able to do the work  
12 because the transmission lines cannot be shut  
13 down.

14 MR. ASHTON: Do you know where  
15 the revenue goes from your rental to,  
16 formally CL&P now -- or Eversource, does that  
17 go back to ratepayers do you know?

18 THE WITNESS (Carter): No, I  
19 do not. I have no idea.

20 MR. ASHTON: Okay. Thank you  
21 very much.

22 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Just  
23 as a follow-up to that, if this is helpful,  
24 we actually did look at these towers  
25 initially, but obviously, we have some issues

1 with being able to access them, and I know  
2 there are, to your point, the other carriers  
3 that are still using those.  
4 From my perspective, and  
5 again, I don't want to speak for either  
6 Verizon or the other carriers, but I look at  
7 it similarly to a business decision that some  
8 of the carriers are making as to whether or  
9 not they're going to have a backup generator  
10 at their site. They've made the decision  
11 that they can use these structures and  
12 knowing full well that there's going to be  
13 times that they can't access them. They're  
14 going to have to wait for outages, so there  
15 is -- there is a different philosophy, I  
16 think, among different carriers.  
17 In this case, we made a  
18 conscious decision, even if we could have  
19 used those towers not to. And actually,  
20 Mr. Gustafson and I were at the initial site  
21 design visit, and we reported back to Ms.  
22 Carter that our feeling was there are homes  
23 that are really literally right next to those  
24 towers today, and they're so open there  
25 adding the infrastructure on top, I felt from

1 my perspective, was going to be just an  
2 eyeseore.  
3 So it's kind of a combination  
4 here of being a site-specific issue as well  
5 as a bigger systems issue, in general, as  
6 well. So it's kind of a combined conundrum  
7 here.  
8 MR. ASHTON: Thank you.  
9 That's all for now.  
10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Bell.  
11 DR. BELL: Just one more  
12 follow-up. In the case that you mentioned  
13 where you're trying to get off the tower and  
14 you're at a two- or three-year delay, do you  
15 know if that was a 345 or a 115?  
16 THE WITNESS (Carter): I'm  
17 told it was a 345.  
18 DR. BELL: Because just  
19 thinking back over the cases that we've had,  
20 they're usually 150s where we've seen some  
21 action within the past year that Mr. Ashton  
22 may have been referring to.  
23 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I  
24 think you're absolutely right, Dr. Bell. I  
25 think -- and I, my understanding is that 345s

1 are generally from --  
2 MR. ASHTON: There are a few.  
3 THE WITNESS (Libertine):  
4 There are a few mostly where  
5 there are -- where there's redundancy and  
6 double lines so that if one can go up they  
7 can have more frequent outages or planned  
8 outages. But I think you're absolutely  
9 right. I think the vast majority are going  
10 on the 115s. I think they have a shorter  
11 lead time for them to coordinate the outages.  
12 DR. BELL: But so just to get  
13 back to the base question here. So your  
14 dislike or your unwillingness to go onto  
15 towers would include the 115 lines as well as  
16 the 345 lines?  
17 THE WITNESS (Carter): That is  
18 my understanding from Verizon, yes.  
19 DR. BELL: Thank you.  
20 MR. ASHTON: There are  
21 locations along the Atlantic seaboard, I've  
22 seen, where 500 kV towers have cell towers in  
23 their tops. So I haven't figured out yet how  
24 this experience gets made consistent across  
25 the Northeast. To my mind there are some

1 differences that I find surprising as a  
2 person with a little bit of a background in  
3 this area.  
4 THE WITNESS (Centore): I'd  
5 like to step in a little bit, because I -- I  
6 deal with the utility towers quite a bit  
7 working with Connecticut Light & Power. And  
8 we've found that it doesn't necessarily mean  
9 if it's a 115 or 345 kVA line if it -- if  
10 it's actually going to be delayed and shut  
11 down.  
12 There's actually a rating  
13 system. They rate them from one to four  
14 on -- on what level they need to be, what  
15 level of time required to shut down the line,  
16 and it has to do if there's redundancy in the  
17 system.  
18 I also know that there's some  
19 level one sites that are typically easy  
20 sites. If those site -- of those lines, I  
21 should say, if those lines feed a railroad  
22 line or have anything to do with the  
23 railroad, they're off, off limits altogether  
24 because they're concerned with shut -- with  
25 shutting power down to railroads. So there's

1 a whole formula that gets figured in when we  
2 go out to these site visits. You're  
3 basically --  
4 MR. ASHTON: I can well  
5 understand that. And, well anyway --  
6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay.  
7 Staff, any other questions?  
8 MR. CUNLIFFE: Yes, Mr. Chair.  
9 Mr. Centore basically answered  
10 basically my next question and it has to do  
11 with the Council's administrative notice Item  
12 Number 49, which was a letter from  
13 Mr. Morissette to Attorney Fisher regarding  
14 CL&P's policy on installation of cellular and  
15 PCS antennas. Are you familiar with that  
16 document?  
17 THE WITNESS (Centore): I'm  
18 actually not familiar with the document  
19 itself. I'm sorry.  
20 MR. CUNLIFFE: If I was to  
21 provide a copy for you and then maybe you  
22 could peruse it and then respond back after  
23 the break, dinner break?  
24 THE WITNESS (Centore):  
25 Absolutely.

1 MR. CUNLIFFE: So I'll give it  
2 to you when we break.  
3 THE WITNESS (Centore): Thank  
4 you.  
5 MR. CUNLIFFE: And basically  
6 the premise of the reading of the letter has  
7 to do with the outage availability ratings  
8 that are mentioned in the letter and whether  
9 you know what the availability outage rating  
10 is for the adjacent lines to the site.  
11 Would the slats inside the  
12 chain-link fence deter climbing?  
13 THE WITNESS (Centore): They  
14 would, along with the smaller hole size in  
15 the fence -- in the fence mesh.  
16 MR. CUNLIFFE: Is Cellco  
17 proposing to put a smaller mesh on their  
18 fence?  
19 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes.  
20 MR. CUNLIFFE: Would the  
21 generator run periodically to maintain it in  
22 proper working condition?  
23 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes,  
24 the generator would be cycled once a week for  
25 approximately 20 minutes.

1 MR. CUNLIFFE: And would the  
2 noise from the HVAC units comply with  
3 applicable noise standards at the property  
4 lines?  
5 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes,  
6 they would.  
7 MR. CUNLIFFE: The town of --  
8 inland wetland and watercourses regulations  
9 has a 200-foot setback to vernal pools. Is  
10 the proposed site 200 feet from a vernal  
11 pool?  
12 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): No,  
13 we're -- we're within 200 feet. We're more  
14 than a hundred feet away from the nearest  
15 vernal pool, but we're approximately 115 feet  
16 or so from the nearest vernal pool edge.  
17 MR. CUNLIFFE: I believe  
18 Mr. Gustafson, you characterized the area is  
19 within an active agricultural compost area  
20 and, quote, is primarily located within  
21 existing unsuitable vernal pool terrestrial  
22 habitat, unquote. And would you agree with  
23 that?  
24 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):  
25 That's correct.

1 MR. CUNLIFFE: And is there a  
2 benefit to shift the compound in a southwest  
3 direction so as to the northeast corner of  
4 the compound is located where approximately  
5 the tower is proposed to be located to retain  
6 the maple trees and not disturb the edge of  
7 the forested habitat which is part of the  
8 critical terrestrial habitat of the vernal  
9 pools?  
10 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): For  
11 this particular facility, we're trying to  
12 find a balance with utilizing some of the  
13 screening of the -- the mature tree edge  
14 vegetation and minimizing our encroachment  
15 into habitat that's being provided for the  
16 critical terrestrial habitat to the nearby  
17 vernal pools.  
18 So I felt that we -- we  
19 provided a balance point to -- to adjust the  
20 development to minimize impacts to the  
21 critical terrestrial habitat. I don't think  
22 we're having a significant effect by removing  
23 a few trees, and we are providing some  
24 vegetative screening for the facility.  
25 MR. CUNLIFFE: You have the

1 opportunity to be able to slide that compound  
2 just enough to retain the trees? Is that --  
3 THE WITNESS (Centore): I'm  
4 going to step in. This is Carlo Centore.  
5 The location, we tried to minimize  
6 encroachment into that tree line as much as  
7 possible. We were -- and you'll also notice  
8 on the site plan that the site is slightly  
9 skewed from the tree line. And that was  
10 all -- all done to help keep the agricultural  
11 area for planting and farming, to minimize  
12 the impact on that area. And that was one of  
13 the requests with the Town, to -- to continue  
14 that operation and not impact it.  
15 So that's why we ended up  
16 having to clip that one corner. I think  
17 we've got four trees total and -- in the  
18 entire site that would be affected.  
19 MR. CUNLIFFE: Is  
20 Mr. Gustafson's opinion that because of the  
21 unsuitable vernal pool terrestrial habitat,  
22 that taking a couple trees here and trying to  
23 balance the need with the Town is prudent?  
24 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.  
25 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes.

1 MR. CUNLIFFE: Describe how  
2 the ENS controls will be installed at this  
3 site to protect the turtles?  
4 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):  
5 We're going to be setting up  
6 an isolation barrier which will consist of  
7 installation of standard silt fence around  
8 the construction zone. And that will  
9 preclude turtles from encroaching within the  
10 area of -- of where most of the heavy  
11 equipment will be working to construct the  
12 facility.  
13 That will be done in -- in  
14 coordination with providing an education  
15 session with the -- the construction crew so  
16 they understand the sensitive nature of the  
17 development site, the potential for  
18 encountering spotted turtles, what they look  
19 like, what you need to do if you do encounter  
20 one and to ensure that those species are  
21 properly protected during construction.  
22 MR. CUNLIFFE: And you speak  
23 of isolation installation. Describe exactly  
24 what that would mean?  
25 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):

1 The -- for -- for these type  
2 of development sites, and you can't totally  
3 isolate the construction zone, you know,  
4 there will be certain lay-down areas. So we  
5 may end up, depending once we meet with the  
6 contractor -- we'll be meeting with them  
7 during a preconstruction meeting on site, get  
8 a sense where they're going to need to stage  
9 some of their equipment and -- and materials.  
10 We may require that they expand the isolation  
11 barrier to encompass those areas. But,  
12 obviously, while they're working there's  
13 going to be some opening so that they can  
14 move into their proposed development area.  
15 But initially what will happen  
16 is once we've gone through the  
17 preconstruction meeting they install the  
18 isolation barriers. We'll do an inspection  
19 of the area, sweep the area and make sure  
20 there aren't any turtles trapped in -- within  
21 the construction zone before earthwork  
22 actually occurs, and then there will be  
23 periodic monitoring during construction to  
24 ensure that the isolation barriers are being  
25 maintained properly.

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: I think  
2 Mr. Hannon has a follow up.  
3 MR. HANNON: Thank you,  
4 Mr. Chairman.  
5 I think you just basically  
6 answered it. So there is going to be sort of  
7 an active search every morning to make sure  
8 if any turtles happen to get in during the  
9 evening hours, that before construction  
10 starts you'll have somebody physically  
11 walking the site and removing the turtles if  
12 any are found within that?  
13 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):  
14 That's true. What we've done  
15 on other construction projects with Verizon  
16 Wireless is that there will be some type of  
17 gate established for -- to essentially close  
18 off the entire project area at the end of the  
19 workday so that way turtles don't have an  
20 opportunity to -- to migrate into the  
21 construction zone after the end of the  
22 workday and the beginning of the next  
23 morning.  
24 However, you know, obviously  
25 the workers need to drive up to the facility.

1 So typically what we do is, you know, we do  
2 an education session and we find -- for the  
3 construction crew -- we find or identify an  
4 individual in the construction crew who's  
5 responsible for essentially monitoring the  
6 area.

7 This is a fairly wide open  
8 area, so if there are turtles that are  
9 essentially on the -- the access road in  
10 there, you'll be able to see them. They're  
11 not going to be obstructed by vegetation or  
12 anything. So you know, that responsible  
13 person will be responsible for essentially  
14 sweeping the area as they move into it each  
15 morning.

16 But the construction's actual  
17 work zone will be cordoned off each night to  
18 prevent that from occurring, from turtles  
19 having an opportunity to work and make their  
20 way into the construction zone.

21 MR. CUNLIFFE: Thank you.

22 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):  
23 You're welcome.

24 MR. CUNLIFFE: In the turtle  
25 protection plan, it states a monthly

1 a lot of activity up front to cut in the road  
2 and actually dig out the compound area for  
3 the tower foundation.

4 Then, at that point, I would  
5 say that would happen within the first four  
6 to five weeks there's going to be a bit of  
7 activity. Once -- once that's backfilled and  
8 stabilized the site -- this site cleans up  
9 pretty well in that everything is brought  
10 back to a state where it's stable. There's  
11 no open excavations, and -- and it's waiting  
12 for the tower to come in and be erected.

13 The eight to ten weeks, could  
14 extend that to 12 weeks, but those additional  
15 weeks wouldn't be due to additional  
16 construction activity, but lead time  
17 associated with getting the tree type, tower  
18 and branches delivered to the site.

19 MR. CUNLIFFE: I think my  
20 point is that, you know, we're thinking eight  
21 to ten weeks, and you think it would just  
22 happen. But I think what you're trying to  
23 characterize is that there's periods of time  
24 when there's activity, and then there could  
25 be periods of time when you're waiting for

1 reporting requirement will be provided to the  
2 Council. Does this apply to when turtles are  
3 found?

4 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): It  
5 -- well, if we do find a turtle that will be  
6 noted in our report, but a monthly report  
7 will be submitted regardless of whether the  
8 turtles are found or not.

9 MR. CUNLIFFE: And will Cellco  
10 request a natural diversity database review  
11 with DEEP if commencement of construction  
12 does not begin before December 18, 2015?

13 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes,  
14 they will.

15 MR. CUNLIFFE: The overall  
16 scheduling states approximately eight to ten  
17 weeks to complete installation of tower and  
18 operations. The Council observes that this  
19 has occurred over several months. Describe  
20 the actual process and timeline expected to  
21 construct the proposed facility.

22 THE WITNESS (Centore): For  
23 this site here, you're looking at a eight,  
24 eight- to ten-week construction period  
25 from -- from beginning to end. There will be

1 equipment to come in or something. So there  
2 could be a few weeks delay before that goes  
3 in. So there could be a quiet period, and  
4 then again you get the tower up, and now  
5 you've got to wait for electric  
6 interconnections. Am I characterizing that  
7 right?

8 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes,  
9 and those things could all change. You might  
10 get the power in sooner if they can, and they  
11 will bring that in if that's not contingent  
12 on -- on the tower going up. So it's all a  
13 matter of timing, that with the utility  
14 company.

15 MR. CUNLIFFE: Will Cellco  
16 incorporate the provisions in accordance with  
17 the Department of Public Health's  
18 recommendations outlined in its letter to the  
19 Council dated February 4, 2015?

20 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.  
21 And we prepared a response to address the  
22 concerns of DPH for proper protection of  
23 resources so that during construction, you  
24 know, with respect to possible fuel releases  
25 from construction equipment to sediment

Page 50

1 releases from erosion controls and -- and  
2 appropriate notification and modernizing  
3 included in the aquifer protection plan --  
4 MR. CUNLIFFE: They even made  
5 a statement that this would be a permanent  
6 facility in that these provisions should be  
7 in place permanently. So I realize propane  
8 probably is not a huge concern.  
9 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):  
10 Propane typically isn't a concern for that, a  
11 fuel source. It has the potential for  
12 impacting water, water resources.  
13 MR. CUNLIFFE: And then the  
14 generator is located inside the building  
15 with, I presume containment. So the fuel is  
16 associated with -- that motor is contained?  
17 THE WITNESS (Centore):  
18 Correct. Any of the -- the actual generator  
19 equipment room has a -- can hold the fluid  
20 from -- from any spillage from the -- from  
21 the generator itself. In this case, seeing  
22 that it's a propane generator, it would only  
23 be any of the oil or coolants that are in the  
24 generator room.  
25 MR. CUNLIFFE: Thank you.

Page 51

1 Those are my questions, Chairman.  
2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.  
3 Mr. Lynch, you want to follow  
4 up now?  
5 MR. LYNCH: Just to follow up  
6 on the propane. In the past you stated that  
7 it's site specific as to whether you use  
8 diesel or propane. My first part of the  
9 question is, why was this selection propane?  
10 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):  
11 Yeah. The main concern for this facility was  
12 due to the proximity of the wetlands. And  
13 in -- in this particular case there are  
14 sensitive wetland resources that, you know,  
15 support vernal pool habitat. So, you know,  
16 my recommendation was certainly not to use  
17 diesel fuel on this facility, and to select  
18 propane. And that's Verizon's corporate  
19 policy as well.  
20 MR. LYNCH: And I got the  
21 impression that -- I don't know if I heard it  
22 right, that the generator is inside your  
23 building. But I thought the propane tank  
24 can't be inside. It has to be outside,  
25 doesn't it?

Page 52

1 THE WITNESS (Centore): The  
2 propane tank is outside.  
3 MR. LYNCH: Okay. I  
4 misunderstood that. Thank you very much.  
5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.  
6 We'll now go to cross-examination by the  
7 Council. We'll start with Mr. Ashton.  
8 MR. ASHTON: Thank you. We've  
9 talked already about the use of the CL&P  
10 structures. There's one other structure that  
11 I wondered if you looked at. Adjacent to the  
12 CL&P substation is a building that fronts on  
13 Bellevue Avenue and it has a new lattice  
14 structure, three-sided structure with  
15 microwave dishes on it. And it's about  
16 80 feet high, I would guess. And it's -- I  
17 think it's capable of going higher. But was  
18 that structure examined? If not, why not?  
19 It's just north of the  
20 historic house that's on Bellevue Avenue, a  
21 few hundred feet.  
22 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Ashton, can  
23 we take that as a homework assignment? I  
24 think we have an answer, but we just want to  
25 put our minds together, if you don't mind.

Page 53

1 MR. ASHTON: Okay. The  
2 underground utilities service, is that  
3 starting from a new pole that's going to be  
4 set on the north side of East Street, or is  
5 it starting on the south side of East Street?  
6 Have we convinced CL&P that they don't set  
7 new poles but just simply cap existing ones?  
8 THE WITNESS (Centore): They  
9 are going to be coming off an existing phone  
10 number 413, which is on the north side of  
11 East Street.  
12 MR. ASHTON: Okay. You've  
13 answered the question about other carriers.  
14 Could a monopine be stripped  
15 of its branches and converted to a monopole.  
16 I know I'm not proposing anything here, but  
17 I'm trying to get educated.  
18 THE WITNESS (Centore): It's  
19 -- it can. You can strip the branches, but  
20 it's going to look like it's gotten a crew  
21 cut because it's going to have all these  
22 little metal stubs sticking off of the --  
23 MR. ASHTON: It looks like it  
24 needs a shave, something like that?  
25 THE WITNESS (Centore):

1 Exactly. It will have some stubble left  
2 behind, but it can be stripped of its  
3 branches.  
4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Actually,  
5 CL&P did that to one of my trees in my front  
6 yard, and I'm still rather upset about that.  
7 MR. ASHTON: Maybe.  
8 Another question that I've  
9 experienced that I need a little guidance on,  
10 my phone, which just happens to be other than  
11 a Verizon, I get the message occasionally,  
12 emergency calls only. Does that mean that  
13 the system is so low that it will only accept  
14 911 calls?  
15 THE WITNESS (Laredo): That  
16 may mean that the carrier for your phone is  
17 not capable of giving you enough coverage  
18 sufficiently enough to rely on the --  
19 MR. ASHTON: It comes from an  
20 area around my house which gets marginal  
21 coverage at that point, you know, at one bar,  
22 if you will. But I've gotten it a couple of  
23 times in different locations, and the thought  
24 struck me that this was maybe a way of saying  
25 that the network is too heavily loaded.

1 THE WITNESS (Laredo): I defer  
2 to agree with that. If those events happened  
3 in the same day and in close proximity,  
4 probably there's a maintenance operation  
5 going on with that specific --  
6 MR. ASHTON: I'm sorry. I  
7 couldn't hear you.  
8 THE WITNESS (Laredo): There  
9 could possibly -- a troubleshooting or  
10 maintenance operation happening during that  
11 time if it happened on that specific date  
12 only. That's the closest I can relate it to.  
13 MR. ASHTON: My last question  
14 goes to the issue of optimizing the use of a  
15 site. With the towns indicating that some  
16 day in the future, God knows when, that other  
17 carriers not expressing interest, the  
18 temptation is so upon us that they're going  
19 to prune the tree down.  
20 By the same token, the  
21 planning horizon for a cell tower, a cell  
22 carrier seems to be quite short relatively  
23 speaking, you know, a couple years at most.  
24 The tower has the ability to be extended  
25 20 feet over what has been proposed. Am I

1 correct in that?  
2 THE WITNESS (Carter): That is  
3 correct.  
4 MR. ASHTON: So that would  
5 give you enough room for three carriers and  
6 the Town. Is that correct?  
7 THE WITNESS (Centore):  
8 Correct.  
9 MR. ASHTON: Okay. Nothing  
10 further. Thank you very much.  
11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.  
12 Dr. Bell.  
13 DR. BELL: Thank you,  
14 Mr. Chair.  
15 In Tab 14 of the application,  
16 which is the wetland and vernal pool  
17 evaluation, page 7, at the end of the top  
18 paragraph, I'm trying to understand the  
19 sentence that's the last sentence there.  
20 The context is that you're  
21 describing a situation where there's a  
22 potential for the amphibians to mistake a wet  
23 area for the vernal pool, and you don't want  
24 to lure them into this type of situation.  
25 And you're saying that you're not going to do

1 that.  
2 And you're mentioning that you  
3 will have certain storm water control  
4 features there which would be two riprap  
5 level spreaders and a grass line swale. But  
6 the sentence isn't exactly expressing why  
7 these would not produce the bad situation for  
8 the critters. So I just need you to expand  
9 on this a little.  
10 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):  
11 Sure. I'd be happy to. The site conditions  
12 or soil conditions at the site are such that  
13 we're located on top of excessively drained  
14 glacial outwash material. I think it's  
15 classified as Manchester gravelly sand.  
16 And in combination with that  
17 and the small area, drainage area that these  
18 storm water features would capture, we're  
19 looking at a small volume of storm water that  
20 will be treated by these features. So we're  
21 not talking about a large volume of water to  
22 begin with. So the duration of any water  
23 standing in these features would be, you  
24 know, a fairly short period.  
25 In addition, the underlying



1 soils have the ability to infiltrate at a  
2 very high rate. So the combination of those  
3 creatures, I would not anticipate that they  
4 can be -- have the potential to essentially  
5 create decoy pools that may, you know,  
6 confuse some of the herpetofauna, you know,  
7 during the breeding period.

8 DR. BELL: Okay. Thank you.  
9 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):  
10 You're welcome.

11 DR. BELL: Mr. Libertine, in  
12 the material that you gave us for your  
13 prefiled testimony, which included a line of  
14 attachments that you gave to SHPO, at the  
15 very back of this packet, the very end of it  
16 you included several photos of the visibility  
17 around the historic resource at Bellevue  
18 Road.

19 And I think I understand that  
20 your intention with the bulk of these  
21 pictures was to demonstrate that the tower  
22 would not be visible anyway, hardly at all,  
23 from an historic resource. I understand  
24 that. But then there are a couple of photos  
25 in which you show an existing tower that can

1 So the intention here was to  
2 make them realize that not only was this  
3 particular facility not going to be visible  
4 from that location, but if you're looking  
5 from the property out, that there are other  
6 nontraditional or nonhistoric resources in  
7 the area. And I'm not trying to color it in  
8 a way that suggests, well, two wrongs now  
9 make a right. Its more just, again I want to  
10 make sure they understand what they're  
11 looking at in terms -- and they're not  
12 looking just kind of within a box saying,  
13 well, this has a certain status so everything  
14 is off limits. It's really a matter of just,  
15 I wanted to make sure we were framing what  
16 they were looking at correctly.

17 As you could see, we also took  
18 the exact same photos we took in the summer,  
19 in the wintertime. We had had a conversation  
20 early on, on this -- or about this particular  
21 site with the SHPO, and it was somewhat  
22 confusing during that initial conversation to  
23 figure out whether or not they were really  
24 concerned about the resource, or were they  
25 just concerned about a monopine, because

1 be seen from the historic house. And I  
2 actually believe that that tower that can be  
3 seen is the one that Mr. Ashton was asking  
4 about.

5 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes,  
6 you're correct.

7 DR. BELL: But that aside, my  
8 question simply is, what was your intention  
9 with those photos?

10 THE WITNESS (Libertine): What  
11 I wanted to make sure was the -- as you know  
12 from reading the prefiled testimony and in --  
13 we've had this issue on, now on some other  
14 dockets.

15 I wanted to be sure that the  
16 SHPO understood the context in which the  
17 resource is located, because I've had  
18 conversations with the office, and I'm trying  
19 to get a better handle on what we can be  
20 providing them to help and to move along some  
21 of these reviews and not have to get into a  
22 situation where you folks have approved one  
23 style of tower, and they're saying, we don't  
24 like that tower. I'm trying to be out in  
25 front of some of this.

1 there has been, in my opinion, a bit of some  
2 office bias in that office against monopines  
3 in general. So what we wanted to do was give  
4 them everything so that we wouldn't run --  
5 and in this case it worked, not just because  
6 they actually rescinded their original  
7 decision, but more so that we got some  
8 resolution before we came before you folks.

9 So again, a long story short  
10 is that it was really the intention just to  
11 give them as much information as we could,  
12 which we thought would help in their  
13 understanding. They're so overloaded with  
14 work that they can't get out to these sites  
15 on a regular basis, so I just didn't want  
16 them to be -- their judgment to be focused  
17 just solely on, we have this resource and  
18 it's only so far away, so all bets are off.  
19 So again, it was more to give context more --  
20 more than anything else.

21 DR. BELL: Okay. And just to  
22 follow up on the comment you made about  
23 they're overloaded and can't get out to every  
24 site. They have in the past, gone out to  
25 sites, telecom sites. Haven't they.

1 THE WITNESS (Libertine): There  
2 -- there have been. I will say going back a  
3 few years, it used to be almost routine where  
4 I was asked by clients, primarily  
5 Mrs. Carter, to see if we could get a balloon  
6 float, drive the AP with the SHPO so that  
7 they could really get a sense. So they  
8 tended to be much more receptive to that.  
9 That has not been the case in  
10 the last couple of years. There's been a  
11 regime change, but to your point, we have  
12 recently gotten them out on less than a  
13 handful of sites, but it's taken a lot of  
14 prying and really, I hate to say it, but  
15 almost putting -- putting them into a corner  
16 to do that. I mean it with all due respect.  
17 I know they are -- they are  
18 very understaffed. They don't -- they have  
19 three people, and only one person is really  
20 dedicated to the telecom program because  
21 they're so inundated with other type of work.  
22 So it's become harder and harder, but yes  
23 there are instances.  
24 One of the most recent  
25 dockets, we were able to go back out two

1 weeks ago on that site, and we're waiting to  
2 hear back from them on how we're going to  
3 deal with that. So it can happen, but it's  
4 getting very difficult to do.  
5 DR. BELL: Thank you. Those  
6 are my questions.  
7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.  
8 Dr. Klemens?  
9 DR. KLEMENS: Thank you,  
10 Mr. Chairman.  
11 You indicated that you're  
12 removing -- or you're phasing out the  
13 antennas on Meriden Mountain. And my  
14 question is, and I think I know the answer to  
15 this, you're not the only people using that  
16 antenna. Are you?  
17 THE WITNESS (Carter): We are  
18 phasing out, eventually, the antennas on  
19 Meriden Mountain. And no, we are not the  
20 only user of that tower.  
21 DR. KLEMENS: So there will be  
22 other users still using it?  
23 THE WITNESS (Carter): To my  
24 knowledge, yes.  
25 DR. KLEMENS: Okay. Thank

1 you. I figured that was the answer.  
2 I notice on the site that you  
3 have this bifurcate access. You have the  
4 utilities coming in in one area and the road  
5 coming in in another area. And I guess I  
6 understand that part of it has to do with the  
7 location of the utilities and the location of  
8 the existing road. There's no way those  
9 could be combined to have less impact and  
10 less disturbance?  
11 THE WITNESS (Centore): The --  
12 the routing for the utilities on this was --  
13 was based on a site visit with the utility  
14 company and where they wanted to see the  
15 utilities come in for the site.  
16 DR. KLEMENS: Okay. Thank  
17 you. On the vernal pool report, the figure  
18 at the end, as I see it, you have the  
19 cultivated fields. You're considering them  
20 as developed habitat. And this is not -- I  
21 would just ask you to go back. And this is  
22 not for a late-file, but just for the future,  
23 to go back into Calhoun and Klemens and look,  
24 yeah, and look how cultivated fields are  
25 treated as to whether they're considered

1 habitat or not for the future.  
2 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): We  
3 will.  
4 DR. KLEMENS: It doesn't alter  
5 anything here, but I think it's just a  
6 comment. Can you just, for the record, to  
7 follow up on what Mr. Cunliffe was saying,  
8 can you tell us how much of the terrestrial,  
9 for the record, how big the increase and loss  
10 of forested habitat this is going to be for  
11 each of the vernal pools, the removal of  
12 these trees?  
13 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): The  
14 -- the total development within the -- the  
15 critical terrestrial habitat is three  
16 hundredths of an acre of impact. So it ends  
17 up being .05 percent increase in development  
18 in the critical terrestrial habitat, which we  
19 certainly considered a de minimis. It will  
20 not have adverse effect on that habitat.  
21 DR. KLEMENS: And I would  
22 agree with that response. I think it is  
23 de minimis. And I want to just go back and  
24 ask, because I think you said something that  
25 I don't think I heard correctly, or maybe

1 something that you may have stated but maybe  
2 didn't wish to state, that while you're not  
3 implying that the screening trees that are  
4 being used for screening are in any way an  
5 enhancement of the trees that are being lost,  
6 are you?

7 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): No.  
8 No. If that was the impression, that was not  
9 my intent.

10 DR. KLEMENS: That's what I  
11 thought. Okay. And one last question.  
12 Would Verizon be amenable to not doing work  
13 on the site from May 20th to June 20th?

14 THE WITNESS (Carter): Yes.

15 DR. KLEMENS: You would be?

16 THE WITNESS (Carter): We  
17 would be amenable, yes.

18 DR. KLEMENS: Right. And I  
19 guess I can't put stuff in the record. Do  
20 you have any reason why I would be asking  
21 that, Mr. Gustafson?

22 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):  
23 Well, that would be during the peak amphibian  
24 movement period during breeding. We had  
25 recommended a protection plan be implemented

1 wetlands systems into the fields to nest.

2 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): I

3 would agree with that concern and  
4 particularly for spotted turtle and, you  
5 know, having an affinity for vernal pool  
6 habitat. You know, if they are utilizing  
7 that vernal pool habitat, there probably is a  
8 likely chance of them migrating out into the  
9 forest edge and utilizing some of that open  
10 field habitat for nesting.

11 DR. KLEMENS: And so, by  
12 excluding activities from the 20th of June --  
13 20th of May to the 20th of June, you would  
14 feel that would probably cover the turtle  
15 nesting season then?

16 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): It  
17 would, and I would probably recommend to  
18 Verizon with respect to that issue, that we  
19 set up -- make sure that we set up erosion  
20 control measures, isolation barriers before  
21 that period so that we don't have turtles  
22 nesting within the construction zone laying  
23 eggs, and then moving, you know, out and then  
24 us coming in after the fact and not knowing  
25 where those nests are located. So --

1 during a couple of different periods of peak  
2 amphibian movement, that being one of them in  
3 the early spring.

4 Our feeling was with respect  
5 to possible restriction of work during that  
6 time period, is that considering the species  
7 that would be utilizing that habitat are  
8 mainly forest dwelling, between the spotted  
9 salamander and the wood frogs and the lack of  
10 forest habitat within the majority of the  
11 construction zone, and as you move further to  
12 the west and southwest, there isn't possible  
13 a habitat that could create a migration  
14 corridor through that area, we didn't feel  
15 there was need to restrict it.

16 DR. KLEMENS: Actually, my  
17 concern has to do with the use of the  
18 cultivated fields for turtle nesting and the  
19 activity of what time most likely you would  
20 encounter spotted turtles in those fields  
21 correlated with the nesting activity, because  
22 I think -- at least can you opine on that?  
23 Because I think that that is something that I  
24 am concerned about, is the turtles when  
25 they're going to be moving out of the wooded

1 DR. KLEMENS: But you'll leave  
2 ample areas for the turtles to move into the  
3 rest of the cultivated field?

4 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):

5 That's correct. There would  
6 be a fairly small area. And we're talking --  
7 we're not talking about a large linear  
8 project. We're talking about a fairly  
9 distinct construction zone, so it wouldn't  
10 affect their migration.

11 DR. KLEMENS: Great. I have  
12 no further questions. Thank you.

13 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):  
14 Thank you.

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.  
16 Mr. Hannon?

17 MR. HANNON: Thank you,  
18 Mr. Chair.

19 On the application, I have a  
20 question, introduction, the bottom of page 6  
21 and on the top of page 7, where it looks as  
22 though the philosophy of the company is going  
23 away from the larger towers to developing  
24 shorter more numerous towers, is that  
25 correct? Because I guess one of the issues

1 that that leads to is then will there be a  
2 proliferation of towers?  
3 THE WITNESS (Laredo): That is  
4 correct.  
5 THE CHAIRPERSON: That's your  
6 answer.  
7 THE WITNESS (Laredo): It  
8 would actually mean that we will densify in  
9 terms of number of sites and not specifically  
10 towers.  
11 MR. HANNON: So would this  
12 then include these mini units that we're  
13 seeing coming in at different sites, whether  
14 it's on buildings?  
15 THE WITNESS (Laredo): That's  
16 exactly right.  
17 MR. HANNON: Things at some of  
18 the fairgrounds, things of that nature?  
19 THE WITNESS (Laredo): That's  
20 entirely true, yes.  
21 MR. HANNON: Okay. So  
22 although the number may increase, the numbers  
23 of towers per se may not increase?  
24 THE WITNESS (Laredo): That's  
25 correct.

1 MR. HANNON: Okay. Thank you.  
2 In the March 3, 2015, letter,  
3 the aquifer protection area assessment, I  
4 mean, the first paragraph talks about this  
5 being an area of the aquifer protection zone  
6 for Well 7 and 8 in particular. I didn't see  
7 any details associated with the propane tank  
8 other than the fact that I believe it's a  
9 thousand-gallon propane tank. Can you  
10 provide some information on that? And I'm  
11 making sure that that is not going to have  
12 any adverse impact on the aquifer.  
13 Because I know that typically,  
14 when you're talking about the diesel  
15 generators, you've got the double-walled  
16 tanks, things of that nature. But I did not  
17 see any documentation as far as the propane  
18 tank itself, so I have no idea what the  
19 details are on it, nor do I know what may be  
20 there, incorporated with the pad or if it's  
21 just a slab. And if anything happens to roll  
22 off, it can get into the surface. So --  
23 THE WITNESS (Centore): The  
24 detail is steel, steel tank, propane tank,  
25 and it's mounted to the top of a concrete pad

1 that's bolted down to the pad.  
2 MR. HANNON: Okay. So there's  
3 no double wall or anything like that.  
4 There's no area on the bottom of the pad to  
5 retain any type of material that might happen  
6 to discharge?  
7 THE WITNESS (Centore):  
8 Correct. There's no  
9 containment for the propane tank.  
10 MR. HANNON: And I think this  
11 has probably been discussed somewhere in the  
12 past. And I know the reason for using  
13 propane when you have wetlands areas is  
14 because it tends not to be as destructive to  
15 the environment. But if there was some type  
16 of a leak or a rupture of the tank and you  
17 started having the propane leaking out, what  
18 impact would that have on the ground or on  
19 the wetland area, which is relatively close  
20 by, or the aquifer which is below?  
21 THE WITNESS (Centore): I'm --  
22 I'm not aware, in my experience, of any  
23 propane leakage that -- that actually leaked  
24 into the ground. In most -- in most cases  
25 it's the vapor gas that would -- would leak

1 off the tank, and you would smell it.  
2 So in terms of spills, I've  
3 never seen any -- any situations where  
4 they -- where we've come across that problem.  
5 And I would think at this -- at this point,  
6 if that were a concern we would be seeing  
7 propane tanks with double-walled containment,  
8 and I haven't seen any of those, in my  
9 experience, over the last 15 years.  
10 MR. HANNON: Okay. Thank you.  
11 And then a question I raised  
12 at the site walk. Tab 4 in the application,  
13 there's an aerial photograph, and to the area  
14 to the right of where the wind rows are, it's  
15 sort of the northernmost wind row, there  
16 appears to be what I would consider  
17 potentially a stream over that area, I mean,  
18 just based on the aerial photo.  
19 Looking at the topo maps there  
20 does not appear to be one. So can you give  
21 an explanation as to what this might be?  
22 THE WITNESS (Gustafson):  
23 Sure. And it is not an intermittent stream  
24 or any type of stream feature. We did look  
25 at that area during our wetland investigation

1 back in May of last year, and we do noted --  
2 we did note during our investigation that  
3 there is some storm water runoff coming from  
4 the compost area, as well as probably some  
5 runoff from the surrounding agricultural  
6 field that kind of channels through that  
7 area.

8 And there is some small rain  
9 erosion that -- that was cutting through that  
10 area. That eventually drains into the woods.  
11 At that point, once it hits the woods, the  
12 wood line, it kind of disperses throughout  
13 the area. Although we did note a little bit  
14 of settlement, isolated sedimentation into  
15 one area of Wetland 1, but we didn't, you  
16 know, it wasn't a significant issue, but that  
17 was -- that's what the future that is -- that  
18 you're looking at on that aerial photograph.

19 MR. HANNON: Okay. Thank you.  
20 I have no other questions.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.  
22 Commissioner Caron?

23 COMM. CARON: Thank you,  
24 Mr. Chairman.

25 So just some questions

1 Thank you.

2 THE WITNESS (Centore): Sorry.

3 COMM. CARON: No. No. No, I  
4 appreciate that. And if anything, just a bit  
5 of the monopine as it rises into the  
6 treeline. And based on the photo  
7 simulations, I mean, with I think only one  
8 exception, it seemed to blend right in in  
9 terms of the treeline.

10 THE WITNESS (Libertine): That  
11 was the intent of the -- the design of the  
12 monopine. And in terms of the landscaping,  
13 that was kind of a combined effort. We did  
14 meet with several neighbors during the summer  
15 or early fall, and there had been some  
16 current concerns from them about looking into  
17 the compound and that type of thing. So we  
18 took kind of a conservative approach and  
19 decided that we would more or less  
20 overpopulate those sides where there is some  
21 openness.

22 But you're right in your  
23 assessment in driving by there today. It's a  
24 very narrow window where you're really able  
25 to see directly out to that area. And those

1 concerning the evergreen screening. So I  
2 looked at one of your renderings. It looks  
3 like it's on three sides. And as I walked  
4 the property, it seems like the sightlines to  
5 the proposed facility area are mostly  
6 screened already. Is that correct? Is that  
7 a correct assessment?

8 THE WITNESS (Centore): That  
9 is a correct assessment. And actually, with  
10 the -- with the construction of that, I'll  
11 call it the North, the northwesterly court --  
12 the northeasterly corner of the compound  
13 where we're clearing those trees, that's  
14 actually getting cut in a little bit. So  
15 just the situation where the site sits, it  
16 provides its own screening.

17 COMM. CARON: Its own  
18 screening? And so with the addition of the  
19 evergreen plantings, and as I look at, again,  
20 it's in Tab 4, with very few exceptions it  
21 looks like virtually no one will be able to  
22 see certainly the --

23 THE WITNESS (Centore): The  
24 compound.

25 COMM. CARON: The compound.

1 are areas where just from there, and there  
2 are two neighbors on the west side of the  
3 road that we wanted to make sure that they  
4 wouldn't be looking and being able to see any  
5 lower portions of the -- the facility.

6 COMM. CARON: As I was looking  
7 at the balloon flight and looking at some of  
8 the photo simulations, unless I'm actually  
9 looking for this, it's blending in pretty  
10 good. It seems like it blends in pretty good  
11 based on what we're seeing, at least in the  
12 presentation.

13 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I  
14 would agree. And that was really, again we  
15 felt, you know, again -- that the tree towers  
16 don't always work. We know that. But the  
17 combination of the height and this setting  
18 seems to really be, I think, a good  
19 combination. So that's really why we went  
20 with that. So I'd agree with your  
21 assessment.

22 COMM. CARON: Okay. Thank  
23 you, Mr. Chairman. That's good for me.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.  
25 Mr. Lynch?

1 MR. LYNCH: Thanks to  
2 Mr. Cunliffe, most of my questions have been  
3 answered. That probably scares the hell out  
4 of him.

5 But inasmuch as I want to get  
6 into the discussion of monopine, monopole,  
7 silo, I'm going to pass on that also. I do  
8 have one minor question, and that regards the  
9 backup generator for Verizon. In the future  
10 when the Town does come on board, if they  
11 come on board, would they be able to tie into  
12 this generator, or they have to get their  
13 own?

14 THE WITNESS (Centore): Under  
15 the current design they would have to get  
16 their own.

17 MR. LYNCH: All right. Thank  
18 you, Mr. Chairman. Those are my questions.

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Would you  
20 then be amenable if the Council determined  
21 that maybe you should provide a generator  
22 that would allow the Town, so we wouldn't  
23 have a proliferation of generators and also  
24 given the sensitivity of the wetlands?

25 THE WITNESS (Centore): I

1 is natural gas available in the street. We  
2 haven't confirmed what the pressure is on the  
3 gas or if a booster pump will be necessary or  
4 not. But Verizon's preferred method of  
5 fueling, when it comes to gas, is to use a  
6 propane.

7 MR. ASHTON: It's your call.  
8 THE WITNESS (Centore):  
9 Correct.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. The  
11 Council will recess until 7 p m., at which  
12 time we'll commence the public comment  
13 session. And we will expect that your  
14 homework assignments will be completed prior  
15 to that time or at that time. So thank you.  
16 We'll see you all back at seven.

17 (Whereupon, the witnesses were  
18 excused, and the above proceedings were  
19 adjourned at 4:25 p m.)  
20  
21  
22  
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25

1 would think to say that, if it were to  
2 provide emergency power for the Town, there  
3 the equipment that they typically have is  
4 minimal, and it could be accommodated within  
5 Verizon's equipment room and proper sizing of  
6 the generator. If -- if the intent is for  
7 future expansion of the facility for other  
8 carriers, I think that would be a more  
9 difficult situation.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Well, the  
11 question was specifically about the Town, so  
12 I think you've answered that. We're still  
13 grappling with that other issue, which I  
14 guess so far only one carrier, which doesn't  
15 seem to be building many towers lately, seems  
16 to think it's a good idea. And the others  
17 are still struggling. Are there any --

18 MR. ASHTON: I got one  
19 question.

20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Ashton.  
21 MR. ASHTON: I'm almost  
22 embarrassed to ask, so bear with me. Is  
23 there natural gas available at the site as  
24 opposed to propane?

25 THE WITNESS (Centore): There

1 CERTIFICATE  
2 I hereby certify that the foregoing 80  
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. 455, CELLCO PARTNERSHIP  
7 D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS, APPLICATION FOR A  
8 CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY  
9 AND PUBLIC NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION,  
10 MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF A  
11 TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY LOCATED AT  
12 SOUTHINGTON TAX ASSESSOR MAP/LOT 066053, 99  
13 EAST STREET, SOUTHINGTON, CONNECTICUT, which  
14 was held before ROBERT STEIN, Chairperson, at  
15 the Southington Town Hall, Council Chambers,  
16 75 Main Street, Southington, Connecticut, on  
17 March, 10, 2015.  
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Robert G. Dixon, CVR-M 857  
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1	I N D E X	
2	WITNESSES MICHAEL LIBERTINE	
3	DEAN GUSTAFSON	
4	SANDY CARTER	
5	JAMIE LAREDO	
6	CARLO F. CENTORE	Page 7
7	EXAMINERS:	
8	Mr. Cunliffe	Page 12
9		
10		
11		
12		
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14		
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16		
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