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January 4, 2016

## VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

Mr. Mark Weiland The Orchards at East Lyme, Inc. c/o Vision Management P.O. Box 203 West Simsbury, CT 06092-0203

Re:

AT&T & The Orchards

Existing Wireless Communications Tower Facility

Siting Council - Docket 463 Replacement Tower Site Application

Dear Mr. Weiland:

I am writing to you on behalf of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T") and in furtherance of your December 8, 2015 letter to Ms. Melanie Bachman of the Connecticut Siting Council in reference to Docket 463, a proposal to replace a tower currently located in a residential development known as "The Orchards".

I understand from your letter that you are the agent for the homeowners association known as The Orchards at East Lyme, Inc ("Orchards Homeowners Association"). As you may or may not know, in June of 2015 AT&T, through related entities New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T") and SBC Tower Holdings LLC ("SBC"), entered into a Fourth Amendment of the Lease Agreement for the existing tower which extended the lease term to December 31, 2016. I personally coordinated the Fourth Amendment with Attorney Ziegler as counsel for the developer of The Orchards. The Fourth Amendment was signed by Mr. Bunkelman as President and two other Board members of the Orchards Homeowners Association and by Ms. Zadrazny as President for the developer which is a separate entity known as The Orchards at East Lyme Development, Inc. ("Orchards Developer").

In July of 2015, I corresponded with Attorney Ziegler thanking him, the developer and homeowners in the Orchards for working with AT&T to extend the ground lease in an effort to avoid disruptions in wireless services in this part of East Lyme. At that time, I also provided an update on the status of AT&T's tower relocation efforts for the project at one of two sites, either 351A Boston Post Road or another potential tower site location along Ancient Highway. A copy of my July 24, 2015 letter which was sent just prior to a Town 16-50l community hearing is enclosed for your reference.

You will note from the content of my letter that I specifically asked through Attorney Ziegler that the Orchards Developer, and through it the Orchards Homeowners Association, reconsider a long term lease extension for the existing tower site. In that same letter I also noted AT&T's willingness to explore tower site modifications including "monopine" or "flagpole" type towers or other tower site locations in The Orchards development. On AT&T's behalf we asked to meet



with both the developer and homeowners association to explore any such options. Shortly thereafter, Attorney Ziegler communicated to me that, at that time, his client was not interested in pursuing any such options as part of a long term lease extension for a tower in The Orchards.

At the December 15, 2015 Siting Council public hearing, we inferred from various public statements and your letter that the Orchards Homeowners Association may in fact be interested in exploring some options for the tower site to remain in The Orchards. In this regard, please be advised that it is AT&T's preference to maintain the tower in its current location at the top of the hill and in lieu of relocating it to other properties. As such and as a response to your letter, we are writing to determine if the President and a few Board members of the Orchards Homeowners Association will meet with AT&T to explore same with the Orchards Developer. In this regard, please be advised that the Siting Council has currently scheduled a continued evidentiary hearing for January 26, 2016 in Docket 463. As such, we would appreciate your response prior thereto.

Thank you for your assistance and I look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours

Christopher B. Fisher

Enc.

Cc:

Robert Zeigler, Esq.

Hon. Robert Stein, Chairman

and Members of the Connecticut Siting Council

Docket 463 Service List Matthew Russell, ATC Kevin Mason, AT&T

Kelly Wade Bettuchi, AT&T



July 24, 2015

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## VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL & EMAIL

Robert A. Ziegler, Esq. 58 East Main Street Plainville, Connecticut 06062

Re:

AT&T & The Orchards at East Lyme, Inc. Wireless Communications Tower Facility

## Dear Attorney Ziegler:

I am writing to you on behalf of our client New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC which is the corporate entity for AT&T's wireless unit. First and foremost, we want to thank you, your clients and the homeowners in the Orchards for working with AT&T to extend the ground lease with SBC Tower Holdings, LLC for a year. Additionally, we want to provide you and your clients with an update on AT&T's efforts at finding a location to relocate the tower facility that serves thousands of people who live and travel in this part of the Town.

AT&T has met with Town of East Lyme municipal officials dating back to 2014 to discuss its plans to relocate the tower site from the Orchards. When asked about the need to relocate, AT&T has noted Orchard's business decision not to enter into a long term extension of the ground lease for the existing tower site. As such, the company has sought various feedback on the Town's preferences for alternative sites and disclosed the thirty or more locations AT&T has evaluated for possible tower site relocation.

Earlier this year in June, AT&T filed technical reports with the Town to commence a state mandated consultation process on two possible locations to replace the existing tower. One site is a parcel of land on Wilson Hill to the south of the Orchards development with access from Ancient Highway where a 170' tower site is proposed. The second site is a parcel of land with access from Route 1 (351 Boston Road) which abuts the Orchards and where a 190' tower site is proposed. I've enclosed copies of the plans for the two locations which were included in the technical reports supplied to the Town. A public information session has been scheduled by the Town for next week on June 29<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the East Lyme Middle School, notice for which your client should have received.

At this time and with this current information available to it, we are writing to ascertain whether your clients and the homeowners in the Orchards would be willing to reconsider a long term lease extension for the existing tower site. As part of any such discussions, AT&T is willing to explore tower site modifications which might yield aesthetic improvements as compared to existing conditions. Examples might include a "monopine" or "flagpole" type of tower or even other tower site locations in the Orchards. Would you kindly discuss our request with your clients and let me know if we can set up a meeting for sometime in August among the principals?



In the absence of some material change in position by the Orchards, AT&T's next step will be to file an application with the Connecticut Siting Council, the agency that regulates all wireless tower siting in the State. That application would be filed with the State sometime shortly after Labor Day and detail an alternative tower site location for relocation of the facility from the Orchards. As such, if you could please get back to me by August 6, 2015, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter and its enclosures and please do not hesitate to call me regarding any questions you may have at this time.

Very truly yours

Christopher B. Fisher