

In The Matter Of:
Application from Blue Sky Towers LLC

Hearing Docket No. 464
February 11, 2016

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Docket No. 464

Application from Blue Sky Towers LLC, and New
Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, for a Certificate
of Environmental Compatibility and Public
Need for the Construction, Maintenance, and
Operation of a Telecommunications Facility
Located At 220 Evergreen Street, Bridgeport,
Connecticut

Siting Council Meeting held at the
Bridgeport City Hall, Council Chambers, 47
Lyon Terrace, Bridgeport, Connecticut,
Thursday, February 11, 2016, beginning at
3:00 p.m.

H e l d B e f o r e :

ROBIN STEIN, Chairman

1 A p p e a r a n c e s :

2 Council Members:

3 JAMES J. MURPHY, JR.,
4 Vice Chairman

5
6 ROBERT HANNON,
7 DEEP Designee

8
9 LARRY LEVESQUE, ESQ.
10 PURA Designee

11
12 DANIEL P. LYNCH, JR.

13
14 Council Staff:

15 MELANIE BACHMAN, ESQ.,
16 Executive Director and
17 Staff Attorney

18
19 MICHAEL PERRONE
20 Siting Analyst

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22
23
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1 A p p e a r a n c e s:(cont'd)

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3 For BLUE SKY TOWERS & NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS

4 PCS, LLC:

5 CUDDY & FEDER, LLP.

6 445 Hamilton Avenue, 14th Floor

7 White Plains, New York 10601

8 By: CHRISTOPHER B. FISHER, ESQ.

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1 THE CHAIRMAN: Good afternoon,
2 ladies and gentlemen. I'd like to call to
3 order this meeting of the Connecticut Siting
4 Council today, Thursday, February 11, 2016,
5 at 3 p.m.

6 My name is Robin Stein. I'm
7 Chairman of the Siting Council. Other
8 members of the Council present are Senator
9 James Murphy, our Vice Chairman; Mr. Hannon,
10 our designee from the Department of Energy
11 and Environmental Protection; Mr. Levesque,
12 designee from the Public Utilities Regulatory
13 Authority; and Mr. Lynch.

14 Members of the staff present
15 are Attorney Melanie Bachman, our Executive
16 Director; and Michael Perrone, our citing
17 analyst.

18 This hearing is held pursuant
19 to the provisions of Title 16 of the
20 Connecticut General Statutes and of the
21 Uniform Administrative Procedure Act upon an
22 application from Blue Sky Towers, LLC, and
23 New Cingular wireless, PCS, LLC, for a
24 certificate of environmental compatibility
25 and public need for the construction,

1 maintenance and operation of a
2 telecommunication facility located at 220
3 Evergreen Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut.
4 This application was received by the Council
5 on December 2, 2015.

6 As a reminder to all, off the
7 record communication with a member or a
8 member of the Council staff upon the merits
9 of this application is prohibited by law.

10 The parties at the proceeding
11 are as follows. The applicant, Blue Sky
12 Towers, LLC, and New Cingular Wireless, PCS,
13 LLC, and represented by Attorney Fisher from
14 Cuddy & Feder. We will proceed in accordance
15 with the prepared agenda, copies of which are
16 available somewhere -- by the podium for the
17 numerous public that are in attendance.

18 At the end of this afternoon's
19 evidentiary session we will recess and resume
20 again at 7 p.m. for the public comment
21 session. The 7 p.m. public comment session
22 will be reserved for the public to make brief
23 oral statements into the record.

24 I wish to note that, I guess
25 in this case, the applicant and their

1 representatives and witnesses are not allowed
2 to participate in the public comment session.

3 I also wish to note for those
4 who are here and for the benefit of your
5 friends and neighbors who are unwilling to
6 join us for the public comment session, that
7 you or they may send written statements to
8 the Council within 30 days of the date hereof
9 and such written statements will be given the
10 same weight as if spoken at the hearing.

11 A verbatim transcript will be
12 made of this hearing and deposited with the
13 town clerk's office in Bridgeport for the
14 convenience of the public.

15 Is there any public official
16 who wishes to speak at this time?

17 (No response.)

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. I wish
19 to call your attention to those items shown
20 on the hearing program marked as Roman
21 numeral 1D, items 1 through 65. Does the
22 applicant have any objection to the items
23 that the Council has administratively
24 noticed?

25 MR. FISHER: No, Chairman.

1 Thank you.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Accordingly,
3 the Council hereby administratively notices
4 these existing documents, statements and
5 comments.

6 Okay. Attorney Fisher, would
7 you please present your witness panel for the
8 purposes of taking the oath?

9 MR. FISHER: Thank you,
10 Chairman. On behalf of the applicants Blue
11 Sky and New Cingular Wireless, Attorney
12 Christopher Fisher from the firm of Cuddy &
13 Feder. We have seven witnesses this
14 afternoon that are listed in the hearing
15 program. If they could be sworn at this
16 time?

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1 S E A N G O R M L E Y ,
2 K E I T H C O P P I N S ,
3 D O U G L A S R O B E R T S ,
4 M A R T I N L A V I N ,
5 A D R I A N B E R E Z O W S K Y ,
6 C H R I S T O P H E R B O N D ,
7 M A T T H E W A L L E N ,

8 called as witnesses, being first duly
9 sworn by the Executive Director, were
10 examined and testified on their oaths as
11 follows:

12 MR. FISHER: Thank you,
13 Chairman.

14 We have a number of items
15 listed in the hearing program under the
16 applicant's exhibits in section B. They
17 include the application itself along with
18 exhibits which were received by the Council
19 on December 2, 2015.

20 Also included in that filing
21 were a number of bulk exhibits including the
22 City of Bridgeport's master plan of
23 conservation and development, zoning
24 regulations, wetland regulations, zoning map
25 and the technical report that the applicants

1 had provided to the City.

2 Additionally listed under
3 items 2 through 6 are an applicant's
4 affidavit of publication, sign posting,
5 responses to Council interrogatories, a
6 prefiled statement of facts and prehearing
7 information including the resumes of all the
8 witnesses.

9 Chairman, I'm going to ask the
10 witnesses various questions prior to asking
11 these be admitted into evidence.

12 Starting at the end,
13 Mr. Roberts, and moving in my direction, did
14 you prepare and assist in the preparation of
15 the documents just identified in the hearing
16 program?

17 THE WITNESS (Roberts): I did.

18 MR. FISHER: And

19 Mr. Berezowsky?

20 THE WITNESS (Berezowsky): I
21 did.

22 MR. FISHER: Mr. Bond?

23 THE WITNESS (Bond): I did.

24 THE WITNESS (Allen): I did.

25 THE WITNESS (Coppins): I did.

1 THE WITNESS (Gormley): I did.

2 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Martin
3 Lavin, yes.

4 MR. FISHER: And in preparing
5 for your testimony here today, did you review
6 the documents, and can you identify any
7 corrections or modifications that need to be
8 made?

9 THE WITNESS (Roberts): I have
10 no modifications or corrections to make.

11 THE WITNESS (Berezowsky): No
12 modifications or corrections.

13 THE WITNESS (Bond): No
14 modifications or corrections.

15 THE WITNESS (Allen): No
16 modifications or corrections.

17 THE WITNESS (Coppins): I have
18 no modifications or corrections.

19 THE WITNESS (Gormley): No
20 modifications or corrections.

21 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Martin
22 Lavin, no.

23 MR. FISHER: And are they true
24 and accurate to the best of your belief?

25 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Doug

1 Roberts, yes.

2 THE WITNESS (Berezowsky):

3 Yes, they are.

4 THE WITNESS (Bond): Yes, they
5 are.

6 THE WITNESS (Allen): Yes.

7 THE WITNESS (Coppins): Yes.

8 THE WITNESS (Gormley): Yes.

9 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Martin
10 Lavin, yes.

11 MR. FISHER: And do you adopt
12 them here today as your direct testimony?

13 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Doug
14 Roberts, yes.

15 THE WITNESS (Berezowsky): Yes.

16 THE WITNESS (Bond): Yes.

17 THE WITNESS (Allen): Yes.

18 THE WITNESS (Coppins): Yes.

19 THE WITNESS (Gormley): Yes.

20 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Martin
21 Lavin, yes.

22 MR. FISHER: All right. Thank
23 you.

24 Chairman, I'd ask that the
25 Council accept the applicant's exhibits as

1 evidence at this time.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing and
3 seeing no objection, the exhibits are
4 admitted.

5 We'll now begin with
6 cross-examination by Mr. Perrone.

7 MR. PERRONE: Thank you,
8 Mr. Chairman.

9 Did the applicant fly a
10 balloon today?

11 THE WITNESS (Gormley): Yes,
12 we did.

13 MR. PERRONE: What hours was
14 the balloon flown for?

15 THE WITNESS (Gormley): It
16 started at 7 a.m. this morning and it was
17 supposed to go to 4 p.m. today.

18 MR. PERRONE: Did it stay up
19 until four? Or did you have to take it down
20 early?

21 THE WITNESS (Gormley):
22 Unfortunately, there were very
23 high wind conditions and all the balloons had
24 popped except for -- except for one.

25 MR. PERRONE: What size and

1 color was the balloon?

2 THE WITNESS (Gormley): I
3 don't know that off the top of my head.

4 MR. PERRONE: So given the
5 wind conditions, is it fair to say that the
6 balloon was not able to reach the proposed
7 height?

8 THE WITNESS (Gormley): I do
9 not believe that the balloon made its total
10 height due to the wind conditions.

11 MR. PERRONE: Was the balloon
12 flown at the location of the proposed
13 permanent tower?

14 THE WITNESS (Gormley): It was
15 moved slightly to avoid the powerlines that
16 were in the area and to avoid hitting the
17 tower. So it was probably within 20 feet of
18 the proposed location.

19 MR. PERRONE: And would that
20 shift make a material difference in
21 visibility?

22 THE WITNESS (Gormley): I do
23 not believe that to be the case.

24 MR. PERRONE: Is the proposed
25 permanent tower approximately 40 feet

1 southeast of the temporary tower?

2 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Doug
3 Roberts, yes, it is.

4 MR. PERRONE: Okay. And just
5 to be clear, from the signed affidavit the
6 applicant's sign, that's facing Evergreen
7 Street. Is that correct?

8 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Yes,
9 it is.

10 MR. PERRONE: Just as an
11 update for the record, have any other
12 wireless carriers expressed an interest in
13 co-locating on the proposed facility?

14 THE WITNESS (Coppins): We
15 have sent letters out to each one of them and
16 to date we have no responses back of an
17 affirmative, that they need the tower.

18 MR. PERRONE: Has the City
19 expressed an interest in co-locating
20 emergency services antennas?

21 THE WITNESS (Coppins): I've
22 tried to contact the City many times to find
23 out whether we could use -- whether they
24 could use it, with no responses back from the
25 City.

1 MR. PERRONE: But if there was
2 a request would the applicant be willing to
3 reserve space on the tower for emergency
4 services antennas?

5 THE WITNESS (Coppins): Yes,
6 we would.

7 MR. PERRONE: Turning to the
8 cost numbers in the application, pages 19 and
9 20, I understand that the Blue Sky Towers
10 portion is about 75,000 dollars, and AT&T is
11 250,000. Would that make the grand total
12 325,000?

13 THE WITNESS (Coppins): Yes,
14 that's -- that would be correct.

15 MR. PERRONE: Okay. And I
16 understand that the site development costs
17 are estimated at zero because of the
18 temporary tower, but I also understand that
19 you have to do some filling and leveling.
20 But in general, though, would you expect that
21 site development costs to be minimal?

22 THE WITNESS (Coppins): I
23 would agree with that, yes.

24 MR. PERRONE: Okay. And just
25 as an update, could you tell us the status of

1 the temporary tower, you know, such as
2 bringing in temporary power and such?

3 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Doug
4 Roberts. Yes, a temporary utility meter set
5 is there. AT&T has got their foundation for
6 their shelter in, and we're waiting for that
7 delivery. So it should be fairly soon that
8 the temporary tower will be functioning. The
9 temporary site will be functioning for AT&T.

10 THE WITNESS (Lavin): The
11 projection is construction complete by the
12 end of February. The -- for AT&T the
13 outstanding issue is interconnection through
14 Frontier. Right now we don't have a firm
15 date on when they'll be able to connect the
16 site.

17 MR. PERRONE: Generally
18 speaking, what kinds of equipment, if this
19 project is approved, would you be able to
20 reuse, for example, the equipment shelter or
21 antennas, or et cetera?

22 THE WITNESS (Lavin): I'm not
23 sure about antennas. I'm sure the RF
24 equipment has been relatively recently
25 upgraded. It may not -- it wouldn't be used

1 because it would be on the air until the
2 cutover. It would be reused probably
3 somewhere else.

4 MR. PERRONE: Would you reuse
5 the shelter?

6 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Not
7 entirely sure, but --

8 THE WITNESS (Roberts): I can
9 answer that. A new shelter is already
10 purchased and is planned to be delivered
11 there. The intent would be a seamless
12 cutover from the high-house site to this site
13 once -- once and if it is approved.

14 MR. PERRONE: Okay. And on
15 the C-3 site plan it mentions an existing
16 tree to be removed, and basically it's near
17 the gate. Has that tree already been
18 removed?

19 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Yes,
20 that tree has been removed.

21 MR. PERRONE: So is it correct
22 to say that with the proposed project there's
23 no more trees that would have to be removed?

24 THE WITNESS (Roberts): That
25 is correct.

1 MR. PERRONE: And with the
2 proposed tower yield point at a hundred feet,
3 given that it's 38 feet to the nearest
4 property line, in the event of a tower
5 failure the tower would remain within the
6 subject property. Is that correct?

7 THE WITNESS (Roberts): If
8 that was -- that's our -- yes, they -- we
9 would put a yield point at that point a
10 hundred feet up.

11 MR. PERRONE: And my
12 understanding is the nearest residential
13 structure is about 60 feet away and that's a
14 three-family dwelling. Is that correct?

15 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Yes,
16 it is.

17 MR. PERRONE: Okay. So as a
18 three family it would be, you know, maybe two
19 or three floors tall. Is that correct?

20 THE WITNESS (Roberts): It's a
21 three-story structure. I believe each floor
22 has one family on it. I believe there is a
23 garage on each one of those parcels that's
24 close to our property line.

25 MR. PERRONE: Okay. Now I'd

1 like to talk about the RF power density,
2 which is under tab seven. Now my
3 understanding, the standard, when the
4 standard worst-case analysis is done R, which
5 appears as like R squared, that's the antenna
6 height minus the six feet. Is that correct?

7 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Minus
8 six feet for an assumption of the person
9 standing at the base of the tower.

10 MR. PERRONE: And so implicit
11 in that assumption is if you're at the base
12 of the tower you couldn't be any closer than,
13 you know, the antennae height minus six?

14 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Yes.

15 MR. PERRONE: Okay. And I
16 also understand that you have a 10 dB
17 reduction to account for the antenna pattern.
18 My question is, what happens if you have a
19 residential structure closer than the tower
20 radius, let's say, 60 feet away and it has
21 some height to it? Let's say three stories.
22 How would that impact your power density
23 analysis? Or would it?

24 THE WITNESS (Lavin): In terms
25 of power density, the residence is a little

1 higher, of course, than a person would be.
2 But also not far enough away to come into the
3 main beam. So the main beam of the antenna
4 would still go right over the roof of -- at
5 our proposed height it would go right over
6 the roof of the dwellings. So the same
7 assumptions would apply for the 10 dB off
8 being loss.

9 MR. PERRONE: Okay. So would
10 the public, or uncontrolled standard for
11 percent MPE still be met at this nearest
12 residence?

13 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Yes.

14 MR. PERRONE: Generally
15 speaking, what would be the consequences of
16 the tower being ten feet shorter in terms of
17 hand off?

18 THE WITNESS (Lavin): In terms
19 of, it wouldn't be so much felt at 850, but
20 it's in the lower frequencies we would lose
21 capacity and the ability to have continuous
22 coverage in some areas, yes.

23 MR. PERRONE: Okay. And
24 hypothetically, about how much taller would
25 the tower have to be to accommodate

1 flush-mounted antennas?

2 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Just for
3 AT&T it would need to be at least 20 feet
4 taller to crown at least three sets of
5 flush-mounted antennas total.

6 MR. LYNCH: Excuse me. Could
7 you repeat that? I didn't really hear what
8 the heights were?

9 THE WITNESS (Lavin): All
10 right. We would have to have, at least, to
11 maintain the overall minimum height of 120
12 for all the antennas, we'd have to have at
13 least two more levels of 10 feet each above
14 there. So the tower would be 20 feet total.

15 It would also impact --
16 potentially co-locators below us would
17 possibly need two or three sections stacked
18 on top of each other instead of at a single
19 level. So it would -- it would probably
20 reduce 20 feet off the lowest antennas of the
21 first co-locator.

22 And the second locator would
23 be in a very bad position, starting to be
24 almost eye level with the tops of those
25 structures there in the case -- in the

1 flush-mounted case.

2 MR. PERRONE: Turning to the
3 interrogatory response number 36 which is the
4 coverage footprints in square miles, could
5 you explain to us what the coverage level or
6 column means, IB and IV?

7 THE WITNESS (Lavin): IB is in
8 building, IV is in vehicle, corresponding to
9 the two levels shown on the plots.

10 MR. PERRONE: Sure. Would the
11 proposed galvanized gray finish of the tower,
12 would that eventually dull to a softer gray?

13 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Yes,
14 it will.

15 MR. PERRONE: And I understand
16 that a noise analysis was performed
17 conservatively with the generator and the AC
18 units, but assuming an exemption of the
19 generator, as an emergency generator, would
20 both the air-conditioning units alone meet
21 the DEEP noise standards?

22 THE WITNESS (Roberts): If
23 both generator -- both air-conditioners are
24 running without the generator it would meet
25 noise standards.

1 MR. PERRONE: Okay. And the
2 proposed diesel backup generator, I
3 understand it has the fuel tank underneath
4 it. Do you know if it has any type of
5 containment measure in case of a fuel
6 leakage, like a double-walled tank?

7 THE WITNESS (Roberts): The
8 belly-walled tank that is being proposed is a
9 double wall and it has leak detection also
10 within that double wall. And of course,
11 that's reported back to the AT&T switch if
12 there's any malfunction or issue with it.

13 MR. PERRONE: Okay. Is there
14 any containment in the generator base in case
15 of, like, an oil or coolant leakage?

16 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Yes,
17 there is tertiary containment within --
18 within the vessel itself beyond -- above the
19 fuel tank.

20 MR. PERRONE: And if approved,
21 could the final details of the generator and
22 the containment be included in the D and M
23 plan?

24 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Yes,
25 it could.

1 MR. PERRONE: And from sheet
2 A-3 it looks like for the chain-link fence
3 you're proposing an inch and a quarter mesh?

4 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Yes,
5 we are.

6 MR. PERRONE: Okay. Thank you
7 very much. That's all I have.

8 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. We'll
9 now proceed with questions from
10 councilmembers. Vice Chairman Senator
11 Murphy.

12 SEN. MURPHY: Thank you,
13 Mr. Chairman. I just have a few questions.

14 In reference to the noise
15 material, which is in the filing of February
16 the 3rd, it's the tail end, the mitigation
17 proposed to the west side with the proposal
18 that you've made in this material. What's
19 the result in the decrease in dBA's? I
20 didn't pick that up in there, which I assume
21 it does the trick, but --

22 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Yeah.
23 Yeah, what that will do -- I can't tell you
24 how many it reduces it, but by installing
25 this we will meet the noise regulations to

1 the property line.

2 SEN. MURPHY: Well, then maybe
3 I guess I didn't miss it, because I looked
4 but I couldn't find it. I thought it would
5 be in the material attached, which was
6 basically sales material, to sell the baffles
7 or what have you.

8 So you have no computation as
9 to what the dBA decrease would be. Is it
10 possible for you to provide that?

11 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Yes.

12 SEN. MURPHY: Just for the
13 record show that it does the trick. I
14 realize there's not a great amount of --

15 THE WITNESS (Roberts): It
16 will have to be under a late filing, but
17 certainly we can provide that.

18 SEN. MURPHY: Okay. Thank
19 you. In reference to the tower, Mr. Lavin,
20 if the tower were, say, an additional
21 ten feet higher would that improve your
22 coverage?

23 THE WITNESS (Lavin): I think
24 there, there probably would be some
25 additional coverage to be gained, but I think

1 the height of 130 gives us the acceptable
2 coverage.

3 SEN. MURPHY: Is the
4 foundation of this tower for the permanent
5 structure going to be put together in such a
6 way that it will withstand additional height
7 to this tower without improving the base,
8 which you normally do?

9 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Yes.
10 Doug Roberts. The tower is being proposed to
11 be expanded, so -- as for the lower section
12 and the foundation itself will be designed
13 for this additional capacity.

14 SEN. MURPHY: And further in
15 reference to the tower, why is it that AT&T
16 is going on at the centerline of 130 when the
17 tower is 135? Why the extra five feet?

18 THE WITNESS (Roberts): That
19 can be explained by the fact it's expandable.
20 If they were at the top we would have to deal
21 with the fact that it would have multiple
22 cables coming out either the top, or right at
23 the point where we're making an attachment.

24 So what has been done in the
25 past with expandable towers is to extend it

1 that five feet so that everything is clear
2 above that. And the fact that the antennas
3 themselves are pretty much four feet, it's
4 not much higher than the highest antenna, if
5 that explains that.

6 SEN. MURPHY: But I suppose in
7 the technical sense you could do it at
8 130 feet and satisfy AT&T, which is the only
9 publications we have here today. It says the
10 additional five feet is meant for possible --
11 and I assume you were intending to increase
12 the tower at a later date. I don't know
13 whether you or Mr. Coppins can answer me,
14 but --

15 THE WITNESS (Roberts):
16 Certainly that can be looked
17 into as to reduce the overall height of the
18 tower, keeping AT&T's RAD center.

19 SEN. MURPHY: Which brings me
20 into another point that you answered about
21 the yield point. The yield point, I assume
22 you have compared it based upon the 135 feet.
23 Shouldn't really the yield point in
24 constructing a tower be taken into account
25 when the tower may become -- especially if

1 you're planning on increasing the height of
2 the tower?

3 THE WITNESS (Roberts): There
4 potentially might need to be two yield
5 points. Again, they're engineered faults, if
6 you will. I've never done one with two yield
7 points, but --

8 SEN. MURPHY: Well, I was just
9 going to ask you, how do you do two yield
10 points when really -- so you're going to have
11 a double flop on the top? Is that how you do
12 the double yield?

13 THE WITNESS (Roberts):
14 Potentially again, the tower,
15 the lower section will be built at a higher
16 strength. I'll call it the middle section,
17 which we're proposing today would be built at
18 a certain strength and then that top section
19 at that point would be the yield point.

20 SEN. MURPHY: So really
21 there's two yield points, one in the one that
22 would go up at 135, and there's another yield
23 point up above?

24 THE WITNESS (Roberts):
25 Correct.

1 SEN. MURPHY: So
2 theoretically -- let's hope it doesn't
3 happen -- to drop twice, or they fold in
4 twice, I should say. Hopefully they don't
5 come off.

6 THE WITNESS (Roberts):
7 Correct.

8 SEN. MURPHY: All I can say is
9 this is a replacement tower that's much more
10 refreshing than the one in East Lyme. And
11 with that, I think that's all I have for
12 right now, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
14 Mr. Hannon.

15 MR. HANNON: Thank you,
16 Mr. Chairman. I do have a few questions.
17 Some of them are kind of nitpicky, but I want
18 to start with the tower sublease agreement,
19 just a quick question on that.

20 Under number one, premises,
21 under Roman numeral I, you state
22 approximately 270 square feet including the
23 airspace above such ground space as described
24 in attached exhibit 2. So in looking at
25 exhibit 2, if you could look at sheet L-2.

1 And you identify a proposed
2 generator on a four-foot by eight-foot
3 concrete pad basically running from left to
4 right, but in the application itself you've
5 got a different size. You've got it running
6 in a different direction. I'm just trying to
7 figure out which is the proper location for
8 the generator.

9 MR. FISHER: This is where I
10 can say confidently I don't do AT&T or Blue
11 Sky's leasing. And you, the Council, we only
12 provide you the lease because you require it
13 as a legal filing, and you should work off of
14 all the documents in the application, and
15 none in the lease. The leases can be changed
16 and amended.

17 MR. HANNON: Okay. That's
18 fine. Thank you, but I will follow up on
19 that because there's nothing else in the
20 lease that -- I'm just not sure if it's --
21 no, actually I'll pass on that one. I'll go
22 to the application.

23 On page 13 of the application
24 under heading B, tower sharing, the statement
25 is the proposed facility is designed to

1 accommodate the antennas and equipment of
2 AT&T and up to two additional wireless
3 carriers. On page 14 in the second
4 paragraph, the last sentence, the existing
5 tower compound would remain the same,
6 enclosed by an eight-foot high chain-link
7 fence with a fixed emergency backup power
8 generator on a concrete pad within the
9 compound.

10 Is that a long way of saying
11 there's only a single generator that's going
12 to be on the site shared by everybody?

13 THE WITNESS (Coppins): At
14 this point in time, no. It would just -- it
15 would just be for AT&T.

16 MR. HANNON: Okay. On page 15
17 of the application the location of the
18 proposed facility is just outside the
19 hundred-year floodplain located on the lot.
20 And you can go to the area behind tab four.

21 I guess it is map C-2, and I
22 see the flood elevation, the hundred-year
23 flood elevation is 12.25. And it looks like
24 the area that you're primarily working in is
25 roughly at the 13-foot, maybe a little bit

1 higher elevation.

2 So I'm wondering if you have
3 any information on what, like, the 500-year
4 flood elevation is and whether or not any
5 work has been done, or analysis has been done
6 on any potential tidal surge elevations in
7 this area?

8 THE WITNESS (Berezowsky):

9 Adrian Berezowsky, CBRE. I
10 can't talk to the tidal surge portion,
11 however in terms of the base flood elevation,
12 the actual elevation is not something that's
13 readily available. But according to DEEP
14 standards to determine the 500-year
15 floodplain you could just multiply that base
16 flood elevation of the 100-year by 1.25. And
17 that brings it out to 15.31 feet above mean
18 sea level.

19 MR. HANNON: Thank you for
20 that. But has any work been done on
21 determining whether or not there are any
22 potential tidal surge issues in this area,
23 and if so, what those are?

24 THE WITNESS (Berezowsky):

25 There's been no actual

1 information. We did an extensive search
2 online to try to determine what the extents
3 were of previous tidal surges in the area and
4 we were not able to find any actual
5 information that was readily available
6 compared to that.

7 MR. HANNON: Thank you. And I
8 don't know if you can answer this now or not,
9 but just in terms of the equipment that's
10 going to be in the facility, how high are you
11 raising some of that electrical equipment
12 above, say, at least the floor elevation?

13 Because I'm just kind of
14 curious as to whether or not you're looking
15 to the future in getting things a little bit
16 higher above the hundred-year flood
17 elevation, because that may not be the proper
18 elevation in the years to come.

19 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Yeah,
20 Doug Roberts. Yes, we raised the top of the
21 piers two feet above grade and the found --
22 to put our finished floor approximately
23 three feet above that section.

24 We haven't had any discussion
25 with the electric company as to whether we

1 should raise the transformer. It was going
2 to be a pad-mounted transformer meter center.
3 Perhaps we ought to look into maybe raising
4 that also.

5 MR. HANNON: That kind of gets
6 me to my next question, is like with the
7 emergency generator. I couldn't tell if it
8 was mounted on the concrete pad, or just sort
9 of placed on the concrete pad.

10 And the reason I'm asking that
11 is because if there is a potential issue for
12 any type of storm surge or something like
13 that, and the elevation is fairly close to
14 the hundred-year elevation I don't want to
15 see this type of thing floating around. So
16 is it mounted to the concrete pad, or just
17 placed on the pad?

18 THE WITNESS (Roberts): It is
19 mounted to the pad itself. It's anchored.

20 THE WITNESS (Berezowsky): And
21 also just one added point to that, the actual
22 generator portion as opposed to the
23 containment portion of the belly tank is at
24 16.17 feet above mean sea level, which is
25 above the 500-year floodplain.

1 MR. HANNON: Okay. Thank you.

2 I have no further questions.

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

4 Mr. Levesque.

5 MR. LEVESQUE: Mr. Gormley,
6 did the applicant receive any inquiries from
7 the residents of the area who lived there
8 about the application?

9 THE WITNESS (Gormley): I'm
10 not aware of any. I'm not aware of any
11 residents reaching out to us.

12 MR. LEVESQUE: Okay. And none
13 of the rest of the staff, no letters?

14 MR. FISHER: I'm only aware of
15 one e-mail correspondence that was shared by
16 one of the adjacent property owners.

17 MR. LEVESQUE: The one from
18 out of state?

19 MR. FISHER: There were a
20 couple of different addresses, yes. We had
21 sent a mailing and a notice to the tax
22 assessor's address. And I think you're
23 right, that it was --

24 MR. LEVESQUE: That was out of
25 New York.

1 MR. FISHER: Yeah. Other than
2 that communication I'm not aware of any
3 communication from any property owners in the
4 area.

5 MR. LEVESQUE: Thank you. And
6 how about the emergency generator? Could you
7 install a natural-gas generator instead?

8 THE WITNESS (Roberts): We
9 haven't looked to see if natural gas is
10 available on the street. The disadvantage of
11 natural gas is it's not necessarily an
12 emergency power source. It can be shut off
13 in a time of disaster, where diesel is a sort
14 of self-contained island, ready.

15 MR. LEVESQUE: Did the
16 Department of Energy and Environmental
17 Protection recommend that for this
18 location?

19 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Not to
20 my recollection.

21 MR. LEVESQUE: I thought there
22 was a letter that somebody might have
23 recommended it. Why don't you check?

24 And then the residential
25 property next door is probably the host, but

1 there is a utility pole that actually has
2 collapsed. It's not even used, but it's
3 leaning on the decrepit tree next to the
4 property, or right on the line.

5 Did somebody, like, report
6 that to the building department as a danger
7 to your workers or to your site? Did you see
8 it? There's a very bad tree near your
9 temporary tower, and on it there's a utility
10 pole leaning in the tree.

11 THE WITNESS (Gormley): Yeah.
12 We -- we did notice that pole, but it's
13 actually on the other property next to ours
14 and seems to be leaning over our lease area a
15 little bit, but I'm not sure if anyone
16 reached out.

17 MR. LEVESQUE: When you're
18 working with the building department could
19 you inform them so maybe they could be the
20 intermediary there to tell the property
21 owner?

22 THE WITNESS (Gormley): Yes.

23 MR. LEVESQUE: For your own
24 protection.

25 THE WITNESS (Gormley): We

1 will do that.

2 MR. LEVESQUE: Thank you very
3 much.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Lynch.

5 MR. LYNCH: Thank you,
6 Mr. Chairman.

7 Mr. Roberts, I had the same
8 concern -- not concern, but the same question
9 that Senator Murphy had with regards to the
10 height, and then the centerline of the tower.
11 Now did I hear your answer correctly, is the
12 additional height above the centerline -- is
13 so the tower can be expanded?

14 THE WITNESS (Roberts): That's
15 correct. Many times when you have a tower
16 that's topped out, at, let's say 130 feet,
17 the cables themselves come out of the top of
18 the tower to feed the antennas, which you
19 can't really expand it.

20 So in this case what would
21 happen is that section would be exit forged,
22 just like the lower RAD centers. And there
23 would be a flange plate at the very top of
24 the tower so that the next section can be in
25 turn bolted onto it.

1 If the cables come out it's a
2 much more complicated procedure.

3 MR. LYNCH: Thank you. Well,
4 I'll stick with you, Mr. Roberts. When I
5 looked at the site this afternoon and then I
6 looked at C-3 in the application, if Verizon
7 comes in -- and then you're going to have
8 possibly four generators in there. It looks
9 like there's enough room to put everything in
10 when I look at C-3. But at the site this
11 afternoon it looked very confined.

12 I didn't know -- maybe just
13 you have to clean a lot of it up, or
14 whatever, but is there enough room to put all
15 that in there?

16 THE WITNESS (Roberts): There
17 is. One of the things that's deceiving, of
18 course, is the temporary tower foundation,
19 you know, which is approximately 22 feet
20 across. And that's taking a heck of a lot of
21 room, you know, in that, in that space itself
22 now. So once we put our permanent tower in,
23 if it gets approved, it will free up a fairly
24 large amount of space.

25 MR. LYNCH: It just looked so

1 confined when you were there. But then when
2 I look at, you know, what you have in your
3 application it looks like there's plenty of
4 room, but I thought I would just ask.

5 And I'm going to stick with
6 you, Mr. Roberts. In the application I think
7 it's question -- or in the interrogatory,
8 question number nine deals with wind speed
9 and gusts, and for the tower. My question
10 really is, do these same speeds apply to the
11 apparatus? The antennas on the tower, are
12 they subject to the same winds speeds and
13 gusts, or is it less?

14 THE WITNESS (Roberts): That's
15 a very good point. Yes, they are subject to
16 the same requirements. TIA222F in
17 Connecticut is the current code. Connecticut
18 is pretty good about keeping their wind
19 speeds, closer to the shore, a little higher
20 than inland.

21 And the antennas themselves
22 are usually designed far and above that.
23 They -- they kind of look at, you know,
24 worst-case scenarios. You know, Dade County,
25 Florida, if it works there it will work in

1 Connecticut. So they kind of don't design it
2 for the minimum, you know, area. They kind
3 of look at the worst-case.

4 MR. LYNCH: Now in the design
5 for when you're talking about winds speeds
6 and gusts, is there a type of antenna design
7 that is more preferable? Platform versus
8 T-arms, versus, you know. I'm not even going
9 to talk about flush mounted, but which would
10 be the best, you know, antenna apparatus set
11 up for the winds speeds and gusts?

12 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Sure.
13 Certainly in today's' application, 15, 20
14 years ago we would be talking, you know,
15 T-arms. And yeah, cables came up. Fed it
16 now with fiber, you know, tower top
17 amplifiers. I mean, not one or two, you
18 know, 20, 24. A platform is a much safer and
19 structurally sound appliance to mount
20 antennas to on a tower.

21 MR. LYNCH: Thank you.

22 With regards to the backup
23 generators, whomever, you could possibly --
24 it says you have 48 hours, the generator can
25 operate through 48 hours under emergency

1 situations. Is that with -- at full power, I
2 mean, in an emergency situation you're going
3 to have a lot of people trying to make calls,
4 as we saw in Katrina and Hurricane Sandy.
5 And it kind of got to the point where the
6 system failed.

7 I know there's no failsafe
8 here, but is 48 hours an adequate time to
9 handle all that, that may be coming in over
10 these lines?

11 MR. FISHER: Everybody is
12 looking at me, and actually I have an answer
13 that will conform to the rules that I can't
14 provide evidence.

15 I think the best way to answer
16 that question is going back to the Council,
17 when you had the docket and proceeding where
18 we talked about backup, and in particular
19 with respect to AT&T who participated in the
20 proceeding. My recollection was that the
21 runtime at the site both from battery and
22 diesel backup generators was discussed.

23 The one piece that was also
24 discussed was that AT&T has a significant
25 fleet associated with refueling that is

1 really its private fleet. So one of the
2 things it has in its resiliency planning, is
3 a number of different steps to try to address
4 natural disaster. And I think we had a lot
5 of testimony in that docket that I recall
6 about things like that.

7 MR. LYNCH: You actually led
8 into my next question, Mr. Fisher, which was
9 on refueling and maintaining these. When are
10 they topped off, you know? Because if we
11 have a situation and the tank has been only
12 half full you're not going to run for a
13 certain period of time. So that was my next
14 question.

15 Is there a contract for
16 refueling and topping these emergency
17 generators off?

18 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Well,
19 I will go back to the -- your original
20 question of the 48-hour runtime with
21 210 gallons. That would be the full load
22 and, you know, that would be the rarest case.
23 That's is looking at, you know, providing the
24 site was totally dead, bringing it up,
25 charging the batteries, you know, air

1 conditioners running and things of that
2 nature.

3 When, if it went off on a
4 normal loss of power it wouldn't run at full
5 power. It would run probably more in a third
6 to a quarter power, which would extend that
7 fuel duration time.

8 As far as fueling contracts,
9 I'm not privy to that.

10 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Not
11 really my expertise, but they are, you know,
12 exercised once a week and there's a level
13 set. We know how much fuel is consumed, and
14 when they'll get to the drawdown level of
15 three quarters to half a tank just from being
16 exercised we'll get out there and refill
17 them.

18 MR. LYNCH: Is there any
19 signal sent back that indicates that the tank
20 is only half full?

21 THE WITNESS (Lavin): They are
22 all monitored. They're monitored even to the
23 point of making sure that they actually did
24 run when they said they would be and what the
25 fuel levels are.

1 MR. LYNCH: Now on their old
2 tower that you're replacing, Sprint and
3 Verizon are on there. Have you got any
4 information on whether they will come over to
5 this tower and at what heights?

6 THE WITNESS (Coppins): Keith
7 Coppins. I've had conversations with both
8 Sprint and Verizon on the -- on the site and
9 they did not state that they would come over.
10 I had a lengthy conversation with Sprint and
11 they are looking into what they need to do,
12 but Sprint has been kind of --

13 MR. LYNCH: I know Sprint is
14 in a little bit of trouble. They're
15 reorganizing and so on, restructuring.

16 THE WITNESS (Coppins): They
17 can't give me a definite, is what -- is what
18 he basically said. I tried to get one.

19 THE WITNESS (Roberts): But
20 I -- could I just add that Verizon is not on
21 that silo. It's Metro PCS, AT&T and Sprint.
22 Sorry, Verizon is not on that.

23 MR. LYNCH: Has there been any
24 interest expressed by any federal, state or
25 local communications for going on your tower?

1 THE WITNESS (Coppins): I just
2 talked -- I just tried to talk with the City
3 about their emergency services going on the
4 tower. Not -- I haven't talked to federal
5 type stuff.

6 MR. LYNCH: And I have to ask
7 this question, understanding that our good
8 friend Mr. Ashton isn't here. Even though I
9 know your power is coming in overhead, he
10 would ask why you don't go underground?

11 THE WITNESS (Roberts): That's
12 temporary, for the AT&T temporary site.
13 Our -- our permanent solution will be all
14 underground.

15 MR. LYNCH: Mr. Lavin, you
16 thought you would get off the hook. Huh?

17 THE WITNESS (Lavin): I knew
18 it was coming.

19 MR. LYNCH: I noticed in the
20 application that you talked about very small
21 gaps of coverage you're trying to make up and
22 different, you know, they seem to be very
23 small.

24 And you can correct me if I'm
25 wrong. Our old friend Tony Wells used to say

1 that, you know, in these really small gaps
2 you can maintain a call, but you can't really
3 generate a call. Is that still true, or was
4 it true?

5 THE WITNESS (Lavin): I think
6 that is true. Of course, the driving force
7 now is data. Voice was more of a you can or
8 can't, no gray areas. Black or white, you
9 either could or couldn't make a call. It
10 either worked just fine or didn't work at
11 all.

12 Data, you'll slow down as
13 these signal strengths degrade below the
14 thresholds we've set. Your data will get
15 slower and slower. You will consume more and
16 more power of the limited resources available
17 at the site. Most data applications, except
18 for streaming video, you don't always notice
19 that, that lack of coverage right away.

20 MR. LYNCH: And I'm just
21 inquiring. That's all.

22 And also on page 8, I found
23 the United States wireless coverage very
24 fascinating with the 336 million wireless
25 subscribers. We only have 360 million people

1 in the country.

2 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Yes.

3 MR. LYNCH: Now does this
4 involve, correct me if I'm wrong, that it
5 involves more than just, you know, cell phone
6 usage, tablets, whatever is out there?

7 THE WITNESS (Lavin): Yeah,
8 "subscriptions" might be a more accurate term
9 than "subscriber," as people have a work
10 phone, a home phone, an iPad or other known
11 Apple product.

12 MR. LYNCH: And the reason
13 this caught my attention is I'm sitting in
14 the barbershop yesterday, and there's a lady
15 in there with her three kids who were maybe
16 ten, eight and, like, six. All three of them
17 have telephones. It amazed me. What can a
18 six-year-old do with a phone?

19 Let me check one other thing
20 here.

21 I'm all set, Mr. Chairman.

22 Thank you.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

24 I just, I guess, also had a
25 follow-up question on that, that appears to

1 be the additional five feet. I guess, at
2 least I don't remember having -- maybe others
3 have proposed that and we never got to
4 discuss it.

5 But my question is do you
6 really need to attach this, you know,
7 another? Do you need all the five feet? Or
8 are you just, since we're always dealing in
9 five-foot increments it's five feet instead
10 of two feet? And I know that particularly in
11 this location it doesn't make a whole lot of
12 difference. I'm just curious.

13 THE WITNESS (Roberts): It
14 could be done with less. My thought was with
15 a platform, an eight-foot antenna is
16 four feet above that centerline. So it's a
17 foot higher than the antenna.

18 And the fact that, you know,
19 it's a 12-foot face on those, it really --
20 unless you were, you know, at level or, you
21 know, very, very far away you would never
22 really project, see that projection higher
23 than the antenna itself. It could be done
24 lower if needed.

25 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Any more

1 questions? Yes, Mr. Perrone.

2 MR. PERRONE: Thank you,
3 Mr. Chairman. Just one or two last questions
4 regarding the utilities.

5 On the sheet C-3, Mr. Roberts,
6 I know you mentioned that the permanent
7 utilities would be underground. How would
8 the utilities reach the utility board? Would
9 you trench underground from a pole on the
10 same side of Evergreen Street, or the
11 opposite side?

12 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Our
13 intent is to attach the pole adjacent to us
14 right near the dog pound itself, and to bring
15 our utilities in on that side, the meter
16 center. We did have a discussion with the
17 utility company asking, you know, can we put
18 our meters, can we put our transformer inside
19 the compound? It's a little usual, but they
20 understand the circumstances of the
21 surrounding area, that maybe it would be
22 better for everybody.

23 MR. PERRONE: So you could
24 underground from that pole?

25 THE WITNESS (Roberts): Yeah.

1 MR. PERRONE: And could the
2 final details of the utility connection, if
3 approved, be included in the D and M plan?

4 THE WITNESS (Roberts):

5 Certainly.

6 MR. PERRONE: Thank you.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: Any other
8 questions?

9 (No response.)

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. The
11 Council will recess until 7 p.m., at which
12 time we'll commence the public comment
13 session. Thank you.

14 (Whereupon, the witnesses were
15 excused, and the above proceedings were
16 concluded at 3:53 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 51 pages are a complete and accurate computer-aided transcription of my original verbatim notes taken of the Siting Council Meeting in Re: Docket No. 464, APPLICATION FROM BLUE SKY TOWERS LLC, AND NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC, FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY LOCATED AT 220 EVERGREEN STREET, BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, which was held before ROBIN STEIN, Chairman, at the Bridgeport City Hall, Council Chambers, 47 Lyon Terrace, Bridgeport, Connecticut, on February 11, 2016.



Robert G. Dixon, CVR-M 857

Notary Public

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My Commission Expires: 6/30/2020

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I N D E X

WITNESSES

- Sean Gormley
- Keith Coppins
- Douglas Roberts
- Martin Lavin
- Adrian Berezowsky
- Christopher Bond
- Matthew Allen - Page 8

EXAMINATION

- Mr. Perrone - Page 12