



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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(VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL)

May 3, 2017

TO: Parties and Intervenors

FROM: Melanie A. Bachman *MAB*
Executive Director

RE: **DOCKET NO. 471** - 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 Hamden Tax Assessor's Map 2826, Block 24, 208 Kirk Road (a/k/a 1075 Paradise Avenue), Hamden, Connecticut.

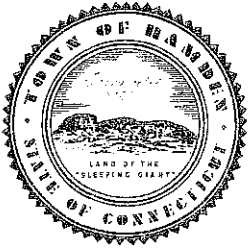
The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of correspondence from Hamden Mayor Curt B. Leng dated May 2, 2017 concerning the above-referenced application.

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §16-50(b), a copy of the application is to be submitted to the Town of Hamden for review. In the event that the Town of Hamden does not avail itself of the opportunity to attain party status under Connecticut General Statutes §16-50n, this correspondence shall become part of the record in this proceeding in the form of a limited appearance.

Therefore, copies of Hamden Mayor Curtis B. Leng's correspondence are being distributed to all participants in this proceeding and will also be administratively noticed in the record.

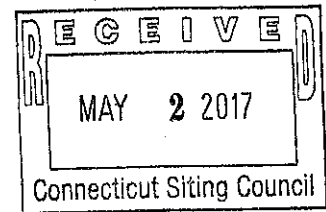
MAB/RDM/lm

c: Council Members



TOWN OF HAMDEN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



Curt Balzano Leng
Mayor

Hamden Government Center
2750 Dixwell Avenue
Hamden, Connecticut 06518
Tel: (203) 287-7100
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May 2, 2017

Robert Stein, Chairman
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

RE: Docket No. 471
Application of Cellco Partnership for a New Wireless Tower
208 Kirk Road, Hamden

Chairman Stein and Members of the Siting Council:

I want to welcome you to the Town of Hamden. It was my intention to attend tonight's meeting in person, but intervening family matters have arisen that prevent me from joining you tonight. In lieu of my being here, however, I would appreciate your reading this correspondence into the record of tonight's proceedings.

On behalf of the Town of Hamden, I am opposed to the pending application of Cellco Partnership ("Cellco") for a new wireless tower off Kirk Road. The Town's opposition is the result of listening to the residents in closest proximity to the proposed tower. As you know, the Town initially suggested its own property at Laurel View Country Club as an alternate location, and we asked Cellco to hold a public meeting to hear from the nearby residents. Based on the input received at that meeting last November, the Town withdrew its proposed alternate site and determined that the proposed tower is not in the best interests of the neighborhood and the Town as a whole.

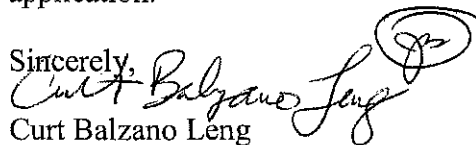
I realize that this application proposes a more "traditional" wireless tower, but as Mayor, I have become increasingly concerned about the recent wave of alternative wireless technologies being proposed in our town. Based on recent rulings by PURA, Hamden now faces proposals for 120-

foot towers in its rights-of-way, and the replacement or extension of existing utility poles, all to accommodate new data driven technologies. While we understand these emerging technologies are inevitable, we are looking for statutory changes to clarify these issues to ensure municipalities like ours are part of the deployment plan, not a casualty of it.

Within this context we oppose this new tower. I am aware that the granting of the Certificate sought by Cellco/Verizon requires a finding by the Siting Council that the public need for the tower outweighs any environmental or other community impact. Because neither the Town nor its residents have the engineering capability to refute Cellco's claimed "need" for this tower, we rely on your expertise to determine its veracity. What we can communicate to you is that we believe there are other alternative solutions that should be considered, and the Town should be heard in the consideration of such alternatives. For example, we believe the location of the tower and its associated compound should be moved significantly away from existing residences, and alternative locations for the access road must be considered. We also believe the overall height of this tower should be examined to mitigate its visual impact. While we leave it to you to determine whether this tower is needed at all, if you determine the tower is "needed," we believe there are alternate designs that would mitigate its impact.

Thank you for considering these remarks. Without more, the Town of Hamden urges your rejection of this application, and we remain available for input as you continue to deliberate this application.

Sincerely,



Curt Balzano Leng

Mayor, Town of Hamden

cc: Dave Garretson, Director of Legislative and Constituent Services
Sue Gruen, Town Attorney
Brendan Sharkey, Asst. Town Attorney
Dan Kops, Town Planner
Burt Cohen, Esq., Attorney for Intervenor