Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
917 Exeter Road
Lebanon, Connecticut

Lebanon Center Facility

Site Search Summary

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

Need for the Lebanon Center Facility

Cellco currently maintains nine (9) wireless telecommunications facilities within approximately eight (8) miles of the proposed Lebanon Center Facility. These facilities are:

- Lebanon South Facility - antennas on a tower at 1593 Exeter Road in Lebanon.
- Lebanon Facility - antennas on a tower at 236 Gates Road in Lebanon.
- Franklin North Facility - antennas on a tower at 36 Ayer Road in Franklin.
- Franklin Facility - antennas on a tower at 89 Dr. Nott Road in Franklin.
- Gilman Facility - antennas on a tower at 12 Polly Lane in Bozrah.
- Colchester East Facility - antennas on a tower at 29 Mahoney Road in Colchester.
- Colchester Facility - antennas on a tower at 63 Windham Avenue in Colchester.
- Columbia South Facility - antennas on a tower at 330 Middletown Road in Columbia.
- Coventry South Facility - antennas on a tower at 141 Thompson Hill Road in Columbia.

These existing facilities currently provide wireless service in the area around the proposed Lebanon Center Facility location. Even with the service provided by these existing facilities, however, Cellco is experiencing significant gaps in wireless service in southern and central portions of Lebanon particularly along portions of Routes 16, 207, 289 and 87 and local roads in the area.

General Site Search Protocol

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

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

Lebanon Center Site Search

Early in the site search process and consistent with its site search protocol, Cellco's Real Estate representatives identified an existing 80-foot lattice tower behind the Lyman Memorial High School adjacent to its athletic fields. This tower is located to the south of the search ring and is currently used by the Town for emergency service communications purposes. Cellco approached the Town to discuss opportunities to share the existing structure. Following a site visit by members of the project's engineering team it was determined that the existing Town tower was not structurally capable of supporting both the Town's and Cellco's antennas and related equipment. As an alternative, Cellco raised the possibility of installing a replacement tower near the existing tower on the Town parcel. The Town was amenable to the construction of a new tower but asked that it be moved to the south, into the wooded area so as not to interfere with on-going activity at the High School. Cellco's RF Engineers determined that a new tower in the southerly portion of the Town parcel would satisfy its coverage objectives in Lebanon provided its antennas were mounted at a height of 140 above grade.

Lebanon Center
Site Search Ring