

### Phyllis M. Kraut

Please Reply To Orange E-Mail: pkraut@cohenandwolf.com

September 11, 2019

# VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Attorney Melanie Bachman, Executive Director Connecticut Siting Council Ten Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Docket No. 486: Tarpon Towers II, LLC Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility at 796 Woodin Street, Hamden, Connecticut

Dear Attorney Bachman:

On behalf of Tarpon Towers II, LLC, enclosed please find an original and fifteen (15) copies of the Applicant's Pre-hearing Submission.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Very truly yours,

Thy M Branz Phyllis M. Kraut

Legal Assistant to Vincent M. Marino, Esq.

**Enclosures** 

CC:

Service List

Vincent M. Marino, Esq.

Town of Hamden City of New Haven

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

RE: TARPON TOWERS II, LLC APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY AT 796 WOODIN STREET IN THE TOWN OF HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT

DOCKET NO. 486

Date: September 11, 2019

# PRE-HEARING SUBMISSION OF TARPON TOWERS II, LLC

Tarpon Towers II, LLC ("Applicant") provides the following hearing information in the above captioned proceeding:

#### **List of Witnesses**

- 1. Keith Coppins, Principal/Owner, Phoenix Partnership, LLC;
- 2. Douglas Roberts, Senior Project Manager for Hudson Design Group;
- 3. Michael P. Libertine, Director of Siting and Permitting, All Points Technology, Inc.; and
- 4. Dean E. Gustafson, Manager, Natural Resources, All Points Technology, Inc.

Resumes/professional biographies are provided as Attachment 1.

### **Exhibits to be Offered**

- Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need submitted by Tarpon Towers II, LLC dated July 15, 2019, including attachments and the following bulk filed exhibits:
  - a. Town of Hamden Wetland and Watercourses Regulations, effective October 31, 2007;
    - b. Town of Hamden Zoning Regulations, effective August 17, 2017;
    - c. Town of Hamden Zoning Map;
    - Town of Hamden Plan of Conservation and Development, revised April 2019; and

- e. Applicant's Technical Report submitted to the Town of Hamden on December 12, 2018, which was also sent to the City of New Haven on March 13, 2019.
- 2. Affidavit of Sign Posting dated September 4, 2019 and photographs dated August 30, 2019.
- Applicant's responses to Siting Council's First Set of Interrogatories dated July 31, 2019.
- 4. Applicant's responses to Siting Council's Second Set of Interrogatories dated September 9, 2019.
- 5. Pre-filed testimony of Keith Coppins dated September 9, 2019.
- 6. Pre-filed testimony of Michael Libertine dated September 9, 2019.
- 7. Pre-filed testimony of Dean M. Gustafson dated September 9, 2019.
- 8. Pre-filed testimony of Douglas Roberts dated September 9, 2019.

The pre-filed testimony of the above referenced witnesses are provided as Attachment 2 and the Affidavit of Sign Posting with accompanying photographs is attached as Attachment 3.

The Applicant reserves the right to offer additional exhibits, witnesses, testimony, and administratively noticed materials as may be necessary when new information comes to its attention during the hearing process or in rebuttal to positions taken by the Siting Council, parties or intervenors.

Dated at Orange, Connecticut, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

Vincent M. Marino, Esq. Cohen and Wolf, P.C.

657 Orange Center Road

Orange, CT 06477

Tel. (203) 298-4066

Fax (203) 337-5582

vmarino@cohenandwolf.com

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this day a copy of the foregoing was delivered by electronic mail and overnight mail to all parties and intervenors of record, as follows:

Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esq. Robinson & Cole LLP 280 Trumbull Street Hartford, CT 06103-3597 kbaldwin@rc.com

Vincent M Marino, Esq.

# **ATTACHMENT 1**

### **KEITH E. COPPINS**

647 Camino De Los Mares, Suite 108-228 San Clemente, CA 92673 • Work: (203) 623-3287 kcoppins@phoenixptrs.com • web: phoenixptrs.com

#### PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Thirty (30) years of experience as a wireless industry professional, developing key wireless infrastructure projects from infancy to completed construction. Accomplished in wireless marketing, sales, networking and strategic implementation

#### **WORK HISTORY**

President/Owner, 02/2008 to Current

#### **Phoenix Partnership, LLC**

- Develop new wireless telecommunication sites in diverse geographical areas and regulatory landscapes, including the northeast, south and west coast regions of the country
- Provide comprehensive services to carriers and infrastructure development companies, including leasing, zoning, construction management and maintenance of new and existing wireless telecommunication sites

### Vice President of Development, 07/2004 to 01/2008 Optasite, Inc

- Successfully developed wireless telecommunication sites in the northeast and New York
- Managed team of consultants for T-Mobile in Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island

# Vice President of Development, 08/2001 to 06/2004 Site Acquisitions, Inc.

- Developed new wireless telecommunication sites in New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut
- Worked as outside consultant for Nextel Communications

### General Manager, 04/1993 to 08/2001

### American Tower/B&E Associates

- Supervised team of consultants for Albany Telephone in leasing and zoning of new facilities
- Promoted to General Manager working with Southern New England Telephone and Cellular One

#### **SKILLS**

- Develop key wireless infrastructure in diverse geographic regions, relying on valued relationships with the wireless carriers, property owners, regulatory agencies, and contractors in those areas
- Obtain proven results in the constantly changing wireless landscape in a time sensitive and financially efficient manner
- Significant experience in a variety of modes of wireless development, including tower and collocation infrastructure, small cell and distributed antenna systems (DAS) installations.
- Unsurpassed track record of zoning approvals and implementation of wireless infrastructure development on private and governmental property.

### Douglas J. Roberts, AIA 110 Washington Avenue

North Haven CT 06473
Tel: 203.288.8619 Mobile 203.399.8733
E-Mail Address: droberts@hudsondesigngrouplic.com

#### Architect / Project Manager

#### Summary

Over forty years in the Architecture profession with a broad experience in commercial and institutional work in both the private and public sectors as well as residential and public housing.

#### **Professional Experience**

March 2012-Present Hudson Design Group LLC Sr. Project Manager, Architect

Sr. Project Manager / Architect at an Regional, Architect and Engineering firm. Responsibilities included Project Management for Architectural and Engineering design services for clients. Projects included Telecommunication Facilities throughout the Northeast. I have prepared proposals; developed scopes of work and fees for projects; developed and managed project teams and scopes: developed contract documents and specifications, prepared construction cost estimates; prepared and conducted independent technical reviews. Additional responsibilities include construction administration tasks, shop drawing reviews and construction inspections and management of third party testing services.

I have also worked on architectural and engineering designs for over 500 wireless telecommunications facilities throughout the northeast and provide wireless telecommunications clients with a full range of services including architectural and engineering design, zoning, permitting and regulatory processes, and construction administration services.

January 1994 - February 2012

**URS** Corporation

Project Manager / Architect

Project Manager / Architect at an international, Architect and Engineering firm. Responsibilities included Project Management for Architectural and Engineering design services for commercial clients. Projects included Cogen Facilities, Office Space Renovations, Rail Transportation Facilities, University Projects and Telecommunication Facilities. I have prepared proposals; developed scopes of work and fees for projects; developed and managed project teams and scopes: developed contract documents and specifications, prepared construction cost estimates; prepared and conducted independent technical reviews. Additional responsibilities include construction administration tasks, shop drawing reviews and construction inspections and management of third party testing services.

I have also worked on architectural and engineering designs for over 1,800 wireless telecommunications facilities throughout the east coast and have also co-developed a Telecommunications group which provided wireless telecommunications clients with a full range of services including architectural and engineering design, zoning, permitting and regulatory processes, and construction administration services.

April 1978 - January 1994

Vincent C. Amore - Architects

Draftsman / Project Architect

Draftsmen / Project Architect at a Connecticut Based Architectural design firm specializing in commercial and residential projects. My responsibilities included project architect for Office Buildings, Banking Facilities, Public and Privet Art Galleries, Historic Restorations

and many residential projects. As part of my responsibilities I have helped prepare proposals and contracts, assisted in the developed scopes of work and fees for projects, and help developed project teams. I prepared contract documents for more than 150 projects as well as prepared architectural models and architectural model photography as well as Well as Construction Administration services.

#### Skills

Computer Skills:

Microsoft Office, MSProject, SketchUp, AIA Master Spec, and Adobe Photoshop.

#### Related Job Skills

Building Assessments, Specification Writing, Construction Cost Estimating, Independent Technical Reviews, Building Code Evaluations, Zoning Code Evaluations, Architectural Model Construction, Architectural Photograph.

I have worked with and/or have testified before:

- State of Connecticut Siting Council (CSC)
- State of Connecticut, Department of Rails
- · Connecticut State University System
- State of Connecticut Department of Public Safety
- Massachusetts Turnpike Authority
- Town and City Planning and Zoning Boards in Connecticut, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New York
- Town and City Inland Wetland Boards in Connecticut and Massachusetts
- Town and City Architectural Review Boards in Connecticut and Massachusetts

#### Registration/Certification/Membership

Connecticut Registered Architect - Connecticut, No. 4310
Connecticut Registered Interior Designer – Connecticut, No. 3566
Member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA)
Member of the Connecticut chapter of the American institute of Architects
Member of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)
OSHA 30-Hour Construction and General Industry Training Certificate

### **Education**

University of Bridgeport - Engineering

### **Project Specific Experience**

#### Sr. Project Manager/ Client Manager/Architect

**Telecommunications Clients** 

(1994-2019)

Various Projects

These projects consisted of various tasks including the design and regulatory approvals for various wireless communications sites. This included site evaluations, survey and environmental screening, regulatory approvals, structural analysis and reinforcement design, visual assessments, construction documents and construction administration tasks.

#### **AT&T Wireless**

Communications Build-Out and Upgrades

New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, George, South Carolina and Massachusetts - 350 sites

#### **Cingular Wireless (Cingular Wireless)**

Cellular Communications Build-Out

Connecticut and Massachusetts -170 sites

#### **Metricom Cellular**

Wireless Internet Communications Build-Out

Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York - 150 sites

#### **Nextel Communications**

Cellular Communications Build-Out

Connecticut and Massachusetts - 140 sites

#### T-Mobile

Cellular Communications Build-Out

New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts - 340 sites

#### **Verizon Wireless**

Cellular Communications Build-Out

New York, Connecticut, New Jersey and Massachusetts - 325 sites

Michael Libertine, LEP Vice President Director of Siting and Permitting All-Points Technology Corporation, P.C. 3 Saddlebrook Drive Killingworth, CT06419 860-663-1697 Ext. 102 mlibertine@allpointstech.com

#### **General Background**

Mr. Libertine has over 27 years of professional experience in the environmental field. His expertise includes regulatory siting and permitting consulting; environmental assessments/impact statements; NEPA compliance; visibility and aesthetic evaluations; site assessments and field investigations for property transfers; remedial strategy development; environmental due diligence; and Brownfields redevelopment projects.

Mike has assisted clients in the siting and permitting of new and modified telecommunication facilities, renewable energy projects, bulk power substations, and transmission line corridors. Mike is a Licensed Environmental Professional in Connecticut and has completed/supervised over 2,100 environmental site assessments and field investigations throughout New England. He has represented clients and provided expert testimony in front of state and local commissions, including the Connecticut Siting Council, on more than 500 projects.

#### Representative Projects

Environmental Permitting Services for Wireless Telecommunications Clients, New England & NY

Mike has been providing environmental siting, land planning and permitting services on behalf of various telecommunications service providers and tower builders throughout New England and New York since 1997. He has testified on behalf of clients in front of local municipalities and the Siting Council on nearly 600 wireless projects. Representative services include: due diligence and land use evaluations; preliminary site screenings; preparation of environmental compliance documentation, environmental assessments to fulfill NEPA requirements; Phase I ESAs and Phase II field investigations; remedial planning and oversight; wetlands and vernal pool assessments; vegetative/biological surveys; noise analyses; visibility analyses; graphic support; and securing regulatory permits.

Visibility and Aesthetic Assessments

Over nearly 20 years, Mike has been involved in evaluating visual effects of small and large-scale projects on the environment. He developed a technique that uses the combination of predictive computer modeling and in-field analysis to assess visibility on both a quantitative and qualitative basis. The predictive model provides a measurable assessment of visibility throughout a pre-defined study area, including private properties and other areas inaccessible for direct observations. The field review includes a balloon float and field reconnaissance to record existing conditions, verify results of the model, inventory visible locations, and provide photographic documentation from publicly accessible areas. Photographic simulations are prepared to depict scaled renderings of a proposed development project in its setting. Mike has completed more than 500 visual evaluations for telecommunication service providers, electrical and renewable resource utilities, and developers.

Environmental Land Planning, Siting and Permitting - Electric Utilities

Since 2004, Mike has served as the Program Manager for the siting and permitting of numerous electrical transmission projects in Connecticut and Massachusetts involving the assessment, siting and permitting of: new bulk power substations; modifications to existing substations; upgrades to transmission line corridors; replacement/installation of electrical system infrastructure; and, other support facilities. These projects require extensive coordination with numerous team members, including client's in-house discipline managers and engineers, outside consultants, legal counsel, staff, and subcontractors.



Project-related services include overseeing civil engineering feasibility studies, pre-acquisition due diligence evaluations, natural resources inventories and wetland delineations, habitat evaluations, noise analysis, hazardous waste investigations, site survey, landscape architecture, visual analyses, preparation of technical documents and regulatory applications, coordination with federal, state and local agencies, permitting, public outreach, and expert witness testimony. Mike and his team also have provided environmental monitoring to meet regulatory requirements and those set forth in contract documents and specifications.

Environmental Siting and Permitting Services, Commercial Solar Facilities, Connecticut

Mike has served as Project Manager on numerous approved commercial solar projects ranging in size from less than 1 MW to 20 MW. Mike was responsible for the preparation of environmental assessments to support Petition filings to the Connecticut Siting Council and applications to municipalities. Services included: environmental due diligence and feasibility investigations; site/civil engineering design; wetland delineations; vernal pool studies and impact evaluations; habitat and wildlife assessments; breeding bird surveys; noise analyses, visibility assessments; archaeological surveys; consults and coordination with state agencies; and, development of protective measures for natural resources. Mike and his team have also provided environmental compliance monitoring during construction of these facilities.

#### Environmental Siting and Permitting Services, Proposed Fuel Cell Installation, South Windsor, CT

The siting process for this 4.98 megawatt fuel cell generation facility required the preparation of an environmental assessment to document existing conditions and evaluate the project's potential impacts on the surrounding area. The environmental study included assessments of water resources, vegetation and wildlife, rare species, historic and cultural resources, noise, air quality, scenic and recreational areas, and other natural resources. Mike also coordinated the site design activities and Development and Management Plan efforts.

Environmental Evaluations and Regulatory Permitting, Wind Farm Colebrook, Connecticut

Mike served as the Project Manager for environmental evaluations associated with the development of Connecticut's first commercial wind farm. He supervised due diligence investigations, natural resource studies and environmental permitting activities, including the evaluation of: wetlands and watercourses; flora and fauna; potential noise impacts and flicker phenomena; and, visual/aesthetic considerations. Mike provided expert testimony at local and state public hearings and assisted in preparing the Development and Management Plan and pre-construction coordination efforts of the 3.2 MW project.

Education University of Connecticut, B.S. Natural Resources Management,

December 1990

Stonehill College, B.A. Marketing, May 1981

Licenses Licensed Environmental Professional, State of Connecticut,

LEP No. 345



DEAN GUSTAFSON Professional Soil Scientist Senior Wetland Scientist All-Points Technology Corporation, P.C.
3 Saddlebrook Drive
Killingworth, CT 06419
860-663-1697 Ext. 201
dgustafson@allpointstech.com

#### **General Background**

Mr. Gustafson has been the lead scientist on well over 1,200 development projects in Connecticut and Western Massachusetts. In addition to his 30 years of providing wetland consulting in capacity as a "Professional Soil Scientist" and "Senior Wetland Scientist" his expertise as a wetland biologist includes the identification of flora and fauna and evaluation of wildlife habitat functions in both wetland and terrestrial systems. Mr. Gustafson has applied this knowledge on hundreds of projects performing wildlife habitat evaluations and focused avian, mammalian, invertebrate and herpetofauna surveys using both active and passive methods. Mr. Gustafson has also performed targeted surveys for sensitive, rare and listed species that have resolved numerous potential rare species conflicts with proposed developments in coordination with state and federal agencies. In addition, Mr. Gustafson has extensive experience in performing herpetological surveys including vernal pool investigations and evaluations. His experience includes NEPA/CEPA documentation, wetlands (delineation, evaluation, mitigation design, monitoring, stream restoration, and local, state and federal permitting), water-quality investigations, coastal-zone-management studies, natural-resource and ecological evaluations.

Mr. Gustafson has particular expertise in wetland identification, soil mapping, soil classification, vegetative and hydrology surveys, and wetland impact assessment, mitigation design and oversight. He also has extensive experience in local, state, and federal wetland permitting, having worked on over 150 Connecticut Siting Council dockets along with providing expert testimony at Council hearings over the past 15 years. Mr. Gustafson has consulted on numerous projects which involve soils related issues such as erosion and sediment control planning, vegetative soil stabilization and storm water management BMP evaluation and selection. He has served as the Environmental Compliance Monitor on several Connecticut Siting Council approved projects. Mr. Gustafson's water quality experience includes stormwater studies for compliance with National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Section 401 Water Quality Certification, and the 2004 Connecticut DEP Stormwater Quality Manual.

#### Representative Projects

Siting, Licensing and Permitting Consulting Services - Eversource Energy

Since 2016, Dean has assisted in managing APT's current On-Call Services program with Eversource. He has worked on over 50 projects in Connecticut, providing and overseeing: natural resources inventories of existing flora and fauna, habitat evaluations, wetland delineations and impact analyses, vernal pool surveys, rare species surveys, archaeological and cultural investigations, visual analyses, preparation of technical documents (including filings of Petitions and Sub-Petitions to the Siting Council, municipalities, and state and federal regulatory agencies), and preparation of state and federal regulatory permitting applications.

On Call Environmental Services, Northeast Utilities Transmission Group

From 2004 through 2012, while with another employer, Dean served as Task Manager on two NUSCO environmental siting and permitting on-call contracts. During that time, he provided technical support on several Connecticut projects, including: assessing and permitting bulk power substations, transmission lines/structures, underground utility installations, and existing facilities requiring upgrades. Dean assisted with pre-acquisition due diligence activities; site development feasibility assessments; natural resources inventories of existing flora and fauna; vernal pool studies and assessments; habitat evaluations; wetland delineations, assessments, mitigation designs, and permit compliance monitoring; site layout and design evaluations; erosion and sediment control planning and construction monitoring; vegetative soil stabilization and storm water management BMP evaluations and selection; preparation of technical documents; and, coordination with State and local agencies.



Circuit Separation Project, Wetland Mitigation Monitoring, Manchester, CT

Dean provided peer review of federal wetland permit application materials and proposed wetland mitigation plan. This work also included development of a wetland mitigation implementation plan as well as providing wetland creation construction oversight and compliance monitoring of native wetland plantings for wetland enhancement areas and invasive species removal. Providing ongoing 5-year post construction monitoring services to document compliance with federal wetland permit required wetland mitigation performance standards. Several corrective actions have been developed during the course of the post construction monitoring period to successfully attain performance standards.

CPV Towantic Energy Center, Oxford, CT

Lead scientist responsible for performing wetland investigations, wetland evaluations, wetland mitigation design and rare species surveys for a proposed 785 MW dual-fueled combined cycle electric generating facility. Dean prepared the federal wetland permit application and secured Section 404 and 401 authorizations from the Army Corps of Engineers New England Division and Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection, respectively. Dean was also responsible for developing a wetland mitigation plan, which consisted of two constructed stormwater wetland systems to compensate for the project's unavoidable wetland impacts, as well as coordinating regulatory approval for payment into the Audubon CT In Lieu Fee Wetland Mitigation Program. Dean provided supporting application materials to the Connecticut Siting Council and expert testimony at numerous hearings.

Millstone Line Separation Project, Waterford, CT

Dean was responsible for providing environmental services on this project including wetland delineation, evaluation, and mitigation, rare species investigations and mitigation, vernal pool evaluations, habitat mapping, and preparation of permit plans. Permitting documentation was prepared for the following agency approvals: Connecticut Siting Council (Petition), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Section 404 Category 2 CT General Permit), and Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Projection (Section 401 Category 2 CT General Permit).

Environmental Compliance Monitor, Structure Replacement Project, Montague/Leverett, Massachusetts

Dean was the Environmental Compliance Monitor in accordance with Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection 401 Water Quality Certificate permit conditions for 345-kV structure replacement project. Monitoring included installation of wooden timber swamp mats across a 65-acre beaver impoundment for the removal of eight existing wooden structures and replacement with four steel structures. Environmentally sensitive compliance monitoring across this approximate 3,500 linear foot span included monitoring of drilling activities for deep caisson foundations within wetlands including in the middle of the beaver impoundment. Developed containment means and methods to allow the contractor to work efficiently without causing unauthorized discharge into sensitive wetland resources. The project was successfully completed without a single environmental or permit noncompliance incident.

Education

B.S. University of Massachusetts, Plant and Soil Sciences, 1988

Graduate coursework, University of New Hampshire

**Affiliations** 

Member, Lebanon Inland Wetlands and Watercourses

Commission (1995 – Present)

Member, Connecticut Audubon Society

Registrations

Professional Soil Scientist, Society of Soil Scientists of Southern

New England (1988 – Present)

Connecticut Association of Wetland Scientists.

Association of Massachusetts Wetland Scientists



# **ATTACHMENT 2**

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

RE: TARPON TOWERS II, LLC APPLICATION
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED
FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY

AT 796 WOODIN STREET IN THE

TOWN OF HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT

DOCKET NO. 486

Date: September 9, 2019

#### PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF KEITH COPPINS

- Q1. Mr. Coppins, please summarize your professional background in the telecommunications industry.
- A1. I am the principal/owner of Phoenix Partnership LLC, and am responsible for the development of new wireless telecommunications sites in Connecticut,

  Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New York, which includes leasing zoning, construction management and coordination with the wireless carriers to address their coverage needs. I was formerly the Vice President of Development at Optasite where I led a development team in the Northeast Region telecommunications development and site acquisition activities. I have been part of the telecommunications industry for thirty years and my primary focus is on property development, lease contract negotiations, and construction of newly-approved towers. I joined Optasite from Site Acquisitions, Inc. where I was Vice-President and oversaw the leasing, zoning and construction of new towers sites. I also managed a consulting team for AT&T Wireless and T-Mobile.

Prior to Site Acquisitions, I was General Manager for American Tower

Corporation and managed a consulting group for Cellular One and Southern New

England Telephone. My primary responsibilities were site acquisitions, lease negotiations and zoning of new cellular sites in the New England and New York markets. I have successfully completed all aspects of development activities for more than 450 sites in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont and New York.

#### Q2. What is the purpose of your testimony?

A2. My testimony provides background information relating to this application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need ("Application") for the proposed Hamden facility ("Facility").

#### Q3. What was your role in this Application?

- A3. I represent Tarpon Towers II, LLC ("Tarpon") in the northeast. I was responsible for the site search, site acquisition, coordination with the landowner, and communication with the wireless carriers for this Application.
- Q4. <u>Did the Town of Hamden ("Town") request any changes to the proposed Facility design after the Technical Report was filed?</u>
- A4. No. The representatives from the town were not present at the public informational meeting so there was no dialogue to make any changes.
- Q5. Did the City of New Haven ("City") request any changes to the proposed Facility design after the Technical Report was filed?
- A5. No. The City did not request any changes to the Facility design.
- Q6. Did Town or City request any further changes to the Facility design?

- A6. No. There has been no input from the Town or City as to the Facility design or any changes to the design.
- Q7. How many alternate sites did you consider?
- A7. I looked at seven sites and determined our proposed site to be the best overall site in the area.
- Q8. Why was this determined to be the best site?
- A8. The proposed site has been determined the best site for the following reasons:
  - Willing landlord that has worked with Tarpon to find the best location on the property to mitigate any impacts to wetlands
  - 2. Distance from neighboring lot lines
  - 3. Limited amount of visual impact due to natural screening

I hereby affirm that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Keith Coppins

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_ day of September, 2019.

Commissioner of the Superior Court

SARAH THOMAS COMM...2145539 NOTARY PUBLIC-CALIFORNIA ORANGE COUNTY My Term Exp. March 7, 2020

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

RE: TARPON TOWERS II, LLC APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL

DOCKET NO. 486

COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED

FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY

AT 796 WOODIN STREET IN THE TOWN OF HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT

Date:

### PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF DOUGLAS ROBERTS

Q1: Please state your name and position.

A: My name is Douglas Roberts and I am a Senior Project Manager for Hudson Design Group ("Hudson"), which has offices at 110 Washington Ave North Haven, Connecticut. Hudson is the engineering/architectural company retained by Tarpon Towers II ("Tarpon") to provide the engineering, architecture, and other design services for the proposed telecommunication facility to be located at 796 Woodin Street, Hamden, Connecticut.

Q2: Please state your qualifications.

A2: I attended the University of Bridgeport from 1974 to 1978. I am a licensed architect in the State of Connecticut. I have worked in the field of architecture for 30+ years and have been employed by Hudson for the last 5 years. My expertise includes project management of architectural and engineering designs for over one thousand wireless telecommunications facilities in Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New Jersey. Hudson has worked in the development of wireless telecommunication facilities in Connecticut since 2004. I am currently responsible for the development of telecommunications facilities throughout Connecticut, Vermont and Massachusetts, New York and Rhode Island.

### Q3: What has been your role in the development of this proposal?

A3: My first involvement with this site was in August of 2017. Hudson's responsibility began once Tarpon leased the site. In August 2017, Tarpon requested that Hudson design a plan for construction of a 120-foot monopole telecommunications tower and equipment compound at 796 Woodin Street Hamden ("Facility") to allow Cellco Partnership, LLC d/b/a Verizon Wireless ("Verizon") to co-locate on this facility at a height of 120 feet (as approved by Verizon's RF department). Hudson was also asked to design the compound to accommodate Verizon's equipment as well as the equipment of future carriers. Hudson hired a survey team to survey the location of the proposed site and access road. Hudson developed design drawings and site plans for the Facility. Both the site survey and the design drawings were prepared under my direct

supervision. The wetland delineations shown were identified in conjunction with information provided by All Points Technology ("All Points").

Q4: Please describe the site.

A4: The property on which the proposed site would be located is an approximately 6.75-acre parcel owned by the Gabrielle Scirocco ("Owner") at 796 Woodin Street Hamden, Connecticut ("Site"). The facility would be located in the southern portion of the Site.

Q5: Please describe the proposed Facility.

A5: Tarpon will locate a 120-foot monopole tower, associated equipment compound, access road and utility routing within the leased area and easement at the Site.

Q6: Please describe the proposed tower.

A6: The proposed 120-foot monopole telecommunications tower ("Tower") will be a steel monopole, approximately five feet in diameter at the base and tapering to approximately eighteen inches at the top. The monopole will bolted to a concrete foundation and be designed to support multiple antennas, platforms and brackets. The Facility will be used by Verizon and other future co-locators, along with the Town's municipal or public safety antennas (should the Town choose to utilize this site). Verizon intends to install its antennas at the 120-foot level of the Tower.

### Q7: Please describe the compound area

A7: The dimensions of the associated equipment compound was originally planned to be approximately 70 feet x 70 feet, however after the inland wetlands analysis was conducted and the results were discussed with Tarpon and All Points, the proposed dimension of the compound was reduced from 70 feet by 70 feet to 70 feet by 40 feet. Reducing the size of the compound increased the distance of the proposed project from the wetlands.

The compound will be cleared of organic materials and have a graveled base installed. It will be enclosed by a eight-foot high chain-link security fence, and will contain equipment operated by Verizon, future carriers and possibly the Town.

Q8: Please describe access to the Sites.

A8: Access to Site will be from Woodin Street on the westerly side of the property along a newly constructed 12-foot wide gravel driveway to the compound for a distance of approximately 700 feet.

Q9: Please describe the utilities necessary for this installation.

A9: New utility services will be run underground from existing utility poles located on Woodin Street along the proposed access drive to a common demarcation point within the leased area. Once inside the compound, individual electric and telephone services will be run underground to each tenant area. No water or sewer services are proposed as part of this project.

The statements above are true	and complete to the best of my knowledge.
SETT. 5, 2019	Malkath
Date	Douglas Roberts
2 3.13	///20dg/go / tobolio
Subscribed and sworn before r	no this gth day of Sentember 2010
Subscribed and sworn before me this day of September, 2019.	

DAVIA ANNE NAPIERKOWSKI NOTARY PUBLIC State of Connecticut My Commission Expires 12/31/2023

. V. Napuelin li

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

RE: TARPON TOWERS II, LLC APPLICATION

FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL

COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED

FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY

AT 796 WOODIN STREET IN THE

TOWN OF HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT

DOCKET NO. 486

Date: 9/9/19

### PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL LIBERTINE

#### Q1. Please state your name and profession.

A1. Michael P. Libertine and I am the Vice President and Director of Siting and Permitting at All-Points Technology Corporation, ("APT"). APT is located at 3 Saddlebrook Drive in Killingworth, Connecticut. My responsibilities at APT include managing and overseeing the environmental siting and permitting practice, which includes telecommunications projects undertaken by APT.

#### Q2. What kind of services does APT provide?

A2. Among many other services, APT provides a full array of services for the permitting of telecommunications facilities, including visual impact analyses, wetlands and natural resources evaluations, NEPA compliance and environmental assessments.

### Q3. <u>Please summarize your professional background in telecommunications.</u>

A3. I have assisted in the permitting of over 600 telecommunications projects in New England and New York over the past 22 years. My responsibilities include the

coordination and oversight of environmental and land use evaluations, visual impact analyses and regulatory permitting support.

My background includes over 27 years of consulting in the environmental field. I have a B.S. in natural resources management from the University of Connecticut and a B.A. in marketing from Stonehill College. I am also a licensed Environmental Professional in Connecticut. I have served as the project manager for more than 2,100 environmental site assessments and field investigations for property transfers in Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Jersey, New York, Florida and Canada.

# Q4. What services did APT provide Tarpon Towers II, LLC regarding the proposed Facility?

A4. Tarpon Towers II, LLC ("Tarpon") retained APT to evaluate environmental conditions in association with the proposed telecommunications facility ("Facility") on real property known as Tax Map 2322/110/00/000 on the Hamden Assessor's Map 796 Woodin Street Hamden, CT ("Site"). Specifically, APT performed a Visual Resource Evaluation ("Evaluation") and completed a Visual Resource Evaluation Report ("VRE Report"), a wetlands and floodplain compliance analysis, Avian Assessment report, and state agency consultations to support Tarpon Tower's filing with the Connecticut Siting Council. I oversaw these activities associated with the proposed Facility.

## Q5. <u>Please describe the process for conducting the Visual Resource</u> Evaluation.

A5. The Evaluation consisted of developing a predictive computer model supported by in-field analysis. The predictive computer model assesses the potential visibility of the Facility within a two-mile radius ("Study Area"), including private property and/or otherwise inaccessible areas for field verification. The in-field analysis consisted of a "balloon float" and reconnaissance of the Study Area, allowing APT to obtain location and height representations, photo-document field observations, back-check the initial predictive computer model results and assess the visibility of the proposed Facility from areas accessible to the public. In this case, APT had the opportunity to review in-field conditions via balloon floats on June 21, 2018 and March 1, 2019, representing both leaf-on and leaf-off conditions. The completed VRE Report and viewshed map are included in Exhibit H of the Application.

# Q6. <u>Please describe how APT prepared the viewshed analysis for the VRE Report.</u>

A6. APT uses a computer modeling tool developed by the Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ArcMap) to calculate the areas within the Study Area where the Facility would be visible. The predictive model incorporates Project and Study Areaspecific data, including the site location, its ground elevation and the proposed Facility height, as well as the surrounding topography, existing vegetation, and structures (the primary features that can block direct lines of sight). APT first constructs a digital surface model ("DSM") for the Study Area, capturing both the natural and built features on the Earth's surface, which is derived from Connecticut LiDAR-based digital elevation data produced by the University of Connecticut Center for Land Use Education and

Research. Once the DSM was generated, ESRI's Viewshed Tool was utilized to identify locations within the Study Area where the proposed Facility may be visible. APT also includes an additional data layer, obtained from the Connecticut State Department of Environmental Protection, depicting significant resource areas such as State forests and parks, recreational facilities, open space lands and other sensitive visual receptors. APT depicts on the view shed map state-or locally-designed scenic roads and Connecticut blue-blazed hiking trails that exist in the Study Area.

### Q7. Please describe how APT conducted the balloon float.

A7. On June 21, 2018 and March 1, 2019, APT raised and maintained a 4-foot diameter helium filled weather balloon at the location of the proposed Facility at a height of 120 feet to conduct the in-field analysis. After stabilizing the balloon, APT traveled the local public thoroughfares within the Study Area to verify the results of the computer generated viewshed map and inventory areas of visibility/non-visibility. In conducting the drive-by reconnaissance, APT focused its evaluation on nearby residential areas and other potential sensitive visual receptors. While the balloon was aloft, APT took photographs from a variety of locations, settings and vantage points to assist in evaluating where the balloon was visible. APT also recorded the latitude and longitude of each photograph using a handheld global positioning system (GPS) receiver unit. The photographs were taken using a Canon EOS 6D digital camera body and Canon EF 24 to 105 millimeter ("mm") zoom lens, with the lens set to a standard focal length of 50mm to present a consistent field of view. The Canon EOS 6D is a full-framed camera which includes a lens receptor of the same size as the film used in 35mm cameras. As

such, the images produced are comparable to those taken with a conventional 35mm camera.

# Q8. <u>How did APT select the locations for the photographs during the in-field investigation?</u>

A8. APT selected several of the photograph locations using a preliminary version of the viewshed map to identify areas adjacent to public roads within the Study Area from where the proposed Facility might be visible. APT selects other locations based on infield observations made during the time of the balloon float.

### Q9. Please describe the estimated visibility of the proposed Facility.

A9. The Facility would be at least partially visible year-round (i.e., when the leaves are on the deciduous trees) over approximately ±21 acres within the 8,042-acre Study Area and ±47 acres seasonal (When the leaves have fallen). Cumulatively this represents less than one percent (0.8%) in the Study Area.

# Q10. <u>Please describe any features that would reduce potential visual impact of the proposed Facility.</u>

A10. Existing mature vegetation both surrounding the Site and throughout the Study Area provides adequate screening, so additional visual mitigation features do not appear necessary.

# Q11. Will the proposed Facility have any visual impact on any sensitive visual receptors such as scenic, historic or recreational sites, hiking trails or parks?

A11. No substantive views are anticipated from the trails at West Rock Ridge Park.

As depicted in the VRE, there would be some partial, seasonal views of the Facility from the northern portion of the adjacent West Rock Nature Center Park trail system, but the relatively low tower height and the presence of mature trees in the immediate area of the Site serves to minimize the extent of the visibility.

# Q12. Mr. Libertine, how many times have you floated a balloon at the proposed site?

- A12. To date, APT has floated a balloon at the Site on two separate occasions:
  - An initial balloon float was conducted on June 21, 2018 for purposes of evaluating leaf-on conditions.
  - At the request of the Town, in preparation for its public informational meeting (and evaluating leaf-off conditions) we conducted a second balloon float on March 1, 2019 which was published in the New Haven Register on February 20, 2019.

APT will also conduct a balloon float on the September 19, 2019 (the day of the field review and hearing) as directed by the Connecticut Siting Council.

- Q13. Mr. Libertine, are you familiar with the letter dated August 29, 2019 from the Council of Environmental Quality to the Connecticut Siting Council regarding Docket 486?
- A13. Yes, I have reviewed this correspondence.
- Q14. Can you clarify whether the proposed facility will have an impact on any scenic trails specifically including the trail directly west of Lake Wintergreen or the northwest shore of Lake Wintergreen?
- A14. The proposed facility will not have an aesthetic impact on the trail or shoreline of Lake Wintergreen. Although a small area of visibility is depicted on the west side of the lake (over open water), the computer model often over-predicts visibility. APT was not

able to access the lake to confirm. It is unlikely that any views would be attainable from the water, however, if present they would be of the top of the tower at best. Note the elevation of the lake and its western shoreline is over100 feet lower than those depicted in views 3 through 5 in the VRE Report, locations east of the lake and west of the Site. The intervening rise in topography and trees would obstruct direct lines of sight. View 11 in the VRE Report is at a similar ground elevation as that of the lake (near the boat launch) and provides a basis for comparison.

I hereby affirm that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Michael Libertine

Michael Spertine

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9th day of September, 2019.

Commissioner of the Superior Court Vincent M. Marino, Esa

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

RE: TARPON TOWERS II, LLC APPLICATION

FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL

COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED

FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY

AT 796 WOODIN STREET IN THE

TOWN OF HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT

DOCKET NO. 486

Date: 9/9/19

#### PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF DEAN E. GUSTAFSON

#### Q1. Please state your name and profession.

A1. Dean Gustafson and I am a professional soil scientist and senior wetland scientist for All Points Technology ("APT"). APT is located at 3 Saddlebrook Drive in Killingworth, Connecticut. My responsibilities at APT include managing and overseeing the wetland and natural resource practice, which includes telecommunications projects undertaken by APT.

### Q2. What kind of services does APT provide?

A2. Among many other services, APT provides a full array of services for the permitting of telecommunications facilities, including wetlands compliance, natural resources evaluations, visual impact analyses and environmental assessments under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 ("NEPA").

### Q3. Please summarize your professional background in telecommunications.

A3. I have a B.S. in plant and soil sciences from the University of Massachusetts. I am a professional soil scientist with over 30 years of experience in wetlands consulting. My experience includes wetlands delineation, evaluation, mitigation design, monitoring,

stream restoration and permitting before local, state and federal bodies. I have a particular expertise in wetland identification, wetland impact assessments, wetland mitigation design and oversight, as well as in soil mapping and classification. I have provided wetland consultation for more than five hundred telecommunications facilities throughout New England and New York.

# Q4. What services did APT provide Tarpon Towers II, LLC with respect to the proposed Facility?

A4. Tarpon Towers II, LLC ("Tarpon") retained APT to perform a Visual Resource Evaluation Report and a wetlands compliance analysis for the proposed telecommunications facility proposed on real property known as 796 Woodin Street Hamden, Connecticut ("Site"). I performed the wetlands compliance analysis for the proposed Facility.

# Q5. What did you do to determine the existence of wetlands on or near the site of the proposed Facility?

A5. On January 31, 2018 and May 9, 2018, an on-site investigation of the site of the proposed Facility on real property known as 796 Woodin Street, Hamden, Connecticut was performed by APT staff under my direction. I also reviewed the site plans for the Facility prepared by Hudson Design. I completed a wetlands inspection report based upon this on-site investigation and the review of the site plans, See Application, Exhibit M.

## Q6. <u>Based upon your investigation, are there any wetlands located on the Property?</u>

A6. Yes. There are two wetlands on the property. Wetland 1 runs along the Eastern boundary of the property to a stream in the Southern portion of the Property. Wetland 2 is located beyond the stream in the most Southerly portion of the Property and is buffered from an intermittent stream. See Application, Exhibit M.

# Q7. In your professional opinion, based upon your review of the site plans and the proposed site of the Facility, would the construction, operation and maintenance of the Facility compound impact any wetland system?

A7. No. As presented, the proposed Facility construction would not result in a direct permanent impact to wetland resources. However, development activities would be located in close proximity to wetland areas which may result in temporary indirect impacts to wetland resources during construction. Tarpon will take all necessary measures to avoid temporary wetland impacts during construction and will evaluate mitigation opportunities to enhance nearby wetland resources. APT would recommend that a wetland impact evaluation be performed of the proposed Facility and access locations. This evaluation would include an assessment of alternatives to minimize wetland impacts, protective measures to be implemented during construction to avoid/minimize temporary wetland impacts and mitigation options to compensate for the Facility's proximity to wetlands.

# Q8. <u>Would the access or utility routing proposed for the Facility impact any</u> wetland system?

A8. No, the proposed access and underground utility routing would avoid any direct wetland impacts. Development activities would be located in close proximity to wetland areas and may result in temporary indirect impacts to wetland resources during construction. Refer to response to Q7 for additional discussion wetland impact evaluation and mitigation opportunities.

#### Q9. Would the Facility be located within the coastal boundary?

A9. No. The proposed Facility would not be located within the coastal boundary as defined by the Connecticut Coastal Management Act, General Statutes § 22a-90 *et seq*. Accordingly, the proposed Facility would not impact any "coastal resources."

## Q10. Are you familiar with the letter written on August 29, 2019 from the Office of Environmental Quality?

A10. Yes, I have read it.

## Q11. Is it possible to avoid any potential wetland impact from the proposed facility by implementing wetland mitigation measures and best practices?

A11. Yes, as noted in responses to Q7 and Q8 APT will be providing a wetland impact assessment that discusses recommended protection measures to be implemented during construction to avoid temporary wetland impacts and mitigation measures to compensate for the Facility's proximity to wetland resources.

I hereby affirm that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 9th day of September, 2019.

Unient M. Marino, ESQ. Notary Public Comm. of Sp.Ct. My Commission expires

# **ATTACHMENT 3**

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

RE: TARPON TOWERS II, LLC APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL

DOCKET NO. 486

COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED

FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY

AT 796 WOODIN STREET IN THE TOWN OF HAMDEN. CONNECTICUT

Date:

#### <u>AFFIDAVIT</u>

Jon Longobardi of [Graphix Edge], being duly sworn, depose and state that:

- I am over eighteen years of age and understand the obligation of making a statement under oath.
- 2. On August 30, 2019 I supervised and witnessed the posting of the "Public Notice" sign at 796 Woodin Street, Hamden, Connecticut.
- In accordance with Connecticut Siting Council Guidelines the Public Notice Sign was posted on August 30, 2019.
- 4. The Public Notice Sign measured four (4) feet by six (6) feet and was posted along Woodin Street in front of the Property. The sign text is as set forth in the Connecticut Council Application Guideline.
- 5. Photographs of the sign are attached to this affidavit.

Subscribed and sworn before me, the undersigned, this  $\underline{\mathcal{Y}}^{\mu}$  day of September, 2019.

Notary Public

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_

DAVIA ANNE NAPIERKOWSKI NOTARY PUBLIC State of Connecticut My Commission Expires 12/31/2023





