

Meeting Minutes
Meeting of February 9, 2010

A meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Tuesday, February 9, 2010, in Room 3130000 (3rd floor), at Central Connecticut State University, Institute of Technology and Business Development, 185 Main Street, New Britain, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order with a quorum present by Daniel F. Caruso at 1:13 p.m.

Council Members Present:

Judge Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman

Colin C. Tait
Vice Chairman

Brian Golembiewski
(designee for Commissioner Marrella)

Wayne V. Estey
(designee for Commissioner DeGobbo)

Edward S. Wilensky
Barbara Currier Bell

Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.
James Murphy

Council Members Absent:

Philip T. Ashton

Staff Members Present:

S. Derek Phelps
Executive Director

Melanie Bachman
Staff Attorney

Fred Cunliffe
Siting Analyst Supervisor

Christina Walsh
Siting Analyst

Robert D. Mercier
Siting Analyst

C. David Martin
Siting Analyst

Recording Secretary:

Lisa Fontaine and S. Derek Phelps

Moment of Silence.

Mr. Murphy requested that a Moment of Silence be taken for the tragedy (explosion) which occurred at the Kleen Energy Middletown Plant on Sunday, February 7, 2010.

Minutes of January 28, 2010.

Mr. Murphy moved to approve the minutes of January 28, 2010, as amended: seconded by Mr. Tait. The motion passed with Mr. Lynch abstaining.

DOCKET NO. 384 - Phoenix Partnership, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 50 Devine Street, North Haven, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact.

Mr. Wilensky arrived at 1:16 p.m.

After reviewing the draft Findings of Fact, Chairman Caruso polled the Council members with Mr. Tait, Mr. Murphy, Dr. Bell, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wilensky, Mr. Golembiewski, and Mr. Estey in favor of granting a Certificate for the proposed 120-foot tall monopole tower.

Chairman Caruso directed staff to draft a favorable Opinion and Decision and Order to be reviewed at the next meeting.

DOCKET NO. 385 - T-Mobile Northeast LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 23 Stonybrook Road, Stratford, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact.

After reviewing the draft Findings of Fact, Chairman Caruso polled the Council members with Mr. Tait, Mr. Murphy, Dr. Bell, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wilensky, Mr. Golembiewski, and Mr. Estey in favor of granting a Certificate for the proposed 100-foot monopole tower with exterior mounted antennas. The Council voted in favor of orienting the compound in an east-west direction, rather than the proposed north-south direction.

Chairman Caruso directed staff to draft a favorable Opinion and Decision and Order to be reviewed at the next meeting.

DOCKET NO. 397 - 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 at 445 Prospect Street, Woodstock, Connecticut. Completeness Review, Schedule, Custodian of the Docket, Deposition of the Transcript, Request for Party/Intervenor Status. Motion for Protective Order.

Mr. Murphy moved to approve the application as complete and approve the schedule for processing the docket as per staff recommendations, the appointment of Jessica Brito-Weston as custodian of the docket, the deposition of the transcript in the Town of Woodstock, and a public field

review and hearing in Woodstock on Thursday, March 11, 2010; seconded by Mr. Tait. The motion passed unanimously.

Recess.

Chairman Caruso announced a short recess at 2:18 p.m.

Mr. Lynch departed at 2:18 p.m.

The energy/telecommunications meeting resumed at 2:35 p.m.

DOCKET NO. 370 – Consolidated proceeding pursuant to the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) Request for Proposal (RFP) process under C.G.S. §16a-7c. Original application: The Connecticut Light & Power Company application for Certificates of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Connecticut Valley Electric Transmission Reliability Projects which consist of (1) The Connecticut portion of the Greater Springfield Reliability Project that traverses the municipalities of Bloomfield, East Granby, and Suffield, or potentially including an alternate portion that traverses the municipalities of Suffield and Enfield, terminating at the North Bloomfield Substation; and (2) the Manchester Substation to Meekville Junction Circuit Separation Project in Manchester, Connecticut. Competing application: NRG Energy, Inc. application pursuant to C.G.S. §16-50/(a)(3) for consideration of a 530 MW combined cycle generating plant in Meriden, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact. Citizens Against Overhead Power Line Construction's Request to Reconsider Decision Regarding Exclusion of Video Materials. Administrative Notice Item.

Dr. Bell moved to approve the addition of State of Connecticut Ethics Commission Advisory Opinion No. 2001-20 as an administrative notice item in this docket; seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Murphy moved to deny Citizens Against Overhead Power Line Construction's Request to Reconsider the Decision Regarding the Exclusion of Video Materials; seconded by Dr. Bell. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Phelps thanked the Docket No. 370 Working Committee members (Mr. Tait, Dr. Bell, and Mr. Golembiewski) for their efforts in developing the Findings of Fact.

After the Council reviewed the Draft Findings of Fact, Mr. Tait asked for a non-binding straw vote to approve an all over-head transmission installation and to move the proposed 345-kV line closer to the existing 115-kV structures along Segment One of the northern route to reduce the necessary vegetative clearing; seconded by Mr. Estey. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Tait, Mr. Estey, Mr. Golembiewski, and Mr. Wilensky were in favor of split-phase configuration of transmission line structures for the closest point of Country Club Lane in East Granby and along Newgate Road to the crossing of Phelps Road in Suffield; Mr. Murphy and Dr. Bell favored the delta configuration, rather than the split-phase configuration, in these areas. Having abstained from this proceeding and having left at 2:18 p.m., as indicated, Mr. Lynch did not participate in this non-binding straw vote.

Administrative Matters.

Mr. Phelps announced that the next energy/telecommunications meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25, 2010, at 2:00 p.m., in Hearing Room One. Other calendar dates were also discussed.

Adjournment.

Chairman Caruso adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman

DFC/SDP/laf