

Meeting Minutes
Meeting of March 7, 2013

A meeting of the Connecticut Siting Council (energy/telecommunications) was held on Thursday, March 7, 2013, in Hearing Room Two, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order with a quorum present by Chairman Robert Stein at 1:00 p.m.

Council Members Present:

Robert Stein
Chairman
Colin Tait
Vice Chairman
Robert Hannon
(designee for Commissioner Esty)
Philip T. Ashton

Michael Caron
(designee for Chairman House)
Barbara Currier Bell
James J. Murphy
Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.
Edward S. Wilensky

Staff Members Present:

Linda Roberts
Executive Director
Melanie Bachman
Staff Attorney
Fred Cunliffe
Siting Analyst Supervisor

Christina Walsh
Siting Analyst Supervisor
Michael Perrone
Siting Analyst
David Martin
Siting Analyst

Recording Secretary:

Lisa Fontaine

Minutes of February 21, 2013.

Mr. Murphy moved to approve the minutes of February 21, 2013, seconded Mr. Lynch. The motion passed with Mr. Ashton abstaining.

DOCKET NO. 360 - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 188 Route 7 South, Falls Village (Canaan), Connecticut. Development and Management Plan.

Mr. Wilensky entered the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Mr. Murphy moved to approve the Development and Management Plan; seconded by Mr. Ashton. The motion passed with Chairman Stein abstaining and Mr. Tait not present.

DOCKET NO. 404 - New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 28 Great Oak Lane, Redding, Connecticut. Request for an Extension of Time.

Mr. Tait moved to approve an extension of time until January 1, 2014 to complete construction of this site; seconded by Dr. Bell. The motion passed unanimously.

DOCKET NO. 409 - New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 8 Barnes Road, Canaan (Falls Village), Connecticut. Motion to Reopen.

Mr. Ashton moved to reopen this docket to hear evidence on changed conditions and a new site location to determine if the Council's original decision should be reversed or modified, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 4-181a(b); seconded by Mr. Hannon. The motion passed with Mr. Tait voting no and Mr. Caron abstaining.

DOCKET NO. 427 - North Atlantic Towers, LLC Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 171 Short Beach Road, Branford, Connecticut. Development and Management Plan.

Mr. Ashton moved to approve the Development and Management Plan with the condition that North Atlantic Towers, LLC submit a site plan depicting the final route of underground utilities to the site; seconded by Mr. Wilensky. The motion passed with Mr. Hannon abstaining.

DOCKET NO. 428 - New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at one of two sites: Roxbury Tax Assessor Parcel ID #32-008 off of Route 67, Roxbury, Connecticut, or 126 Transylvania Road, Roxbury, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order.

Mr. Ashton moved to approve the Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order granting a Certificate for the Roxbury Tax Assessor Parcel ID #32-008 off of Route 67 site; seconded by Mr. Wilensky. The motion passed with Mr. Hannon abstaining.

DOCKET NO. 431 – South Norwalk Electric and Water application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of an electrical substation and its connection to an existing 115 kV transmission line, located at 180 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Norwalk, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact.

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Chairman Stein conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Tait, Mr. Murphy, Dr. Bell, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wilensky, Mr. Hannon, Mr. Caron, Mr. Ashton, and Chairman Stein unanimously in favor of issuing a Certificate for the proposed electrical substation and its connection to an existing 115 kV electric transmission line.

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

DOCKET NO. 433 - The United Illuminating Company application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 115/13.8 kilovolt substation located at 14 Old Stratford Road, Shelton, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order.

Mr. Lynch stated that, although he did not attend the public hearing, he had read the transcript and would be voting.

Mr. Ashton moved to approve the Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion, and Decision and Order; seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed unanimously.

DOCKET NO. 434 - 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 relocated telecommunications facility at 139 North Main Street, West Hartford, Connecticut. Request for Party/Intervenor Status.

Mr. Murphy moved to grant intervenor status to New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T); seconded by Dr. Bell. The motion passed unanimously.

DOCKET NO. 436 – Message Center Management, Inc. and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at one of two sites: 465 Hills Street or 56 Hills Street, East Hartford, Connecticut. Completeness Review, Schedule, Custodian of the Docket, Deposition of the Transcript, Request for Party/Intervenor Status.

Mr. Ashton moved to approve the application as complete, approve the schedule for processing the docket as per staff recommendations, the appointment of Carriann Mulcahy as custodian of the docket, the deposition of the transcript in the Town of East Hartford, a public field review and hearing in East Hartford on Thursday, June 6, 2013; seconded by Dr. Bell. The motion passed unanimously.

PETITION NO. 1042 – Somers Solar Center, LLC Petition for a Declaratory Ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the construction and operation of a 5.0 MW AC Solar Photovoltaic Project located at 458 & 488 South Road, Somers, Connecticut. Draft Findings of Fact.

Chairman Stein and Mr. Lynch stated that, although they did not attend the public hearing, they had read the transcript and would be voting.

After reviewing the Draft Findings of Fact, Chairman Stein conducted a non-binding straw poll of the Council members with Mr. Tait, Mr. Murphy, Dr. Bell, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Wilensky, Mr. Hannon, Mr. Caron, Mr. Ashton, and Chairman Stein unanimously in favor of approving this petition.

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

PETITION NO. 1057 - The Connecticut Light and Power Company petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed modifications to the existing Northeast Simsbury Substation and replacement of structures in Simsbury and Bloomfield; and re-conductoring of a 115-kV transmission line from Northeast Simsbury Substation (Simsbury, Connecticut) to the North Bloomfield Substation, Bloomfield, Connecticut. Landscape and Grading Plan.

Mr. Tait moved to approve the proposed Landscaping and Grading Plan, submitted on February 20, 2013; seconded by Mr. Ashton. The motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Matters.

DOCKET NO. F-2012/2013 – Connecticut Siting Council Review of the Ten-Year Forecast of Connecticut Electric Loads and Resources. United Illuminating Request for Extension of Time.

Mr. Lynch moved to add this item to the agenda; seconded by Mr. Caron. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ashton moved to approve the request from The United Illuminating Company dated March 1, 2013, for an extension of time to file the Annual Report of its Ten-Year Forecast of Loads and Resources pursuant to §16-50r of the Connecticut General Statutes to March 22, 2013; seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed unanimously.

DOCKET NO. 435 - The Connecticut Light & Power Company Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Stamford Reliability Cable Project, which consists of construction, maintenance, and operation of a new 115-kV underground transmission circuit extending approximately 1.5 miles between Glenbrook and South End Substations, Stamford, Connecticut and related substation improvements.

Mr. Murphy moved to add this item to the agenda; seconded by Dr. Bell. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ashton moved to grant party status to the Office of Consumer Counsel; seconded by Mr. Murphy. The motion passed with Chairman Stein abstaining.

The following calendar events were discussed.

- ❖ Thursday, March 14, 2013, beginning at **2:00 p.m.**, field review and public hearing for Petition No. 1056 (GRE 314 East Lyme, LLC) at the East Lyme Town Hall, Auditorium, 108 Pennsylvania Avenue, Niantic, Connecticut
- ❖ Thursday, March 21, 2013, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** energy/telecommunications meeting, in Hearing Room Two, Ten Franklin Square, New Britain
- ❖ Thursday, March 28, 2013, beginning at **1:00 p.m.** field review and public hearing for Docket No. 435 (CL&P-Stamford) at the NEON Stamford Gymnasium, 34 Woodland Avenue, Stamford, Connecticut.

Adjournment.

Mr. Ashton moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Caron. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Stein adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Stein
Chairman

RS/laf