



Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

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**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

April 20, 2007

Thomas J. Regan, Esq.
Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP
CityPlace I, 185 Asylum Street
Hartford, CT 06103

RE: **PETITION NO. 803** - Sprint Nextel Corporation petition for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed modifications to an existing telecommunications facility located at 130 Ledge Road, Darien, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Regan:

At a public meeting held on April 10, 2007, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) considered and ruled that this proposal would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect, and pursuant to General Statutes § 16-50k would not require a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need with the conditions that the tower extension be a pipe extension and that the applicant shall flush-mount its antennas.

This decision is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Council and is not applicable to any other modification or construction. All work is to be implemented as specified in the petition, dated February 5, 2007.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the staff report on this project.

Very truly yours,

Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman

DFC/MP/laf

Enclosure: Staff Report, dated April 10, 2007

c: The Honorable Evonne M. Klein, First Selectman, Town of Darien
David J. Keating, Zoning Enforcement Officer, Town of Darien



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Petition No. 803

Sprint

130 Ledge Road, Darien

April 10, 2007

Staff Report

On February 5, 2007, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received a petition (Petition) from Sprint Nextel Corporation (Sprint) for declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the proposed modifications to an existing telecommunications facility located at 130 Ledge Road, Darien. This existing monopole is currently 100 feet tall. On October 31, 2006, the Council approved a ten-foot extension to 110 feet to accommodate T-Mobile. In this Petition, Sprint seeks an additional 7-foot pipe-mount extension to accommodate its antennas. Sprint's three panel antennas would be centered at the 120-foot level of the tower, and would reach a maximum height of 123 feet. The antennas would be flush-mounted to a pipe to minimize the diameter and thus reduce the visual impact. Sprint plans to perform its construction at the same time as T-Mobile.

Sprint's antenna array is currently located at the 70-foot level of the tower. However, at this height, Sprint's coverage from this tower on Interstate 95 is limited to the distance between Exits 10 and 12. With the antennas relocated to the 120-foot level, Sprint's coverage from this tower on I-95 would extend from Exit 9 to Exit 13.

The proposed project site is located on the property of the Town of Darien's transfer station. There is a car dealership to the north of the site, Interstate 95 to the south, Darien Transfer Station and a small park to the west, and Ledge Road to the east. There are no wetlands at the site. The closest residences are at a condominium complex adjacent to the site.

The site was field reviewed by Council Member Dr. Barbara Currier Bell and Mike Perrone of the Council staff on February 26, 2007. Thomas J. Regan, Esq. of Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP, representing Sprint, attended the field review along with Steve Florio, Construction Manager for Sprint.

The only potential residential view of the extended tower would be from the nearby condominium complex. However, the complex is located at a significant elevation. In addition, existing trees obstruct the view of the compound and the lower sections of the tower. Only the top sections are expected to be visible, and this partial visibility would be further limited by Sprint's pipe mount and flush-mounted antenna design.

To inform the condominium residents, Sprint sent a notice to manager of the Middlesex Commons Condominium Complex on March 1, 2007. In addition, Sprint sent a notice to



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John D. Herz, agent for the Middlesex Commons Condominium Association (MCCA), on March 15, 2007. The MCCA was instructed to contact Council staff with any questions or concerns as soon as possible. No calls or letters were received. Staff suggests including a condition that a pipe mount with flush mounted antennas be used to minimize the visual impact.