

709 Murdock Avenue
Meriden, CT 06450



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**CONNECTICUT
SITING COUNCIL**

23 July 2014

Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

PETITION NO. 1111

Dear Connecticut Siting Council,

I write to petition for a declaratory ruling and ask that the Council reconsider your approval of Petition 1099 which allows for the replacement and extension of a cell tower at 743 Murdock Avenue in Meriden, CT.

I represent 68 members of the Neighborhood Association who signed a previous petition and believe that the following are of concern:

1. Presumably AT&T (in its application submitted to the CT Siting Council) is proposing this due to a gap in cell phone coverage in the area of the proposed tower, AT&T advertises on its website that it already provides adequate coverage for the area (att.com/maps/wireless-coverage.html).
2. The proposed AT&T tower site is located in the heart of a residential area which has approximately one hundred houses within proximity.
3. The residents of the area enjoy the use of their property for outdoor activities with their families, as evident by the number of playscapes, decks, and outdoor furniture, etc.. Construction of an 82 foot cell phone tower will destroy the scenic and natural beauty of the area.
4. The existing silo is 57 feet. An 82-foot tower is aesthetically incompatible with a residential neighborhood. It would be an eyesore, and, among other things, encourages the placement of cell towers in non-residential areas. There appears to be many other parcels of available and open land within a one mile radius of the proposed site—other space that is not immediately surrounded by residences. While local zoning does not specify cell towers as a use, there are current height restrictions for structures. There is a 35 foot limit in the S-R (Suburban-Residential) Zoning District that the application site and adjacent parcels is in. We would question if the City of Meriden can require this application to go through a complete local process that would include variances and site plan approval.
5. Cell phone towers are potentially dangerous as they may topple over or catch fire. The potential for fire is even more of a risk where, as here, AT&T plans to locate its tower in the middle of a farm (with flammable matter) and surrounding land filled with shrubs and trees. The potential for a devastating fire is quite real. **Please note that our property line is 84-feet from the proposed site of the tower.**

We would look forward to meeting with any member of the Council during a site inspection to discuss the above-mentioned points and impact. Therefore, for these reasons among others, we respectfully and adamantly request that the proposal to install this cell phone tower be denied by the Siting Council.

We would very much appreciate the opportunity to attend a public hearing on this matter and speak directly to the Siting Council. We respectfully ask for a waiver of the processing fee as it is beyond our ability to pay.

Thank you very much for considering our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynn Faria".

Lynn Faria (203.537.2033)

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christelle M. Aube".

Christelle Aube

Owners: 709 Murdock Avenue, Meriden, CT