



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



November 28, 2006

Daniel Caruso, Chairman
Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, Connecticut 06051

RE: Wireless Telecommunications Facility
Optasite, for T-Mobile
Ledyard, Connecticut
Docket No. 322

Dear Chairman Caruso:

Staff of the DEP Office of Long Island Sound Programs has reviewed the above-referenced application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need. No site review has been conducted specific to this application. The attached comments from that office are offered to the Council for your use in this docket. These comments apply to both Candidate Sites A and B.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this application and to submit these comments to the Council. Should you, other Council members or Council staff have any questions, please feel free to contact Carol Szymanski of the Office of Long Island Sound Programs at (860) 424-3034.

Respectfully yours,

Frederick L. Riese
Senior Environmental Analyst

cc: Commissioner Gina McCarthy



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Memo

To: Fred Riese
From: Carol Szymanski, Environmental Analyst *CS*
Date: November 28, 2006
Re: Proposed telecommunications monopole at Poquetanuck Cove, Ledyard

The proposal is for a 150-foot telecommunications monopole at an orchard in Ledyard. The structure itself would tower above the existing tree line. The sheer height of the monopole causes it to be visible from DEP-owned property and various points along the Poquetanuck Cove. Its height as illustrated via balloon testing will impact a wide range of areas in the vicinity and presents a major visual impact. Current views from Poquetanuck Cove are of a high quality scenic setting. It is anticipated that views and vistas presently available to the public will be adversely impacted by the structure. While CCMA consistency does not specifically apply to this proposal, it appears inconsistent with CCMA policies to protect vistas and view points to and from the water.

The viewshed analysis which was performed to fully assess the impacts of this proposal indicates that the proposed monopole would be visible from many points and would have a significant visual impact on the area. We recommend that if the monopole cannot be relocated to a less intrusive setting, it be camouflaged as a tree to better integrate it into its surroundings.

If you have any questions regarding this review, please feel free to contact me at 424-3034, extension 2770.