

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL**

IN RE:

APPLICATION OF OPTASITE TOWERS LLC
AND OMNIPOINT COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR
THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND
OPERATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS
FACILITY AT 1027 MIDDLE TURNPIKE EAST
MANCHESTER, CONNECTICUT

DOCKET NO. 328

Date: APRIL 5, 2007

PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF CHRISTOPHER BAIRD

Q1. Mr. Baird, please state your name and position.

A. Christopher Baird and I am Program Manager with EBI Consulting ("EBI").
EBI is located at Four A Street, Burlington, Massachusetts.

Q2. Please state your qualifications.

A. I have a bachelors degree in environmental science from Acadia University. My background includes over seven years of professional experience, including over seven years of experience of various telecommunications regulatory and support work. As such, I have assisted in the permitting of more than 150 wireless telecommunications facilities in New York and New England during the past seven years. My responsibilities include coordination and oversight of site screenings and environmental assessments to fulfill National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") requirements and regulatory permitting support.

Q3. Please describe your involvement in this matter.

A. EBI was responsible for preparing a Phase I Cultural Resources Site Assessment. In addition, EBI was responsible for reviewing environmental resource information under the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA").

Q4. Please describe the results of the PHASE I Cultural Resources Assessment conducted by EBI.

A. At the request of Optasite, EBI conducted a Phase I Cultural Resources Site Assessment (the "Assessment") of the property located at 1027 Middle Turnpike East in Manchester, the results of which can be found at Exhibit K of the Certificate Application. The Assessment was conducted to identify any potential historic or cultural artifacts exist at the Site. The results of the Assessment indicated that no cultural or historic materials exist at the Site. In addition, EBI did forward the Assessment to the State Historic Preservation Office ("SHPO"). SHPO concluded that construction of the proposed Facility will have no effect on historic, architectural, or archeological resources listed or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. EBI, therefore, concluded that no further investigations were required as a result of the Assessment.

Q5. The Assessment refers to a 150-foot monopole. The proposed Facility was subsequently reduced in height from 150 feet to 130 feet. Does the proposed height reduction have any impact on EBI's conclusions regarding the Assessment?

A. No. The Assessment reviewed the Site to determine if historic or cultural artifacts existed or would be impacted by the proposed Facility. Therefore, the reduction in height of proposed Facility has no effect on the conclusions drawn in the Assessment.

Q6. Please describe the results of the NEPA screen conducted by EBI.

A. At the request of Optasite, EBI conducted a NEPA screen to determine if the proposed Facility falls under any listed categories of Section 1.1307 under NEPA, the results of which are found at Exhibit N of the Certificate Application. Based upon EBI's review, the proposed Facility does not fall under any listed categories of Section 1.1307. In addition, EBI corresponded with numerous agencies including the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP"), the United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, the Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism, Historic Preservation & Museum Division, among others. Based upon the NEPA screen and agency correspondence, the Site is categorically excluded from any requirement for further environmental review by the FCC in accordance with NEPA and no permit is required by that agency prior to construction of the proposed Facility.

Q7. The NEPA screen refers to a 150-foot monopole. The proposed Facility was subsequently reduced in height from 150 feet to 130 feet. Does the proposed height reduction have any impact on EBI's conclusions regarding the NEPA?

A. No. The height reduction does not impact the conclusions drawn in the NEPA screen since the location of the proposed Facility on the Site has not changed.

April 5, 2007
Date

Christopher Baird
Christopher Baird

Subscribed and sworn before me this 5th day of April, 2007.



JOHN ANTHONY BOGUS
Notary Public
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
My Commission Expires
September 29, 2011

By: John Anthony Bogus
Notary