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Case

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051 • Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950  
[siting.council@ct.gov](mailto:siting.council@ct.gov)

**CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL  
INTERVENOR STATUS REQUEST FORM**

**RECEIVED**  
NOV 27 2007

**Docket/Petition No. 347**

**Town/City: New Milford**

**CONNECTICUT  
SITING COUNCIL**

**Name: Michael Covert**

**Address: 17 South Kent Road**

**City: Gaylordsville**

**State: CT**

**Zip: 06755**

**Phone: 860-354-3427**

**Fax: 914-241-8116**

**E-Mail: [mcovert@thecareoftrees.com](mailto:mcovert@thecareoftrees.com)**

**1. Manner in which petitioner claims to be substantially and specifically affected:**

This letter is to inform the Connecticut Siting Council that I Michael Covert, a resident of the Gaylordsville community strongly oppose the construction of a 120' cell tower proposed by the Gaylordsville Fire Department and Celco Partnership a division of Verizon in the center of this historic community. Many members of the community plan to attend all Planning and Zoning hearings regarding this cell tower.

**The cell tower distance will be 150' away from the closet abutting property and 275' away from the furthest property.**

**Abutting Property Lines:**

- Covert property (lot 33) > 150' to property line and 178' from the house
- Grenier property (lot 34) > 210' to the property line
- Scruderi & Velez (lot 35) > 281' to the property line
- Berson property (lot 63) > 243' to the property line
- Flynn property (lot 64) > 275' to the property line
- Zaloski property (lot 31) > 147' to the property line
- The Gaylordsville Fire Department (no lot #) > 153' to garage (fire trucks) and 223' to the Fire House.

**There are a lot of uncertainties that could occur within this plan to build a tower of this size so close to the fire house and the surrounding homes. In the event that the tower should ever fail or fall there are many targets for it to hit (the fire house, residences, the Gaylordsville country store and across South Kent Road).**



**There are several questions that must be reviewed and answered regarding the construction of this cell tower so close to these abutting properties?**

1. What other sites did Cellco Partnership look at for this tower?
2. Why is this site the best for the tower?
3. What were the results of the balloon tests of the other areas?
4. What type of equipment will be used on a temporary and permanent basis?
5. What will the noise decibels be to the surrounding residents from this equipment on a daily basis?
6. Was there a soil and ground stability test ever performed?
7. There were no drawings of the site plans for the tower in the middle of the homes, Why?
8. How will the current grade of the land be disturbed?
8. Could the height of the tower be higher?
9. Is the cell tower a total distance of one and half times of the size of the tower away from any structure or abutting properties?
10. There is space available at the church along Route #7, why is Verizon not able to use this tower?
11. Does Verizon intend to lease space to another carrier?
12. How many other towers does Verizon intend to build along the route #7 corridor?
13. Why does Verizon have the right to destroy my views of this beautiful historic valley by putting this cell tower in front of my house?
14. Has anyone completed a study of the **cultural impact** with a tower of this size? This cell tower will jeopardize the integrity of the landscape in this historical river valley, which should be preserved not defaced with a 120' cell tower in the middle of town.
15. Are there any possible health exposures with a cell tower so close to residents? Are there any conclusive studies and test results that prove that the health of the people in the immediate vicinity would not be at risk?
16. If this is truly a case for better communication signals for the fire department then why put a tower down in the river valley rather than at a higher point of elevation?
17. Why is there such a great need to put this cell tower 130' away from my property and in front of my home?
18. How many trees will be removed due to the construction of the tower?
19. Who will be responsible for maintaining the grounds around the cell tower and the tower itself?
21. Will living next to this cell tower increase the probability of lightening strikes on my property?

**There are many other sites within two to three miles that would accommodate a cell tower of this size and not put the burden on the residents and town, as well as jeopardize the health and well being of residents and their property.**

**There are several other optional sites north of the proposed site: (Photos enclosed)**  
The Hydro Station canal – this is 1.3 miles north of the fire department on Route 7. (Photo A)  
CL&P tower – this is 0.6 miles north along Route 7 on elevated land. (Photo B)



**There are several other optional sites south of the proposed site: (Photos enclosed)**  
Squash Hollow Road at the old stone quarry – 2.2 miles south along Route 7. (Photo C)  
Fireman's Field across from the chief of the fire department. – 7 tenths of a mile (Photo D)  
Across from Squash Hollow Road – 2.2 miles the owner was never contacted (Photo E)  
New Milford Auto Wreckage – 3.2 miles south along Route 7 the owner was never contacted. (Photo E)  
Route #55 and Route #7 – land is for sale 4 tenths of a mile on elevated property the owner was never contacted. (Photo F)  
On Browns Forge Road – Many homes with multiple acres were never contacted.

**There are several other optional sites on CL&P Towers - approximately 800' – 1,950' from the proposed site: (Photos enclosed)**  
Off of South Kent Road on top of an existing CL&P tower on elevated property. (Photo G)  
Along the ridge of the mountain that runs along the Housatonic River. (Aerial photo was submitted in the application from Verizon & Cellco)

The fire department and Verizon would be the only ones to benefit from this tower with an estimated monthly income at or around \$3,500.00 to \$5,000.00 per month for the fire department.. For Verizon it would be big business. For me, I stand to loose the current value of my home at \$536,000 with a cell tower 178' from my home. I've been informed by two (2) certified appraisers that state my home would be unmarketable. There is confirmed documentation that cell towers as close as 600' to a residential home will decrease the value of the home by 21% to 24%. **This cell tower should not be at my or the other homeowners expense. (Research word document and map of site**

This cell tower will have a **negative impact** to the river valley that is scenic and beautiful and I appeal to the Connecticut Siting Council and ask that the application of the proposed cell tower be denied for all of the reasons and concerns mentioned above. **This tower will deface the property values for both residents and the town, as well as present a risk to our health and well being.**

## **2. Manner and extent to which petitioner proposes to participate:**

On December 18, 2007 I will be presenting my case to stop this horrible tragedy in our small town. **Towers such as the one that is being proposed are unsightly, undesirable, unhealthy and defaces the property values monetarily and aesthetically for the local residents and the town.**

I believe that I've raised more than enough of questions and concerns regarding this proposed site for a cell tower. This tower should not be this close to my property of 150' and a 178' from my house.

I plan on fighting the proposed site for the cell tower and file the necessary petitions to stop this travesty that is proposed in the center of our town. Should this cell tower be approved I intend to file law suites against all parties involved to recoup the lost value of my home and the loss of future investment dollars due to a cell tower situated 178' away from my house.



Copies of this request shall be mailed to all participants at least five (5) business days before the date of the hearing.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 11/15/07

Cc: Pat Murphy  
Mayor of New Milford  
10 Main Street  
New Milford, CT 06776

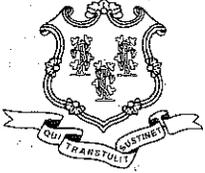
Laura Regan  
New Milford Zoning Commissioner  
10 Main Street  
New Milford, CT 06776

Gaylordsville Fire Department  
700 Kent Road  
Gaylordsville, CT 06755

Kenneth C. Baldwin  
Robinson & Cole LLP  
280 Trumbull Street  
Hartford, CT 06103-3597

Sandi Carter  
Verizon Wireless  
99 East River Drive  
East Hartford, CT 06108

S. Derek Phelps  
CT. Siting Council  
10 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051



Daniel F. Caruso  
Chairman

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Internet: [ct.gov/csc](http://ct.gov/csc)

November 28, 2007

Michael Covert  
17 South Kent Road  
Gaylordsville, CT 06755

RE: **DOCKET NO. 347** - 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 telecommunications facility located at 700 Kent Road, New Milford, Connecticut.

Dear Mr. Covert:

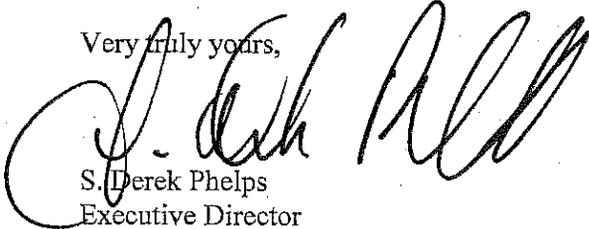
We are in receipt of your letter of November 15, 2007, requesting Intervenor status in Docket No. 347.

Your request will be placed on the next meeting agenda, a copy of which will be sent to you. Your attendance is welcome, but is not required. You will be notified of the Council's determination immediately thereafter.

Copies of the application are available at the New Milford Town Hall. All documents filed to date are available at the Council's office or on our website.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



S. Derek Phelps  
Executive Director

SDP/cm

c: Parties and Intervenors