

copy
sent
over

RECEIVED
APR 14 2008

CONNECTICUT
SITING COUNCIL

ORIGINAL

April 12, 2008

Colin C. Tait
Vice Chairman
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, Ct 06051

Re: Document #347 – Cellco tower application for 700 Kent Rd, Gaylordsville, CT
And Council members request for two and three or more tower plans.

Dear Vice Chairman Tait:

I direct this letter to you because I was struck by the questioning at the January 23, 2008 hearing in New Britain. I heard you suggest that Cellco prepare two methods to demonstrate how they would achieve the desired coverage.

From the transcript, page 224-225

Mr. Tait: “Mr. Beecher raised an area that I’m interested in, is minimizing the number of towers. So, I repeat my request to do the best I can in your briefs to outline your two positions; one that you can get away with two towers, and yours that you made need three or four, using what’s in the record. In particular, going north, the four and a half miles does not mean that you would not have a tower at the end of the four and a half miles. Explain it to me how you view it so that I can understand it and the rest of us....and if it can be graphic, it would be helpful.”

In the context of the hearing it seemed that Cellco accepted this request and would respond to it. I have not found anything showing that Cellco submitted a two tower plan. In their post-hearing brief, Cellco describes only one plan; three towers including the proposed GVFD site. Perhaps, unbeknownst to other parties and intervenors, Cellco has presented its two tower plan to the Siting Council.

Cellco has doggedly opposed alternate sites even when they have been shown to be equal or superior to the GVFD site. Their “foot in the door strategy” has resulted in an overwhelming focus on this site. After neglecting to acknowledge the possibility of an effective tower plan Cellco proceeds to describe under “1. future facilities in the Gaylordsville area” (pg. 7, post-hearing brief) the need for two additional sites, one to the north and one to the south. Cellco is proposing tower sites in the general areas also

avored by those parties seeking alternate sites to 700 Kent Road; and thus for a two tower scheme.

Cellco wants the two additional towers to augment tower #1 (GVFD). Any tower (s) constructed beyond what is needed for an effective coverage scheme results in excessive environmental impact and neighborhood disruption. The applicant has a mandate to use the minimum number of sites which will also result in lower costs to them.

Thank you for your consideration and interest in this proceeding. I would appreciate it if you could share this letter with other Council members.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Reed Hotchkiss", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Reed Hotchkiss, Intervenor
703 Kent Road
Gaylordsville, CT 06755