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**CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL
INTERVENOR STATUS REQUEST FORM**

RECEIVED
SEP 25 2007

Docket/Petition No. 347

Town/City: New Milford

CONNECTICUT
SITING COUNCIL

Name: Town of New Milford Zoning Commission

Address: 10 Main Street

City: New Milford

State: CT

Zip: 06776

Phone: 860 355-6095

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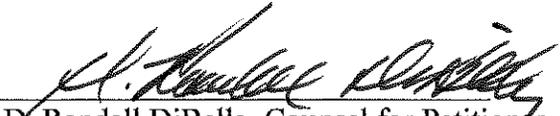
1. Manner in which petitioner claims to be substantially and specifically affected:

Petitioner is the Zoning Commission of the Town of New Milford and has statutory standing.

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

Statement of position is as set forth in the Commission's letter to Applicant's representative dated January 24, 2007, a copy of which is appended hereto. The petitioner objects to the proposed location for the reasons set forth therein.

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

Signed 
D. Randall DiBella, Counsel for Petitioner

Date: September 24, 2007

January 24, 2007

Ms. Sandy Carter, Regulatory Manager
Verizon Wireless
99 East River Drive
East Hartford, CT 06108

Dear Ms. Carter:

In November of 2006 Cellco Partnership, D/B/A Verizon Wireless submitted a notice of intent to the Town of New Milford with regard to construction of a new wireless telecommunications facility at the Gaylordsville Fire Department in Gaylordsville, CT. Gaylordsville is part of the Town of New Milford. On January 9th, 2007 the Zoning Commission of the Town of New Milford held a Public Informational Hearing with regard to this proposal. This package contains the public hearing record, as well as a summary of the Commission comments, concerns and recommendations with regard to this proposal.

Summary of commission concerns, comments, recommendations:

1. After review of oral and written testimony from the people who live and own property within 200' of the proposed cell tower the commission has serious concerns that this tower will negatively impact the value of these surrounding properties and the quality of life of these residents.
2. Testimony from a representative of the Trust for Historic Preservation indicated this proposal will negatively impact the historic character of the Village of Gaylordsville.
3. Various members of the public stated that cell phone coverage in the Gaylordsville area is adequate, and that this tower would not be serving a public need.
4. No representative from the Gaylordsville Fire Department or other New Milford or Gaylordsville emergency services branch provided testimony to support this new tower.
5. The commission has concerns with regard to RF interference with emergency service communications. This must be addressed by the tower operator.
6. The site plan and application provided contained numerous errors and lacked a tremendous amount of information, which, if the applicant had spent minimal time on, could have been correct and more accurate.

7. The biggest concern of the commission is that no proof, whatsoever, was presented to support locating this tower at the proposed location.
 - A. No proposed coverage maps were provided for alternate locations.
 - B. There are several high structures in the area that were not identified or discussed for location of an antenna.
 - C. A "plot" or "propagation" map was prepared by the Connecticut Siting Council for the Town of New Milford on October 31, 2000. The Siting Council Map indicates that co-location of antennas on tall structures in the CL&P right of way will dramatically improve coverage in the Route 7 corridor. Therefore, why is it necessary to construct a new tower if co-location on existing high structures can provide adequate coverage?
 - D. No documentation has been provided that the tower height is the minimum required to function satisfactorily. The RF engineer stated the tower must be at least 120' in height to account for future growth in tree height. A licensed arborist at the informational hearing testified that the trees in that area had reached their peak height, and most were in decline.
8. There is a stanchion approximately ¼ mile north of the proposed tower site in the CL&P right of way which supports the high power lines located at coordinates 41°39'03.39"N, 73°29'05.91"W at elevation 320 ft. The stanchion is 50' in height. The elevation of the ground level at the stanchion is approximately 80' higher than the elevation of the proposed tower location. When 50' is added to this location, an antenna on this stanchion would be higher than the antenna height of the proposed tower. This would seem a perfect location for the Verizon antenna. Can a proposed coverage map for this location be generated?
9. If this proposal is submitted to the Connecticut Siting Council, the commission plans to file for Intervenor status.
10. The commission believes that the Connecticut Siting Council has done an admirable job in the Town of New Milford in approving antennas and towers in locations where they will have the least visual impact. The commission believes this practice must continue, especially in the historic and scenic Housatonic River Valley.

Conclusion:

The Commission believes the proposed cell tower location to be very inappropriate. This location is adjacent to a residential neighborhood and across a local street from historic homes. The neighboring property owners are very distressed over the potential loss in value of their largest investment, their homes, as well as the negative impact such a tower will have on their quality of life and enjoyment of their homes. It appears alternative sites were not adequately investigated, including very obvious locations which would potentially provide superior coverage with very limited impact on existing uses. The commission is very disappointed in this application. The commission has received tower proposals from Sprint Spectrum in 2002 and 2003. These proposals were well thought out and contained substantial information regarding review of alternate locations. The commission gave favorable comments to both these proposed towers, with a limited

number of recommendations. The commission would like the Siting Council to understand that it believes this proposal has been poorly presented and that Verizon has not proved this tower is the best option for cell phone service in the Route 7 corridor in the Gaylordsville area.

Very truly yours,

Eleanor Florio
Chairperson, New Milford Zoning Commission

Copy: Daniel F. Caruso, Chairman Connecticut Siting Council
S. Derek Phelps, Executive Director Connecticut Siting Council