

DATE: May 22, 2008

TO: Council Members

FROM: S. Derek Phelps, Executive Director

RE: **DOCKET NO. 360** - 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 188 Route 7 South, Falls Village (Canaan), Connecticut.

I. Introduction

The application is from Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Cellco) for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment in the Falls Village section of the Town of Canaan, Connecticut.

Cellco proposes to construct a 150-foot monopole disguised as a pine tree at 188 Route 7 South in Falls Village. Branches on the top of the tower would extend to a height of 157 feet. The 7.15 acre parcel is owned by the Town of Canaan and will be the future location of the Falls Village Fire Department (FVFD) firehouse. The proposed 50-foot by 75-foot fenced equipment compound would be located in the center portion of the parcel.

The proposed tower and equipment compound would be designed to accommodate additional carriers as well as municipal and FVFD emergency services antennas and equipment.

II. Technical

The application includes relevant maps, descriptions of the proposed prime and alternate site, costs, a description of the environmental effects of the proposed construction, and health and safety information. The application meets statutory technical requirements for processing the application. Council staff believes additional information can be obtained through pre-hearing interrogatories. This project would not require an outside consultant.

III. Administrative Review

The applicant has stated that all service and filing requirements pursuant to General Statutes §16-501 (b) have been fulfilled. The applicant stated that notice to the general public was published in the Register Citizen.

IV. Procedural

The Council must schedule a hearing for the proceeding between 30 and 150 days after receipt of an application. The Council must also appoint a custodian of the docket and designate a place for the deposition of the transcript. Staff recommends designating Carriann Mulcahy as custodian of the docket, holding the public hearing in the Town of Canaan on Tuesday, July 1, 2008, and depositing the transcript in the Canaan Town Hall.

V. Proposed Schedule

Application received	03/28/08
Completeness review	05/22/08
Pre-hearing Questions	
• Set-One Filed	05/30/08 (tentative)
• Set-One responses due	06/13/08 (tentative)
Pre-hearing conference (1:00 p.m.)	06/05/08
Pre-filed testimony due	06/24/08
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	06/24/08
Field review (2:00 p.m.)	07/01/08
Hearing (3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.)	07/01/08
Close of Record	07/31/08
Draft Findings of Fact	08/07/08 (tentative)
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	08/28/08 (tentative)
Deadline for Decision	09/24/08
180-day extension date	03/23/09

Siting Analyst: Christina Lepage