



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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DATE: February 20, 2014

TO: Council Members

FROM: Melanie Bachman, Acting Executive Director

RE: **DOCKET NO. 444** – New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at the FirstLight Hydro Generating Company property, New Milford Tax Assessor Map 83, Lot 4, Kent Road, New Milford, Connecticut.

I. Introduction

The application is from New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a 150-foot monopole telecommunications facility and associated equipment on a 168.5-acre parcel owned by FirstLight Hydro Generating Company and located on Kent Road, New Milford, Connecticut.

II. Technical

The application includes relevant maps, descriptions of the proposed 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 New Milford Spectrum.

IV. Procedural

The application was originally received on November 1, 2013. Staff reviewed the application for completeness and identified a deficiency in notice to the Town of Sherman, located within 2,500 feet of the proposed facility. By letter dated November 5, 2013, the Council notified AT&T of this deficiency. Subsequently, AT&T corrected this deficiency by providing notice to the Town of Sherman and engaging in a 90-day consultation period in accordance with Section 16-501 of the Connecticut General Statutes. The consultation period was completed on February 11, 2014. Thus, February 11, 2014 will be considered the filing date of the complete application.

The Council must schedule a hearing for the proceeding between 30 and 150 days after receipt of a complete 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 Mulchay as custodian of the docket, holding the public hearing in the Town of New Milford on Tuesday, April 1, 2014, and depositing the transcript in the New Milford Town Hall and the Sherman Town Hall.

V. Proposed Schedule

Application received	02/11/2014
Completeness review	02/20/2014
Pre-hearing Questions	
• Set-One Filed	02/21/2014
• Set-One responses due	03/07/2014
• Set-Two Filed	03/11/2014
• Set-Two responses due	03/25/2014
Pre-hearing conference (10:00 a.m.)	03/03/2014
Final Exchange of Interrogatories between Participants	03/18/2014
Pre-filed testimony due	03/25/2014
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	03/25/2014
Field review (2:00 p.m.)	04/01/2014
Hearing (3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.)	04/01/2014
Close of Record	05/01/2014
Draft Findings of Fact	06/12/2014
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	06/26/2014
Deadline for Decision	08/11/2014

Siting Analyst:
 Michael Perrone