



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

May 28, 2025

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DOCKET NO. 536 - Tarpon Towers III, LLC (Applicant) application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment located at 78 Goshen East Street in Norfolk.

Dear Attorney Bachman,

The Council on Environmental Quality (Council) offers the following comment regarding Docket 536.

Core Forest

The Applicant states that “the proposed Facility would be located within a forested upland area requiring minor tree clearing/trimming (±0.8 acres).” The Council notes that most of the proposed access road and facility compound could be in an area designated as core forest per the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection’s Forestland Habitat Impact Map¹. Disturbance to core forest (i.e. fragmentation) would provide substandard habitat for some species of wildlife. Accordingly, the Council recommends that the Applicant assess the potential impacts to core forest and implement appropriate measures to prevent or reduce disturbances to the core forest where the project is proposed.

The Council’s comment above addresses only certain elements of the materials provided by the Applicant at the time of the filings. Additional information can become evident through comments offered by other parties and during the Siting Council’s administrative hearing process. The absence of comment(s) by this Council about any Petition or Application, or any aspects thereof, may not be interpreted as an endorsement of a proposed project, or its components or that this Council might not have comments or concerns on more specific issues raised during the hearing process.

Thank you for your consideration of the Council’s comments.

Sincerely,

Paul Aresta
Executive Director

¹ <https://ctdeep.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7b81844bab634281b544c20bf2d7bfb8>