

**STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Case No. 25-0941-PET

Petition of T-Mobile Northeast, LLC pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248a(k), requesting a certificate of public good for a de minimis modification to a wireless telecommunications facility in Swanton, Vermont	
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**VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMMENTS REGARDING THE
PETITION OF T-MOBILE NORTHEAST, LLC FOR A
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC GOOD UNDER 30 V.S.A. § 248a**

On May 12, 2025, T-Mobile Northeast, LLC (“TMO”) filed a petition with the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248a requesting a Certificate of Public Good (“CPG”) approving *de minimis* modifications to an existing telecommunications facility (“Facility”) mounted on a farm silo located at 54 Woods Hill Road in Swanton, Vermont (the “Project”).

The Facility consists of a 76’ above ground level (“AGL”) farm silo (“Silo”) and related equipment within compound. TMO currently has nine (9) antennas, and six (6) reverse radio head units (“RRUs”) mounted on the Silo, with the related equipment and appurtenances – including a concrete equipment pad – sited in the existing base compound. Based on the present petition, a supporting affidavit, and accompanying exhibits, TMO proposes the following modifications and additions to the existing Facility:

1. To remove three (3) of the existing antennas;
2. To remove three (3) existing tower-mounted amplifiers (“TMAs”);
3. To install three (3) new antennas, with each measuring approximately 75.8” x 11.3” for a combined facial surface area of 17.84 ft²;
4. To install three (3) new RRUs, each measuring roughly 19.6” x 15.7” and yielding a total facial surface area of 6.41 ft²;

5. The two sets of antennas will be mounted at two centerline heights, one being mounted at a centerline height of ~ 57' AGL and the other set being mounted at a centerline height of ~ 55' AGL;
6. The RRUs will be mounted slightly below the antennas on the Silo;
7. The current antennas, TMAs, and RRUs have a total facial area of roughly 62.25 ft² and the combined surface area of the new antennas and RRUs is around 76.3 ft² – this results in a 14.06 ft² increase to the aggregate surface area of the equipment mounted on the Silo. The height and width of the Silo is not changing;¹
8. To remove an equipment cabinet from the existing concrete equipment pad;
9. To install two (2) new equipment cabinets and one slack box on the equipment pad;
10. To extend an existing H-frame adjacent to the equipment pad;
11. And, to install and/or adjust ancillary improvements and appurtenances as necessary for the completion of the Project.

The Vermont Department of Public Service (“Department”) has reviewed TMO’s application and concludes that the Project qualifies as a *de minimis* modification under 30 V.S.A. §§ 248a(b)(2) and (k). Excluding equipment, antennas, and ancillary improvements, the Project does not involve increasing the height or width of the existing structure. The Project will not increase the total amount of impervious surface by more than 300 square feet. The Project will not result in any new antennas or equipment on the support structure that will extend more than 10 feet above the structure or more than 10 feet horizontally from the structure. Finally, the net increase in surface area from new equipment on the structure will be less than 75 square feet.

¹ The Department calculated an increase to the surface area of 12.22 ft², based on its review of the evidence, but this sum is also within the requirements of 30 V.S.A. § 248a(b)(2)(D).

Therefore, the Project (1) qualifies as *de minimis* under §§ 248a(b)(2) and 248a(k); (2) will promote the general good of the state; and (3) furthers state telecommunications policy and planning goals pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 202c(b). The Department is not aware of any unaddressed comments regarding TMO's application from any municipal legislative bodies, members of the public, or other state agencies.

Based on the foregoing, the Department respectfully recommends that the Commission issue an order approving the Project without further hearings or investigation. Thank you, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 11th day of June 2025

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

By:

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