

**STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Case No. 25-3029-PET

Petition of Bell Atlantic Mobile Systems, LLC requesting a certificate of public good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248a, authorizing the installation of wireless telecommunications equipment at 567 E. Sheldon Road in Sheldon, Vermont	
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**COMMENTS OF THE VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGARDING
THE PETITION OF BELL ATLANTIC MOBILE SYSTEMS, LLC FOR A
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC GOOD UNDER 30 V.S.A. § 248a**

On December 8, 2025, Bell Atlantic Mobile Systems, LLC d/b/a Verizon Wireless (“VZW”) 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”) located at 567 E. Sheldon Road in Sheldon, Vermont (the “Project”).

The Facility consists of an approximately 140.01’ above ground level (“AGL”) monopole tower (“Tower”),¹ concrete equipment pads with ice bridges connecting to the Tower, generators, multiple carriers’ telecommunications mountings on the Tower, and other equipment and appurtenances within a gravel-surfaced and chain-link fence enclosed compound. VZW currently has six (6) panel antennas, three (3) remote radio heads (“RRHs”), and one (1) OVP distribution box mounted on the Tower at a centerline height of 110’ AGL, alongside various equipment and appurtenances. Based on the present petition, supporting testimony, and accompanying exhibits, VZW proposes the following modifications and additions to the existing Facility:

1. To install three (3) antennas, each measuring 3.17 ft², at a centerline height of 110’ AGL;

¹ The top of the highest appurtenance mounted on the Tower reaches 148.37’ AGL in height.

2. To install three (3) RRHs, which measure 1.56 ft² each, behind the antennas with no facial surface area visible;
3. To install three (3) diplexers, measuring 0.46 ft² each, behind the antennas with no facial surface area visible;
4. The existing aggregate visible surface area of VZW's Tower mounts is 41.40 ft² and the Project will increase the combined facial surface area of the VZW Tower mounts to 50.91 ft²;
5. The structural analysis report provided in Exhibit PB-2, and the post-modification mount analysis provided on sheets R-601 through R-605 in Exhibit PB-1, indicate that the Tower can accommodate the Project;
6. No new impervious surfaces will be added by the Project, and no new site clearing is required;
7. And, to use the existing access road and on-site utilities.

The Vermont Department of Public Service ("Department") has reviewed VZW'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 increase in surface area from new equipment on the structure does not exceed 75 square feet.

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 VZW'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, and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 7th day of January 2026

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

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cc: ePUC Service List