

TOWN OF NEW CANAAN

TOWN HALL, 77 MAIN STREET
NEW CANAAN, CT 06840

ROBERT E. MALLOZZI III
FIRST SELECTMAN

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September 15, 2017

State of Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Docket # 17-06-30
Joint Application of Eversource Energy and Macquarie
Utilities Inc. – Acquisition of Aquarion Water Company

Dear Members of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority:

I am writing to you on a matter of utmost concern to the citizens of New Canaan, and, potentially, for citizens of other municipalities. I would ask that you consider my comments and request before approving this application, which will result in the acquisition of Aquarion Water Company ("Aquarion").

Since at least the late 1980s, Aquarion and its predecessor, Bridgeport Hydraulic Company ("BHC"), have had a water tank on property they own in the middle of Waveny Park, a large municipal park centrally located in New Canaan. The water tank has attached to it the Town's own public service communication antennas, providing for essential emergency services, along with commercial telecommunications antennas, which provide approximately thirty percent of the total cell phone coverage in New Canaan. There are legal documents which memorialize this arrangement going back to 1998.

Aquarion has recently advised the Town and the commercial telecommunication companies that all antennas must be removed from this water tank by October, 2019 in order for Aquarion to complete painting and other maintenance on the water tank. New Canaan has not approved such a termination, and, more importantly, unless alternate locations are immediately found, the termination of both the Town's radio communication abilities and the commercial telecommunication antennas will deprive residents of New Canaan of essential services. We believe that Aquarion has violated a Telecommunications Facility Development and Easement Agreement from September 15, 1998. More importantly, if they are able to terminate these critical services within two years, great hardships will result to our citizens.

Although we are actively looking for alternate locations, such a search necessarily takes a substantial time. Two years is simply inadequate.

We believe this action by Aquarion is at a minimum unwise and bad policy and potentially in violation of the above referenced agreement. If in fact this is the policy of Aquarion for all of its water tanks, then multiple towns will be similarly impacted. It is not fair or reasonable for Aquarion to leave New Canaan with such a short time period to find an alternate location to service nearly one-third of the municipality.

Accordingly, we respectfully request that if the above application is approved, a condition be added that Aquarion shall not be allowed to terminate the Town's antennas or the commercial telecommunication antennas on the water tank located at Waveny Park for a period of ten (10) years. This will provide the Town with an adequate time period to properly and thoroughly review the options available without harming the safety and convenience of its citizens.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. E. Mallozzi III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent "III" at the end.

Robert E. Mallozzi III