

April 19, 2005

Chairman Kevin Martin  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**RE: Proposed Sprint Nextel Merger  
(WT Docket No. 05-63)**

Dear Chairman Martin:

Horizons for the Blind (“Horizons”), a not for profit organization, was founded in 1977 to improve the quality of life for individuals who are blind and visually impaired, many who are senior citizens, by increasing accessibility to culture, education, recreation, employment, and consumer information. Horizons enhances self-sufficiency directly by providing Braille, large print, and audiocassette instruction in crafts, gardening, food preparation, and the operation of household appliances. In addition, Horizons provides indirect services through public/private facilities and cultural organizations, by making accessible their programs and physical plants. This is done by removing barriers and improving multisensory programming, and working with public and private corporations to provide a complete access package for people with visual impairments (Braille and large print menus, Braille and large print statements, Braille and raised letter signs, play notes, etc.) in accessible formats.

Horizons supports organizations and companies that advance full access, independence and participation. To that end, we are proud of our collaboration with Nextel. Nextel has demonstrated a commitment to providing comprehensive service options to all customers. We work regularly with Nextel in producing Braille and large print billing and other documents for its customers. Based on this record of cooperation and collaboration in support of persons with disabilities, Horizons fully supports the proposed merger between Sprint and Nextel. Horizons is confident that a merged company will continue to provide options and service to customers who are blind or visually impaired and will serve to benefit local communities, as well as help advance telecommunications opportunities across the nation.

Thank you for taking the time to review our work and position as it relates to this matter.

Sincerely,

Camille Caffarelli,  
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