

WILKINSON) BARKER) KNAUER) LLP

2300 N STREET, NW
SUITE 700
WASHINGTON, DC 20037
TEL 202.783.4141
FAX 202.783.5851
www.wbklaw.com

November 17, 2006

Filed Electronically

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary of the Commission
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

RE: *Hearing Aid-Compatibility Report (WT Docket No. 01-309)*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

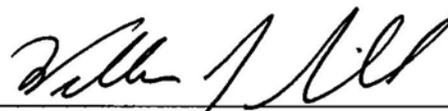
Pursuant to the Commission's *Hearing Aid-Compatibility Report and Order*,¹ attached please find a Hearing Aid-Compatibility Report submitted on behalf of North Carolina RSA 1 Partnership.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned with any questions that you may have at (202) 783-4141.

Sincerely,

WILKINSON BARKER KNAUER, LLP

By:



William J. Sill

Attachment

¹ See Section 68.4(a) of the Commission's Rules Governing Hearing Aid-Compatible Telephones, WT Docket No. 01-309, *Report and Order*, 18 FCC Rcd 16753 (2003).

HEARING AID-COMPATIBILITY STATUS REPORT

November 17, 2006

**North Carolina RSA 1 Partnership
Licensee of:**

**(NC1) North Carolina 1 (B) - Cherokee RSA
Call Sign: KNKN890**

North Carolina RSA 1 Partnership (“NCR1P”) hereby provides the Commission with the Hearing Aid-Compatibility Status Report (“Report”), as required by the Commission’s *Hearing Aid-Compatibility Report and Order*.¹ NCR1P is submitting this Report to provide the Commission with the current status of NCR1P’s efforts and progress toward compliance with the Commission’s hearing aid-compatibility requirements.

NCR1P is the licensee of the B portion of the North Carolina 1 – Cherokee RSA. NCR1P is a very small cellular carrier operating a cellular system covering eight sparsely populated counties in the state of North Carolina. As such it is dependent on third-party vendors, rather than handset manufacturers, for its supply of handsets. Because NCR1P cannot deal directly with handset manufacturers, NCR1P must rely on third-parties for handset information and thus it experiences significant delays in obtaining the latest handsets.

NCR1P currently offers 4 handset models for sale. Of these, 3 handset models are HAC-compliant: the Motorola V265, Motorola V266, and the Kyocera KX1 SoHo. Thus, the 3 HAC compliant models account for 75 percent of the handset models offered for sale by NCR1P.²

Further, NCR1P complies with the Commission’s requirement that service providers ensure that information concerning hearing aid-compatible handsets, including the handset’s rating, is visible to a potential subscriber.

NCR1P has implemented, and continues to undertake, the following outreach efforts:

- Made available to potential and current subscribers, fact sheets and/or brochures at its retail store(s) that highlights which handsets are HAC-compliant, and directs interested individuals to ask retail store personnel for more information; and
- Conducted training sessions for retail employees to make them familiar with hearing aid-compatibility compliant handsets.

¹ See Section 68.4(a) of the Commission’s Rules Governing Hearing Aid-Compatible Telephones, WT Docket No. 01-309, *Report and Order*, 18 FCC Rcd 16753 (2003).

² NCR1P also has a pending petition for limited waiver of the Commission’s September 18, 2006 deadline for inductive coupling (“T-coil”) requirements for HAC phones. See Petition of North Carolina RSA 1 Partnership for Limited Waiver of Section 20.19(d)(2) of the Commission’s Rules, WT Docket No. 01-309 (filed Sept. 18, 2006). NCR1P is seeking a limited waiver of Section 20.19(d)(2) until December 31, 2006 or until such time as it is able to offer two T-coil compliant handset models.