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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0906

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Chairman Kevin J. Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin:

Hundreds of thousands of individuals and businesses use cellular-based radios to relay alarm signals from their home or place of business to the alarm company that monitors for fire, burglary and medical emergencies, thereby helping to save lives and property. Currently, these alarm radio devices use analog (or "AMPS") technology. The FCC has decided in WT Docket No. 01-108 that, effective February 18, 2008, cellular systems are no longer required to support AMPS service.

The FCC has recognized that analog technology is used by hearing aid compatible phones, and senior citizens and others who rely on less expensive AMPS equipment as their link to help in the event of an emergency. Alarm customers fall into this latter category. I understand that the Commission has expressly retained authority to extend the five-year transition period if deemed necessary.

As I understand it, the alarm industry will not be able to meet the current February 2008 transition deadline. That is why, I urge the commission to place the AMPS sunset issue on its agenda and to adopt an appropriate delay that would be followed by a rolling transition to digital service. This will allow the alarm industry and other AMPS dependent providers to contact their customers and replace existing analog radio service with digital service.

Thank you Mr. Chairman for your consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

Cliff Stearns
Cliff Stearns
United States Representatives

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