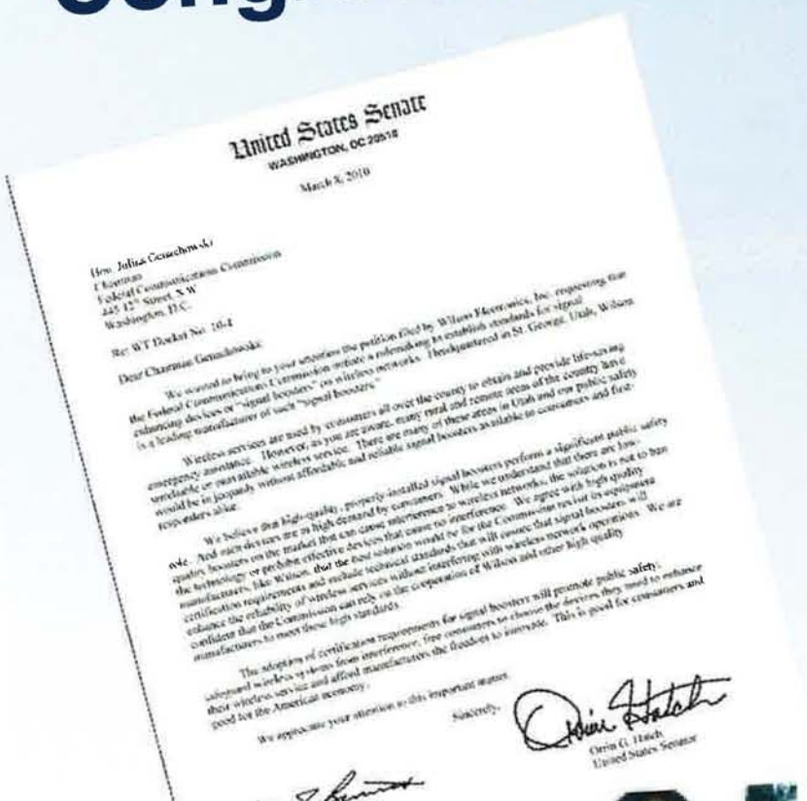
Wilson® Electronics, Inc.

Signal Booster Congressional and Public Support


United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 8, 2010

Hon. Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C.

Re: WT Docket No. 10-4

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

We wanted to bring to your attention the petition filed by Wilson Electronics, Inc. requesting that the Federal Communications Commission initiate a rulemaking to establish standards for signal enhancing devices or "signal boosters" on wireless networks. Headquartered in St. George, Utah, Wilson is a leading manufacturer of such "signal boosters."

Wireless services are used by consumers all over the country to obtain and provide life-saving emergency assistance. However, as you are aware, many rural and remote areas of the country have worldwide or non-available wireless service. There are many of these areas in Utah and our public safety would be in jeopardy without affordable and reliable signal boosters available to consumers and first responders alike.

We believe that high-quality, properly installed signal boosters perform a significant public safety role. And such devices are in high demand by consumers. While we understand that there are low-quality boosters on the market that can cause interference to wireless networks, the solution is not to ban the technology or preclude effective devices that cause no interference. We agree with high-quality manufacturers, like Wilson, that the best solution would be for the Commission to set forth technical standards and certification requirements and exclude technical standards that will ensure that signal boosters will enhance the reliability of wireless networks rather than interfering with wireless network operations. We are confident that the Commission can rely on the cooperation of Wilson and other high-quality manufacturers to meet these high standards.

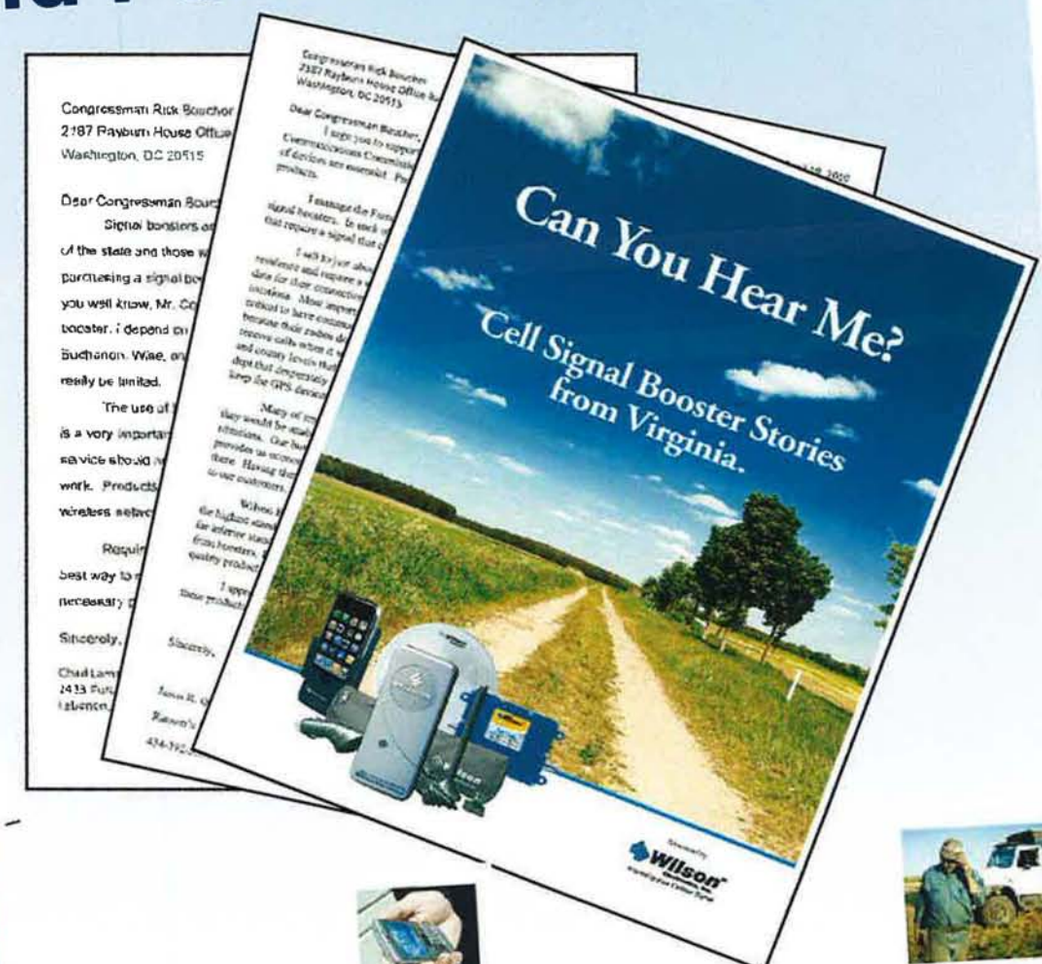
The adoption of certification requirements for signal boosters will promote public safety, safeguard wireless systems from interference, give consumers to choose the devices they need to enhance their wireless service and afford manufacturers the freedom to innovate. This is good for consumers and good for the American economy.

We appreciate your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Orrin G. Hatch
United States Senator

Robert F. Bennett
United States Senator



Signal Boosters: Who are the Stakeholders?

Wilson® Electronics, Inc.

Rural Safety

"I live in a rural area and I do not get cell phone service. I use Wilson cell phone boosters at home and in my work truck. I have worked on 3 construction sites in the last year that had very poor or no cell phone service. The Wilson cell phone booster is a must if there were an accident and or emergence help was needed. The Wilson boosters are well engineered to be cell tower friendly."
– *Cal Huntsman (Kane, PA)*

Community Services

"The capability of using an amplifier on my companies wireless telemetry devices has allowed our water treatment customers the support that have long needed. The amplifiers allow for the cell coverage in the industrial environment which helps us to help our customers by monitoring the operation of our equipment on-site."
– *Bart Pernai (Naperville, IL)*

Signal Booster Stakeholders

Emergency Services

"As Fire Chief of the Town of Westminster, MA I have utilized cell phone amplifiers in a number of ways. In the Fire Department office area we had only one bar for cell signals and often could not make or receive a call. The in-building system from Wilson Electronics allows everyday and emergency communication to work eliminating our problem. Note that we utilize e-mail to cell phone paging for fire alarm notification and firefighter recall, as well as emergency messages."
– *Brenton MacAloney (Westminster, MA)*

Small Business

"We install cellular booster amplifiers on commercial tow boats using the inland waterways. The areas these boats transit are still fringe areas for most cellular carriers. Amplifiers provide a vital communications link to these boats. Removing them will cause immediate and severe communication problems for the majority of the industry. It is our experience, that when properly installed, these units provide no oscillation or adverse effects."
– *David Hayward (Memphis, TN)*

Wilson® Electronics, Inc.

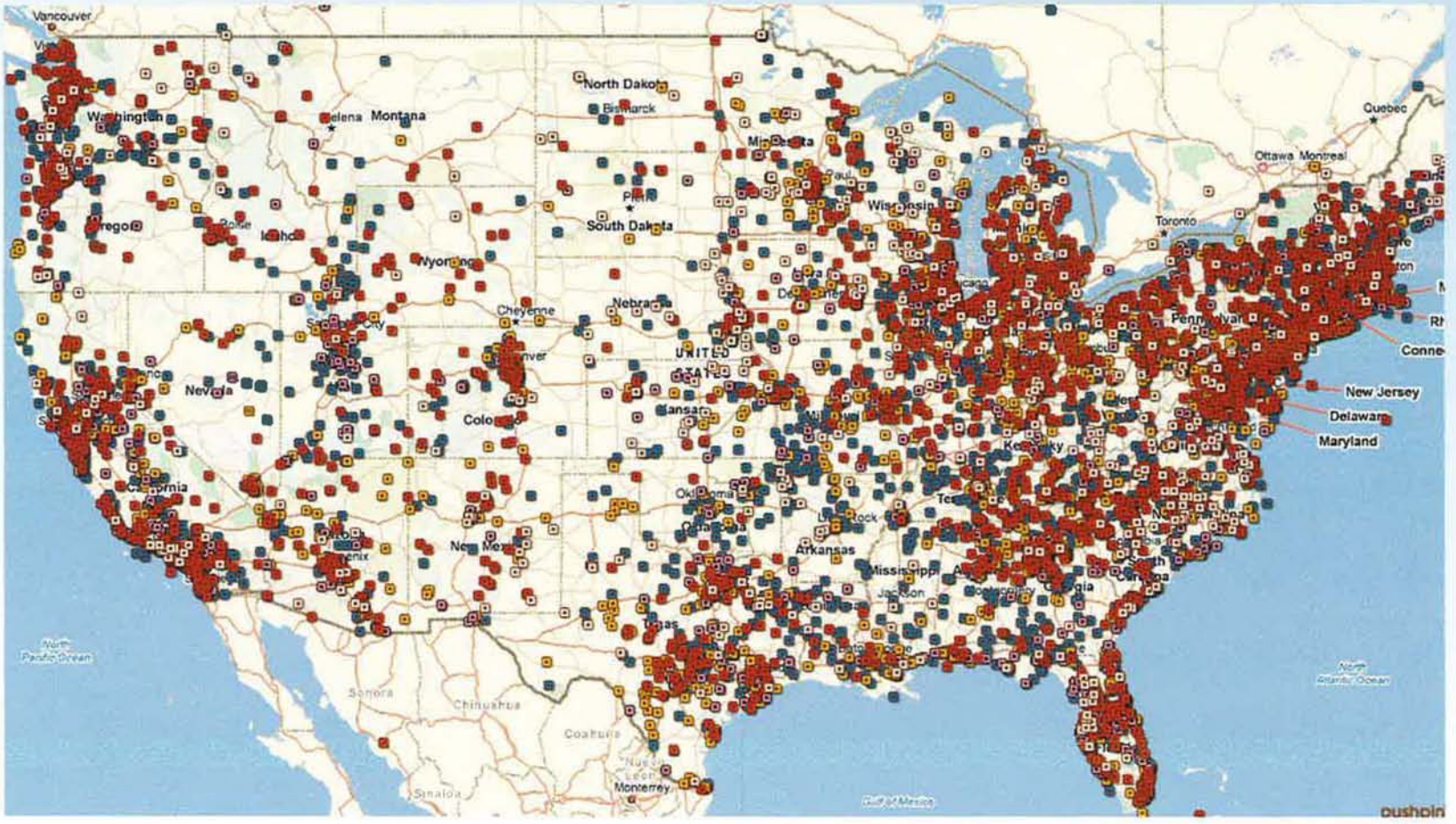
Surge of Public and Congressional Support

- More than 600 FCC Comments with overwhelming support for signal boosters
- Broad spectrum of support from all 50 states through letters, comments, and phone calls
- Wilson has 3,500 retailers representing an estimated 31,000 jobs

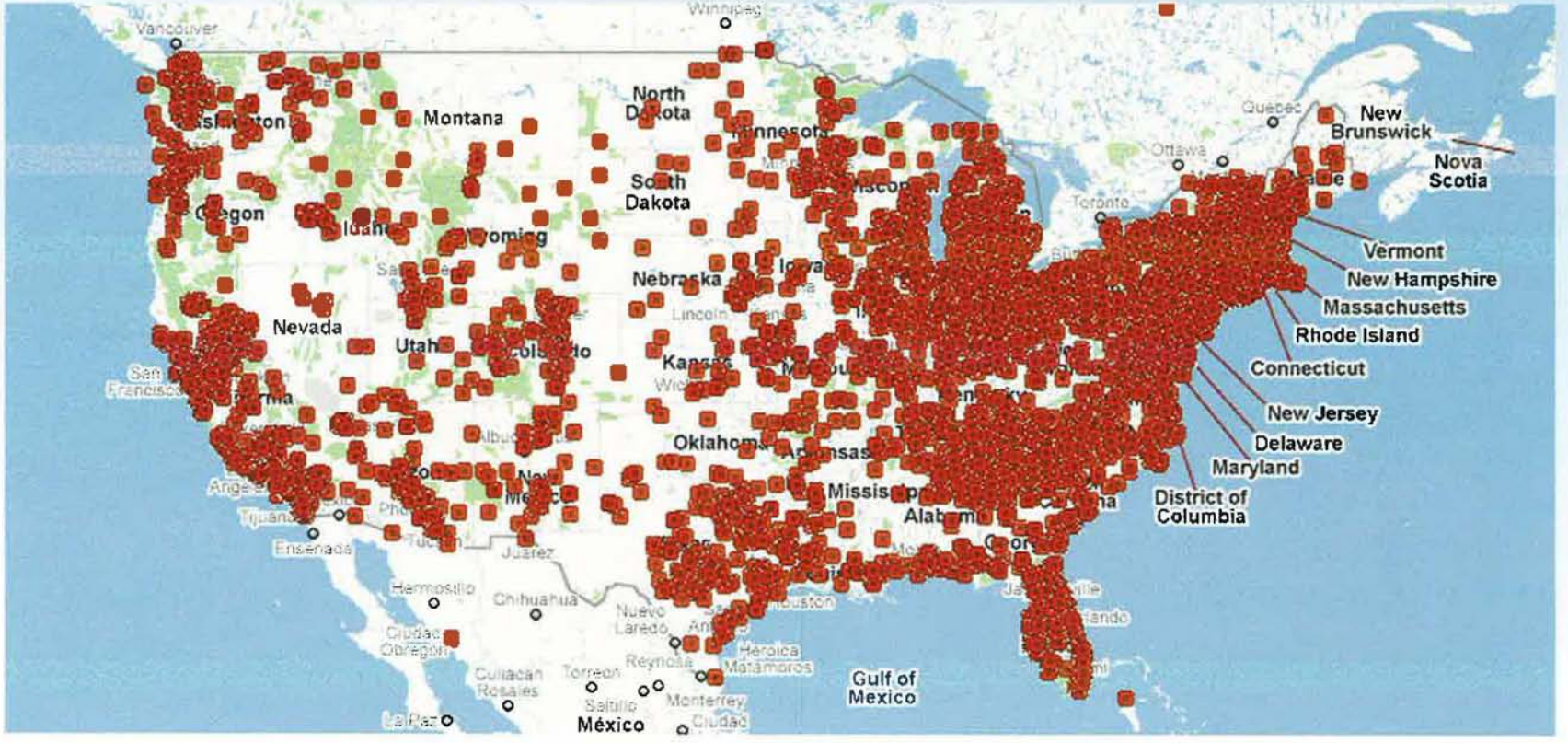
A Map of Cell Coverage Gaps Shows the Need for Signal Boosters

- DeadCellZones.com asks its users to log "dead zones" throughout the U.S.
- The following maps shows the locations where customers experienced gaps in their cell phone signal.

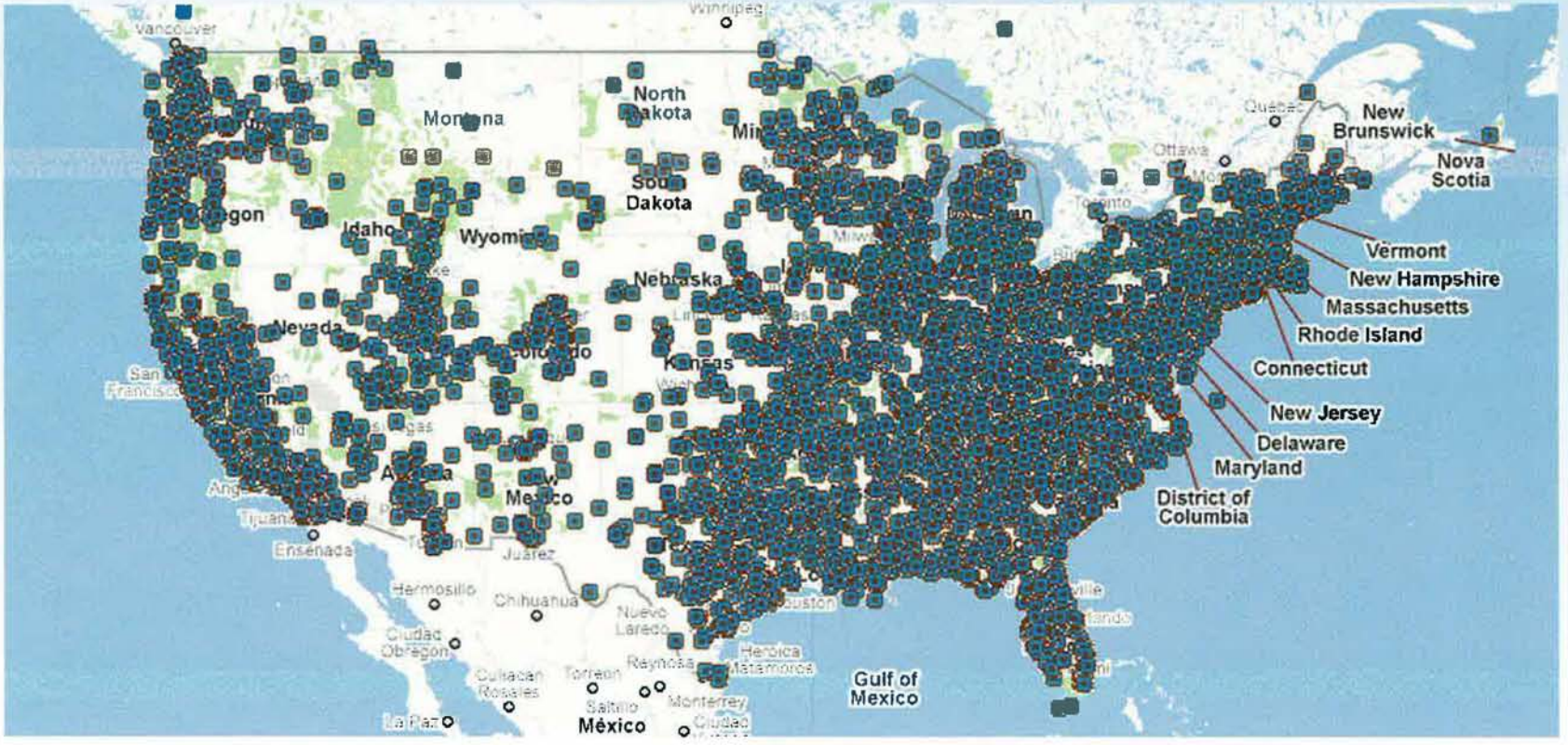
Cell Phone Dead Zones



Verizon's Reported "Dead Zones"



AT&T's Reported "Dead Zones"



Sprint's Reported "Dead Zones"