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a rectifier coupled to the transducer;  
 a recharging cell coupled to the rectifier; and  
 a battery cell coupled to the recharging cell,  
 wherein the transducer is adapted to generate an alternating electrical signal in response to acoustic waves generated by an ambient environment,  
 wherein the rectifier is adapted to rectify the alternating electrical signal,  
 wherein the recharging cell is adapted to store charge in response to the rectified electrical signal, and  
 wherein the battery cell is adapted to recharge using the stored charge.

16. The portable unit of claim 2, wherein the portable unit is adapted to:  
 monitor a physical location of the portable unit;  
 receive GPS data; and  
 communicate GPS location information indicative of the physical location to a remote control unit.

17. The portable unit of claim 3, wherein the portable unit is adapted to:  
 monitor a physical location of the portable unit;  
 receive GPS data; and  
 communicate GPS location information indicative of the physical location to a remote control unit.

18. The portable unit of claim 4, wherein the portable unit is adapted to:  
 monitor a physical location of the portable unit;  
 receive GPS data; and  
 communicate GPS location information indicative of the physical location to a remote control unit.

19. The portable unit of claim 5, wherein the portable unit is adapted to:

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monitor a physical location of the portable unit;  
 receive GPS data; and  
 communicate GPS location information indicative of the physical location to a remote control unit.

20. The portable unit of claim 6, wherein the portable unit is adapted to:  
 monitor a physical location of the portable unit;  
 receive GPS data; and  
 communicate GPS location information indicative of the physical location to a remote control unit.

21. A method for charging a portable unit receiving power from a rechargeable battery, the portable unit for remote monitoring of a living being, the method comprising:  
 recharging the rechargeable battery based on a temperature gradient across a transducer.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein the living being is a person.

23. A method for charging a portable unit receiving power from a rechargeable battery, the portable unit for remote monitoring of a living being, the method comprising:  
 recharging the rechargeable battery based on a pulsing blood vessel in the living being.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein the living being is a person.

25. A method for charging a portable unit receiving power from a rechargeable battery, the portable unit for remote monitoring of a living being, the method comprising:  
 recharging the rechargeable battery based on acoustic waves, wherein the acoustic waves are generated by vocal chords of the living being.

26. The method of claim 25 wherein the living being is a person.

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