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February 7, 2008

FCC
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC:

Sirius Satellite Radio and XM Radio announced in 2/07 to merge. This merger will help people around the country to listen to very innovative radio programming which currently terrestrial radio stations such as those run by Clear Channel don't offer. I have contacted the FCC and was given case number CIMS00000758295 but have not yet received a response. I have also contacted the Justice Department but have not yet received any response.

Is it the increasing competition that the NAB will now face? I am trying to find out what is delaying this merger? The merged company will bring benefits to the consumer by increasing innovation and offering better services and prices. It is now twelve months since the merger was announced. Mel Karmazin, the leader of Sirius has bent over backwards to meet the FCC, Justice Dept. and Congress demands and request for information (he took many unfair attacks during the congressional hearings, but acted like a gentlemen and class act). He has offered among other things, a la carte programming (which no other media outlet has done), reduced prices, and will offer a wide variety of programming that everybody can enjoy (rich, poor, black, white, etc). Why are you punishing these two small companies by taking so long with your decision. The satellite radio business has a very small percentage of the total market. There is competition from HD radio, regular free radio, ipods, internet, etc. Mr. Martin has been very flexible with the large media companies by changing the rules for their benefit. He changed the ownership rules so that a broadcasting company can also own a newspaper company, which enabled (billionaire)Sam Zell to buy the Tribune company.

He mentioned he wanted to help these companies. Why not be fair and help Sirius (the smaller player) too. He also approved the purchase of the Wall Street Journal by Ruppert Murdoch, who owns a great many media outlets. He also gave Clear Channel approval to acquire many of the radio stations across the country. I don't remember these companies having to go through this long of a process for approval. Times have changed since the satellites were awarded these two companies. There were no iphones, ipods, HD radio, etc. Please give these companies a chance by approving the merger now. Your vote yes to the merger is what capitalism is all about. By approving the merger, you will send the message that you are giving the public the freedom of choice.

Thank you for your consideration,

Adrienne Nadel, Nanuet NY

Sincerely,

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