

February 15, 2002

Via Electronic Filing

Mr. William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**RE: Written Ex Parte Presentation
IB Docket No. 95-91**

Dear Mr. Caton:

On August 7, 2001, XM Radio Inc. ("XM") filed a letter in the above-captioned proceeding that included a discussion of how the DARS licensees have remained consistent regarding their plans for deployment of terrestrial repeaters. *See* Letter from Lon C. Levin, XM Radio Inc., to Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, FCC, IB Docket No. 95-91, at page 3, ¶¶ 2-3 (August 7, 2001). XM hereby provides an annotated version of these paragraphs with citations indicating the documents in which the DARS licensees discussed these plans.

Please direct any questions regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Very truly yours,



David S. Konczal

cc: Rick Engelman

“The licensees’ plans for repeaters have remained remarkably consistent, particularly for a new technology. In November 1997, XM Radio stated that it planned to operate over 1000 repeaters at power levels approaching 20 kW.¹ Two years later, we filed a description of our repeater networks indicating that it would operate up to 1500 repeaters, including medium power repeaters that would operate at between 2-5 kW and 150 high power repeaters that would operate at 6-40 kW.² At an FCC meeting with WCS and wireless cable licensees in January 2001, XM Radio, based on design information available at that time, informed the Commission that it would operate approximately 150 repeaters above 2 kW, with a maximum power of 31.7 kW.³ XM Radio revised this information in an April 2001 filing that explained that without changing the input power to the antennas we were shifting some of our 2 kW repeaters from omnidirectional antennas to sectorized antennas, which has resulted in a class of repeaters operating between 2 kW and 10 kW.⁴ By substituting these directional antennas, typically with beamwidths of no more than 90 degrees, these redesigned repeaters reduce by up to forty-eight percent the area in which there is a potential interference risk to WCS licensees relative to 2 kW transmitters with omnidirectional antennas.

Sirius’ repeater plans have also been consistent throughout. Sirius is the successor to the initial applicant that proposed roughly 40 kW repeaters in 1990.⁵ In 1997, Sirius stated that it would operate up to 150 repeaters, some at power levels well in excess of 40 kW.⁶ In January 2000, Sirius stated that it would need high-power repeaters operating at 105 sites at power levels up to 40 kW.⁷”

¹ Letter from William Garner, American Mobile Radio Corporation, to Rosalee Chiara, FCC, IB Docket No. 95-91 (filed Nov. 14, 1997).

² Supplemental Comments of XM Radio Inc., IB Docket 95-91, Appendix A at 4-5 (filed Dec. 17, 1999); Consolidated Reply of XM Radio Inc., IB Docket 95-91, at 3 (filed Mar. 8, 2000).

³ Letter from AT&T Wireless, BellSouth, Metricom, Verizon, and Worldcom to Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, FCC, IB Docket No. 95-91 (filed July 27, 2001) (attaching as an exhibit a hand-out presented by XM Radio at a January 2001 Commission meeting).

⁴ Letter from Bruce D. Jacobs, Counsel for XM Radio Inc., to Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, FCC, IB Docket No. 95-91, at 2-3 (filed April 25, 2001).

⁵ Application of Satellite CD Radio, Inc., File No. SAT-LOA-19900518-00037, at 21 (May 18, 1990).

⁶ Letter from Robert D. Briskman, Satellite CD Radio, Inc. to Rosalee Chiara, FCC, IB Docket 95-91 (filed Nov. 14, 1997), at 4-5.

⁷ Supplemental Comments of Sirius Satellite Radio Inc., IB Docket No. 95-91, at 3 (filed Jan. 8, 2000).