

This effort by the NAB is very short sighted. The assertion that weather and traffic information is of local interest is incorrect, this information is valuable for planning purposes in our highly mobile society. I listen to XM's traffic channels for cities I'm traveling to on the way to the airport to judge the traffic and weather conditions I'm about to get in the middle of.

I also tune into these satellite radio traffic channels while driving when several hours outside of a particular town. This information is invaluable in deciding what route to take to avoid delays. None of this information is available over the air. For example, getting Washington DC traffic when driving north through Richmond gives me the chance to take an alternate route (i.e. US 301) when traffic is bad in DC. I can rarely get a over-air radio station this far south which features DC traffic.

In fact I'd like to see national availability of local stations. There are many radio stations that have high enough quality and/or niche programming to attract a national audience. Getting hung up on "local" vs. "

While I understand the NAB and it's members concerns about protecting their investment in resources to support traffic operations, they are going about it the wrong way. Instead of complaining to federal regulators, they should take a look at their own content and quality.