

On behalf of our company, Simmons Media, we want to strenuously object to the proposed XM/Sirius Satellite merger. We believe such a merger would not be in the best interest of the public and give the Satellite operator(s) an unfair advantage in the media marketplace. We believe the proposed XM/Sirius merger would grant them a monopoly that would enable and empower them to disenfranchise local radio broadcasters by using their monopoly to compete unfairly with local over the air broadcasters. We believe granting such a merger would be devastating to the economic structure of local stations and would allow them to become an unregulated monopoly without the regulation and constraints imposed on local broadcasters. The ONLY condition on which to consider such a merger, is if...these merged satellite companies were REQUIRED to carry the local radio stations, much like the Television satellite providers carry the local TV affiliates. If the satellite companies were required to also broadcast the signals into local markets of the local radio stations, then, the playing field would be more fair. Let's not give Satellite operators an unfair advantage by creating a national market with hundreds of channels and destroy the local radio broadcasters opportunity to compete on an even playing field.