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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

07-57

June 20, 2007

Chairman Kevin Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Robert McDowell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

via fax

**Re: NAACP SUPPORT OF THE CONSOLIDATED TRANSFER
APPLICATIONS OF XM SATELLITE RADIO HOLDINGS INC AND SIRIUS
SATELLITE RADIO HOLDINGS INC MB Docket No. 07-57**

Dear Chairman Martin and Commissioners Copps, Adelstein, Tate, and
McDowell:

On behalf of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), our nation's oldest, largest and most widely-recognized grassroots civil rights organization, I am writing to let you know of our support of the consolidated transfer applications of XM Satellite Radio Holdings Inc. ("XM") and Sirius Satellite Radio Inc. ("Sirius").

In the past, the NAACP has consistently urged the FCC to consider the implications of its numerous decisions on the African- American community. We have provided comments on issues such as media consolidation and violence on our nation's airwaves, among others, which we believe have had a profound disproportional impact on our community. The NAACP takes its responsibility to advocate on behalf of America's racial and ethnic minority consumers, broadcasters, and the general public very seriously, and it is with this same commitment that we urge you to support the proposed merger between XM and Sirius.

We are convinced that the pending Sirius-XM merger will be a positive development for consumers – more diverse, accessible and appealing options at

lower prices in satellite radio will help further expand the reach of this medium. Today, XM's channel, The Power, offers talk about social, political, and economic issues from an African-American perspective on America's only 24-hours-per-day/7-days-a-week radio channel programmed by and for the African-American community. Likewise, Sirius Satellite radio offers programming from a wide range of talent including celebrities and sports figures such as Keyshawn Johnson, Tiki Barber, 50 Cent and Grandmaster Flash. Jamie Foxx's "The Foxxhole" offers exclusive 24/7 programming from Urban Comedy to radio theater. Additionally, both XM and Sirius offer numerous music and entertainment channels of interest to the diverse taste of African-Americans – from the smooth sounds of Motown and Jazz to contemporary R & B and Hip Hop to cutting edge urban comedy. Synergies created by the merger of Sirius and XM will create new opportunities for this type of targeted programming that is frequently overlooked by terrestrial broadcasters. Over time, as the companies consolidate duplicative programming, they can better use capacity on their system to offer even more unique and diverse programming to underserved populations – programming that is simply unavailable on traditional broadcast media today. The merger will also serve the interests of consumers without adverse competitive effects and will spur additional competition, including with terrestrial radio providers.

Furthermore, we understand that both companies maintain a strong commitment to diversity and utilize significant resources to recruit and retain minority talent and leadership at all levels, from entry level to senior management as well as a commitment to a racially and ethnically diverse Board of Directors and diversity in contracting and vendors. We have no doubt that a merged satellite radio company would continue, and, in fact, strengthen its commitment to diversity in employee recruitment and retention, while expanding its pool of diverse contractors and vendors.

The NAACP looks forward to continuing its work with satellite radio to provide high-quality programming to the African-American community and other communities of color. As you conduct your review of the consolidated transfer applications before you, it is my hope that the Commission will consider the unmatched contribution that satellite radio has made to the audio entertainment marketplace to ensure diverse programming for consumers.

Should you have any questions regarding the NAACP position, or if you would like to discuss our views in more detail, I hope that you will feel free to contact me at (202) 463-2940.

Sincerely,



Hilary O. Shelton
Director