



INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S FORUM

October 1, 2007

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

Re: Consolidated Application for Authority to Transfer Control of XM Radio Inc. and Sirius Satellite Radio Inc., MB Docket No. 07-57

Dear Commissioner Martin:

As detailed below, the Independent Women's Forum (IWF) would like to take the opportunity to formally announce its support of the proposed merger of SIRIUS Satellite Radio and XM Satellite Radio, and urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to approve the proceeding.

IWF is a non-partisan, 501(c)(3) non-profit educational institution that supports and speaks for women who believe in political and economic freedom, personal responsibility, and limited government. Our organization fosters greater respect for limited government and free markets as we believe free markets best serve the interests of consumers nationwide. We support this proceeding because we believe the merger of SIRIUS and XM would be in the public interest and that ultimately, the free market should decide the future of satellite radio, not the federal government.

We find claims that a SIRIUS/XM merger would be anti-competitive to be without merit. Satellite radio currently makes up a mere 3 percent of the audio market compared with over 50 percent for terrestrial radio. The free market principle will guarantee terrestrial radio's dominance of the audio entertainment marketplace because they provide their services to consumers at no charge, whereas satellite radio is a paid subscription service, where customers must opt to subscribe and can just as easily opt to unsubscribe if they are not happy with the services provided to them by the newly formed company. This will ensure that prices stay low and that the demands of consumers are consistently met. It is difficult to imagine any scenario under which a combined company would raise prices when they compete with free AM/FM radio.

Both companies have also detailed an array of new programming and pricing plans that they will offer following the merger that provide consumers with a substantial cost savings over what it would cost to receive comparable programming selections today. IWF is also interested in the increased efficiencies of a combined company and greater competition from other audio providers that would increase the speed to market of new and advanced technologies in satellite

radio and audio entertainment. These are exactly the kinds of byproducts fueled by a free market that would simply not be possible without a merger of the two companies.

Guided by our organization's principles and mission, we recognize that a merger of SIRIUS and XM would be in the best interest of not only the thousands of women and men who make up our membership, but all of our nation's consumers. Accordingly, we strongly endorse SIRIUS' and XM's efforts to combine companies and urge that the FCC swiftly approve the transaction without further government intervention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle D. Bernard", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Michelle D. Bernard
President and CEO