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

December 4, 2007

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

Dear Chairman Martin:

The Rural Coalition, a non-profit organization advocating the interests of minority, small and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, is a strong supporter of the pending merger between XM and Sirius Satellite Radio.

Over the last 30 years, the Rural Coalition and its member groups have pressed for policy change designed to improve and promote equity and fairness in the delivery of federal programs that target the farming and housing sector of our economy. Many of our members operating agricultural based businesses rely on satellite radio for important weather and farm commodity reports.

We are specifically interested in the merger between XM and Sirius Satellite Radio because we view the merger as an opportunity to enhance the already diverse offerings available to rural satellite radio listeners. Further, we believe that the merger will empower rural listeners' choices, allowing them to build programming packages that are tailored to their budgets and listening tastes.

It is our understanding from public announcements that after the merger numerous new packages and programming will be created using merger synergies at a reduced cost and with broader options for consumers. In the past, Sirius and XM have demonstrated a commitment to providing diverse programming that features Hispanic and African American talent.

It is for these reasons that the member groups of the Rural Coalition, urge the Commission to approve the Sirius-XM merger.

Sincerely,

Lorette Picciano
Executive Director