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I am writing to ask that independent programming, and particularly programming directed at the significant proportion of the population who live outside cities, be preserved as a condition of any merger of cable/satellite providers. While the rural population may be small compared to the urban population, it is rural communities that provide the fuel, fiber and food that support those in the cities. Timely and accurate weather, and programming that provides livestock, crop, commodity reports and other information is essential to farmers, stock growers, and the many people working to extract coal, oil and natural gas to heat and fuel this country. Urban media have trivialized the rural population by claiming that this issue is about "Hee Haw" re-runs. Nothing could be further from the truth. This is about disenfranchising (figuratively speaking) an essential element of the American public and ignoring our needs. Responsible regulation of these providers should insure that ALL Americans have access to news, weather, industry information and, yes, entertainment, relative to our needs. Thank you for your time and attention.