

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing this letter in response to the echostar and direct tv merger.

I strongly believe that this merger should not take place in that the two companies should not be one. It appears to be the beginning of a monopoly that is not good for the consumers. Dish network has manipulated and deceived the public long enough. They have sent consumers confusing billing statements, and their standard operating procedures are to disconnect consumers who are late on the bill even if they had made arrangements with the consumer for payment in advance. It seems as if their main goal is to make as much money off of their customers as they can regardless of pricing plan the customer has agreed to. I am surprised that they have not started charging their customers for the phone calls that are made to their customer support line. In all there are a large number of East Texans who do not approve of dish network/echostar's business practices, and who are not in favor of the idea of the two companies becoming one, because they have so few choices now. Most people who live in the country that can not receive but 2 or 3 tv channels due to the location of their house, cherish the mini satellite dish service and for a company to take advantage of that is un-American.

Sincerely,

Charles Alsup
Rt.2 Box 481
Troup, TX 75789