

Dear Sir,

I believe the merger between Echostar and Directv should take place to provide competition for cable and to move rural America into the 21st century. Because of synergies involved, this could be positive for the consumer, as long as certain requirements are met. The parties have addressed the need for local and the national one rate plan. This one rate should apply to all satellite including broadband. HDTV is not adequately addressed in the proposal. In order for this technology to move forward depends on Cable and Satellite providers. If the technology exists at the time of the merger, to provide for more efficient use of bandwidth, then there should be a requirement for HDTV carriage, if available from the programmers, within 24 months of the merger.