

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am not so sure that the merger of these two companies is in the best interest of the consumer. It seems that competition is being washed away by these huge conglomerates when they merge as they are taking away the choice of the consumer. If in fact, the consumer were given more choices to subscribe to various programs then it would be different. Let me explain. I am a subscriber of DishNetwork/EchoStar. When I first subscribed, I chose the basic format of subscription which included 50 channels. After awhile, my wife and I discovered that we only watch a handful of these offerings. We contacted DishNetwork and was offered a little or non-advertised alternative called Dish Pix Programming. This alternative was supposed to allow us to make 10 selections from the 50 channels with the option of swapping these 10 selections for a different mix at a later time. This was also at a reduced price. I recently contacted the company to change one channel for another and was told that they no longer offered this programming choice anymore and my only option would be to add the basic service again. So you see, these companies do not have the consumers best interest in mind in their offerings. We, as a nation, need more competition and more choices.

Sincerely,

Norvell Berglan
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