

I am writing in support of the merger of EchoStar and DirectTV. Some people argue that such a merger would create a monopoly and hurt customers -- I disagree. As a rural, upstate New York subscriber, I say the cable providers are the real monopolies. They routinely bilk customers in rural areas and offer them little in return. By giving EchoStar more leverage and options, you actually create more competition with the cable and Internet service providers. That will help customers, especially those in rural areas such as myself.