

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I have been reading up on the merger between Echostar and Directv and would like to voice my support. I live in Niles MI. A seeming dead spot when it comes to technology. I have been waiting for ever for broadband Internet access, and it seems as far away today as it did 3 years ago. This is absolutely ridiculous. Ameritech doesnt care. AT&T Could care less. Neither broadband or Cable modem seem to be interested in Niles, as well as many, many more areas i'm sure. They have both been promising broadband access for 3 years now. I can sum their promises up with one word. Empty! Our Government seems oblivious to whats going on. Are all our elected officials technologically challenged? Does anyone care? Will anyone ever lift a finger to do anything about this? I know how fast things move in Washington, so I'm not sure what you can do about this, but I assure you, I am not the only person disgusted with this. I work in Information Technologies and in that realm, It's a big joke. IE: Do you have broadband yet? Ha Ha!!! Yeah, right!!! When pigs fly! I'm sorry. I don't mean any disrespect, but this hasn't been going on for weeks or months now. Were talking years! I talked to a person on the phone almost 3 years ago about Cable modem who said it was maybe 2 months out. Ummmm... Well.. Ok... Ameritech is supposedly ramping up for DSL in this area, but I've heard it could be years yet. The FCC needs to ok this merger so those of us who have not, can join those who have. In this day and age, with the technology we have, the only thing that stands in the way of all Americans enjoying technology is Large companies who sit on their hands forever like AT&T and SBC/Ameritech, and The Government who seems at a loss as to which way to go. Lets get things moving. I've been very patient, but I'm fed up now. Thanks for listening. Please do what you can.

Sincerely,

Ty Califf
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Niles, MI 49120