

This letter is to urge your support of the merger between the two satellite television carriers (Dish & Direct TV). I have evaluated the local cable system and Dish service. Local cable has serious problems (service interruptions, large (a 37% effective 1/1/02) rate increases, and fewer channels. By comparison, Dish Network raised its rates by only 3%, never has service interruptions, and offers more channels than local cable. The merger would enable Dish to offer additional channels, more HDTV, and my local TV stations. I urge you to support the merger and encourage the FCC to do so as well.