

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

PLEASE do anything you can to BLOCK the merger of Dish Network and DirectTV.

This merger would be disastrous to competition in the direct-to-home satellite TV market. It would create a juggernaut of a company which would not only have no effective competition, but would be so massive as to discourage any company from even trying to compete, given the extreme costs of setting up such a new service (building and launching new satellites, etc.).

The only factor that has kept prices reasonable in this industry is the competition between these two companies; witness how close the pricing and services are when comparing their offerings. The competitors have each been compelled by the market to match the other's moves. This is a classic example of how our free enterprise system is supposed to work. To allow this merger would be to destroy that mechanism.

The companies have also touted the expanded services that the merged companies would be able to offer. This is the mirror image of the argument that monopolies have used to argue against their breakup - 'the public will suffer if you break us up' - that argument has not been accepted from the monopolies, and the mirror argument should carry no weight here.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this note.

Sincerely,

Robert Evans
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Tallahassee, FL 32310