

I am writing in support of the DirectTV-Echostar Merger for one simple reason- today cable companies have a monopoly and this is our only hope of providing true competition to the cable companies. The independent satellite companies have provided limited competition to cable, but their resources are too limited. The ability of the merged company to share expensive satellite resources would finally create a viable competitor to cable.

Every year cable companies rank among the worst in customer service, and without something being done to break their monopoly, they will continue to do so. It is both ironic and ludicrous that the monopolistic cable companies claim to be opposed to this merger on the specious premise that it will create a monopoly. They should know about monopolies!

The promise of one national rate by Echostar removes any worries of a satellite monopoly in rural areas not served by cable.

Although I live in the Washington DC area, I want HDTV programming and the only hope of getting this in the foreseeable future is via satellite.

Please help provide a viable alternative to the unresponsive cable companies and vote yes to allow the DirectTV-Echostar Merger go forward.