

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I have been following with great interest news of the proposed merger between Directv and EchoStar. In addition to the points of defense put forward by the companies, with which I wish to state my total agreement, I would point out that each of the systems carries a number of channels exclusive of the other, as well as a number of channels not available in most of the cable tv marketplace. At present, the typical American consumer is forced to purchase BOTH systems to acquire all of the channels he or she desires, and each is now an unnecessarily weak competitor to cable. The merger would (1) increase the number of channels available to the consumer, (2) decrease the cost to the consumer of obtaining their desired channels, and (3) provide a remarkable alternative to current cable dominance in the media universe. I urge you to vote favorably for this proposal on behalf of those of us concerned with obtaining better choices.

Thank you for your consideration of us!

Sincerely,

John Gregory
206 Main St.
South Glens Falls, NY 12803