

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to you as a current customer of Dish Network. The main reason I support the proposed Echostar-DIRECTV merger is because, for the past 4 years, I have been able to watch very little of my local stations due to bad antenna reception. The majority of my favorite shows come on FOX. One week, I can see them perfectly... the next, all I get is static.

However, this inconvenience is in no way so overwhelming that I would EVER switch back to cable (even the digital cable). Satellite tv gives not only superior picture and sound, but you just can't beat the price. I'm paying almost 1/3 less than I was paying for cable... and getting TWICE as many channels!

Please support this merger... I'd really like to be able to watch my favorite programs without standing on a chair, holding an antenna, trying to get decent reception.

I figure that I can't be the only person who has virtually stopped watching local channels due to this problem. Not only would this merger benefit us (the viewers), but I would think that the stations and the businesses that advertise on them would benefit as well due to the increase in viewers (i.e., potential customers).

Sincerely,

Laney Grubbs
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Columbia, SC 29210