

As a satellite customer in Smaller America, I urge you to support and uphold the proposed merger between Dish Network and Direct-Tv. This new company would finally be in a position to offer local channels to most of America regardless of whether or not one is in the big city or the small rural town. This merger would allow Echostar to truly provide the benefits to its customers that the SHVA act was meant to allow it to offer. At their current capacity, Echostar can only offer local programming to roughly 35 markets. The new company would be able to cover 85% of America, plus the combination of Echostar and Direct-TV would give this new company the customer base to offer internet services that would be competitive with the offerings of the cable giants and their satellite service could be offered ANYWHERE, even in rural America. Cable already holds a monopoly in most of America and until Satellite is able to offer the local programming EVERYWHERE like cable can, it will never be able to fully compete. This merger is very good for the consumer and i urge you to support it.