

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

To FCC/Senators Cleland/Miller and
Congressman Linder: I wholeheartedly
request that this merger be rejected due to the following reasons: Firstly
, I am a Christian and Echostar has a well documented record of fighting ag
ainst religious broadcasters in court. Secondly, Echostar intends to drop t
he ABC/family channel under the guise of not having enough room on its sate
llites, while keeping other very questionable channels on the air. Additio
nally, this monopoly would mean that rural and other areas in the country a
nd indeed, the world not reached by cable would have no choice between sate
llite providers except for Echostar which would most likely drop religious
broadcasts, and those in other countries are desperately hungry for Christi
an TV. Echostar is against the 'must carry' law which says that any Christi
an station must be carried in any city on satellite and cable TV. Echostar
will try to revoke this law. In times such as these, it is imperative tha
t Christian programming be available everywhere without being threatened to
be pulled at any time. I therefore, as one who cherishes my freedom of sp
eech, freedom of religion, and my Christian programming Strongly request th
at this merger not be allowed. Those persecuted in other countries for the
ir faith depend on America for such programs. It seems these days that ever
yone and everything is tolerated in America, but Christianity. This merger
would be a grave mistake with grave consequences for this country and inde
ed, the world.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jodie Hoover
4515 Yorktown Drive
Bethlehem, GA 30620