

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

While the merger of these two companies may appear to be a good idea, this is not the case. Echostar is lobbying against the must carry law for local and religious broadcast stations. My concern is once the merger has been approved religious programming will be dropped. They are advertising to their subscribers that all markets for local channels will be carried if the merger is approved. There is no such promise for religious programming. When one company controls satellite programming subscribers will have no alternate source for religious programming unless they can plug into cable. Free enterprise is the best model we have. Monopoly business doesn't make sense when they can control all of our choices. Please vote against this merger.

Sincerely,

Gary Horton
6903 NW 34 St.
Bethany, OK 73008