

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I live in a rural area of New York State (Town of Greenville in Orange County) that's too far from my phone company's switch to get DSL internet access and they say they do not plan to offer such service in my area in the foreseeable future. And, even though my cable company already has the proper wiring in place, they say there's not enough 'demand' for them to install the new hardware needed to offer me cable internet access.

That leaves me with 56K dial-up access over phone lines that are so poor that I'm happy if my 56K modem connects at 28.8 and often have to settle for 21.6 Kbps connections. This is intolerable for anyone who works at home as much as I do.

The satellite services I've received from Dish Network for over a year and a half now are excellent and I have complete faith in this company's ability to join with DirectTV to provide my rural New York area with high speed internet access.

I am 100% in favor of the proposed merger. In fact, I feel it's necessary. Perhaps, with some real competition from this combined company, the phone and cable companies will stop taking advantage and start offering truly competitive service in all areas of the country.

Please add my name to the list of those totally in favor of the merger of DishNetwork and DirectTV.

Sincerely,

DJ James
PO Box 188
Slate Hill, NY 10973