

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am opposed to the merger of Dishnetwork and DirectTV. Such a merger is not in the best interests of the consumer because it reduces competition.

Without merging, in recent years both DirectTV and Dishnetwork have made dramatic strides in providing more better local channels.

Many areas of the country do not have any cable coverage at all. If Dishnetwork and DirectTV merged, these areas would have only choice. In addition, satellite systems may provide some services more easily than cable; merging the two companies would provide a monopoly for those unique services.

The merger of Dish network and DirectTV is a short-sighted plan which will ultimately lead to poorer service and higher prices. Consumers would be best served if Dish network and DirectTV remain independent and compete with one another, as well as the cable companies.

Sincerely,

James Dempsey
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Sunnyvale, CA 94086