

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I'm writing today in support of the merger between Echostar and Direct T.V. I live in a semi-small town in Iowa and have to rely on the cable company for my local networks. In the past few years they have raised the prices at least 2 or 3 times every year. I had purchased a satellite system when I had lived in an even smaller town. We finally got so fed up with the prices that cable companies were charging us that we hooked up the dish. We went from paying \$80. a month to 29.00 for the dish and \$10. for the basic cable. That cut our bill in half but, now they have raised their prices again and changed the placement of the channels so its almost impossible to find what you want to watch before it's over. I think every business improves with a little competition and right now the cable companies don't really have any. That's why they get by with raising their rates so high.

Please say yes to the merger.

Sincerely,

Kathy Ewing
209 N. Adams
Carroll, IA 51401