

I am writing to you today as a current satellite TV subscriber who would like to add my voice of support to the pending merger of EchoStar and DIRECTV. The combination of these two satellite providers will provide me with local stations at our cottage in West Virginia, which is in a river valley out of reach of the local signals even though the station tower is only 25 miles away. The area is a relatively small viewing market and does not currently have local satellite service. The local TV stations will not give us an exemption to allow us to get distant network channels.

In the interest of improving our access to competitive television and Internet service, I urge you to lend your support to this merger.