

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I live in rural Leon County, Florida, outside Tallahassee. My area is quite sparsely developed, and there is no possibility that cable service will be made available to residents of this area in any foreseeable future. I currently am a subscriber to Dish Network which has been wonderfully satisfactory, but even with a dish I cannot access the major networks--CBS, ABC, and NBC--and am totally closed off from any public broadcast stations. Currently, I do not have an outside antenna. I have had one in the past, and it did not improve TV reception to the point that I could access all four channels satisfactorily. When I asked Dish Network several months ago if I could subscribe to a package that would give me the major networks, although not the local channels for these, I was told that I was prohibited from buying this service. Based on my zip code, someone somewhere had decided that I was not allowed to watch CBS, NBC, ABC, and PBS! There is no possible logic that would allow me to have access to local TV stations if I had cable service but will not allow this same access through a dish, which is the only option available to me for receiving watchable television. Please approve the request to allow dish satellite companies to offer their subscribers access by dish to local television stations. This access is the only way such viewing will be possible for all rural viewers.

Sincerely,

Patterson Lamb  
10278 Thousand Oaks Circle  
Tallahassee, FL 32309