

As a current subscriber to DishNetwork I welcome the added competition to cable that this merger brings to consumers. The benefit of having local channels, internet access and possibly HDTV and interactive television broadcast to my home via satellite instead of cable is very important to me. As a previous cable subscriber I was getting fewer channels and less service, but paying more.

In my opinion Charlie Ergen (Echostar CEO) is very responsible and honest. He is not out to make a quick buck in the broadcast industry. I feel he is genuine in his efforts to bring an alternative to cable, and with the One rate guarantee.

The merger brings other benefits as well. As the cable industry consolidates and makes there subscriber base larger they enjoy lower programming costs. By allowing this merger DBS (Direct Broadcast Satellite) will have access to these discounts also.

There is a point of concern, but is minor. At some time in the future, my guess is 10 to 15 years from now, what will happen to the one rate guarantee if Charlie Ergen is no longer the CEO?

Please vote to support this merger, it is good for the industry and it is good for consumers. It should not be viewed as a satellite monopoly, but as another competitor in the arena of subscription television.

Thank You.