

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to you today to express my support for the merger of echostar & Directv.

From my own personal experience, although I live in an outlying area, I do have access to cable TV if I choose, Initially, I did attempt to get cable, but because they are limited in how much they can charge to hook us up, we were brushed off in a way that made it apparent that they did not want our business. Unfortunatley there is only one provider for cable TV so there is no choice.

(How nice it must be to have a business where you can choose your customers!). If it weren't for Echostar or Direct TV, we would still be watching very limited TV reception via a rickety antenna.

Boadbnd Internet Access for Outlying areas however does not currently have the same solution available as TV reception at this time. Cable Internet access is not available nor is DSL, and quite frankly I do not see either coming within the next few years.

Satellite, once again holds the solution! the merger of Echostar & directv holds the promise of competitively priced broadband internet access.

I would ask that you please put your support in favor of the Echostar Directv merger. It is my belief that approval of this merger will shake the cable TV and Phone companies out of their state of complacancy and perhaps jumpstart some real competetition in the TV/broadband marketplace

Sincerely,

Scott Matheson  
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Nevada City, CA 95959