

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

Please even up the playing field by approving the EchoStar-DirectTV merger as quickly as possible. I have been a very happy DISH Network customer for 6 years and would never give up my satellite tv even though I cannot receive any local channels. Living without the in depth local weather reports and school closings (radio gets me by) has been hard but well worth the sacrifice. I think it's past time for satellite tv viewers to have the opportunity to have local channels, and if this merger accomplishes that than you owe it to the American people to help make it happen. The cable companies have had the advantage long enough. They need the real competition that the creation of a stronger Satellite corporation will provide. It's the American way. Please do your duty and approve this merger.

Sincerely,

Darlene McDaniel
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Waynesboro, VA 22980