

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

The monopolistic position resulting from the merger of Dish Network and DirecTV will eliminate the competition in the market place and customer options for service.

The satellite companies would have you believe that this is about Satellite vs. Cable. While this may partially be true, the reality is that it is about enabling a single company to control the marketplace.

Interestingly, prior to DirecTV's acquisition of U S Satellite Broadcasting (USSB), the DirecTV and USSB advertising and marketing people positioned the two services on one satellite system as being about choice, having options in the premium movie, sports and pay per view venues. This is the antithesis of what they are now saying. It appears that these corporations will say whatever is advantageous at the time.

At this juncture, a time when major corporations and their auditing firms have broken all trust with the citizens of this country, and in light of the satellite companies changing positions to suit today's agenda, it would be less than prudent to let this merger proceed. While one may argue that it is unfair to judge these two companies by the acts of others, the reality is that the greed and mismanagement that currently permeate corporate America mandates that our government do what it can to insure that the conditions for these behaviors are lessened not expanded. By prohibiting this merger, you foster an environment where the temptation to behave in a predatory way will have been removed.

Sincerely,

Mitchell Kahn
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