

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

Timing is everything, I guess. We just received a Call from Dish Network a few nights ago informing us that we would no longer be able to receive our 'local' stations we subscribed to, Sacramento and Seattle. They recommended a super station package or Los Angeles and Denver. Then in our bill came the information regarding the EchoStar merger, promising that we could not only get Sacramento and Seattle if the merger goes through, but we would also have our nearest city and #1 choice, Spokane Wa. available to us.

Where we live, cable is not available, and we get no local stations at all using an antenna. We are, therefore, completely dependent on the satellite providers.

Based on the promises they have made, I am writing to you today as a current satellite TV subscriber who would like to add my voice of support to the pending merger of EchoStar and DIRECTV. The combination of these two satellite providers will provide numerous benefits to consumers like me, who would like, if nothing else to be able to watch the local news and weather.

If, in fact, the existing laws still prohibit us from receiving the most local stations, despite the merger's expansion of technological capabilities, we need to change those laws. No one should be able to control the ability of certain segments of our population to get news and weather information pertaining to their own regions.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Linda Muskopf
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