

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 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, including more choices in channels, programming, broadband and new television technologies.

By merging, the combined company will be a much stronger competitor to cable television and can offer more programming choices and, most importantly, all local TV channels in every market in the U.S. This is very important to people like me who live in rural areas and cannot easily receive local TV channels 'over the air'. This merger will enable me and my family to turn to satellite TV to access our local news, weather and community information, in addition to a comprehensive package of national video programming.

The merger will also bring the availability of affordable high-speed Internet service by satellite to over 40 million Americans who don't have high-speed Internet access. Satellite-delivered Internet service will be an affordable and competitive alternative to cable modems and DSL to consumers in big cities, small towns and rural areas alike. Living in a rural community, I can not take advantage of cable modems and DSL. They are not likely to be available to me anytime in the near future.

In the interest of improving our access to local television and Internet service, I urge you to lend your support to this merger.

Sincerely,

Mark Nalli
31 Lea Dr
Delanson, NY 12053

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