

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am a resident of south central Washington state. It is a rural area and satellite broadcast is the only television reception available. There is no cable television and none expected in the foreseeable future. I currently subscribe to the Dish network and also to Echostar's C-Band large dish service. The service on both is acceptable but not outstanding and could be improved considerably. One of the factors keeping the acceptable service level is competition. If Echostar buys DirectTV then there will be no incentive for Echostar to improve or maintain its service since there will be no alternatives for many of its customers including me. Please keep the many rural area users in mind when you make the decision whether to approve this merger. Thanks very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Everett Norman  
Box 39  
Trout Lake, WA 98650-0039