

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

Subject: Network Blackmail & Satellite TV

There are networks such as Disney that force cable and Sat. TV companies to carry 3 extra channels if they want to carry a popular channel such as Disney. Even worse, Disney mandates that the additional channels be carried on the basic package, instead of carrying them as extra pay channel. Sports teams are doing the same thing, requiring that cable and Sat. TV companies carry sports such as Yankees on the basic package, even though 75% of people don't want the channel. This EXTORTION raises the price for basic cable/Sat TV services. In order to improve consumer choice in television market, it is vital for the FCC to approve the Echostar and DirectTV merger. This merger will give cable and Sat. TV companies more leverage to deal with the economic extortion.

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

Sincerely,

Ghanshyam Patel  
4170-20 Porte De Palmas  
san diego, CA 92122