

As a long time subscriber and employee of DIRECTV, I oppose the merger between the two companies. I do not feel that I, as a consumer will benefit in any way by having only one option for my satellite service. I have heard over and over again from the management in my company that Echostar was not a major competitor since DIRECTV had much better services and features to offer as well a better variety of receivers that customers are familiar with. We have always considered cable to be our main front line of conflict due to the subscriber base they maintain. We have always had goals to lure cable subscribers and not necessarily DISH subscribers.

Now as an 8-year employee of DIRECTV, I am very opposed to the merger. In no way do I or any of my co-workers benefit. I have read countless articles, newsgroups, and even heard snippets of 'rumors' regarding the Echostar management and business plan. It is not one I agree with. In this trying time where our economy is struggling to recover and where tens of thousands of Americans have already lost their jobs, I do not want to become a casualty of a spoiled dictator of a satellite mogul. I have already seen the attrition begin due to the uncertainty and the public information regarding the outlook of the company.

I am very aware of the fact that as a whole, the U.S. Congress is not concerned with a few more thousand jobs being lost as a result of a merger. It's all a part of the way of doing business anyway. I am also aware that nothing is for certain right now. This is the disturbing part. Those thousands of jobs that could be lost are all the source of income for thousands of families and individuals. Don't let us lose faith in you as a representative of the people. Be our voice in Washington and oppose this merger. Not just to save our jobs, but in order to truly provide a quality competitive service to millions of viewers. As seen in our 1st quarter results, we exceeded our goals in new customer acquisitions. That should indicate that when given an option, customers benefit by having access to those services we offer now and can offer in the future.

As much as I respect McDonalds as a fast food provider, I would not want to only have the option of a quarter-pounder, when I can have a Whopper or even a Mom-and-Pop cheeseburger. Maybe that's a bad analogy, but when it all boils down to the consumer, we are all happiest when we have a choice. Whether it is fast food or satellite TV. Again, I urge you to represent us in opposing this merger.

Thank you for your time and consideration.