

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 to add my voice of support to the pending merger of EchoStar and DIRECTV. By combining these two satellite providers, we will see numerous benefits to consumers and will take technology in the right direction by linking us all nationally. I would take pride in knowing that I helped media, internet and communications technology go to the next level.

This particular merger will bring the availability of affordable high-speed Internet service (broadband) by satellite to over 40 million Americans who don't have it. These tremendous benefits to consumers won't happen without this consolidation. Satellite-delivered Internet service will bring an affordable service to consumers in big cities and rural areas. This will give me a competitive choice for Internet access and will be especially advantageous to rural communities where cable modems and DSL are not available.

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. By providing local TV channels everywhere, this merger will make satellite television a strong alternative to cable in our community. Throughout the country, people will now be able to turn to satellite TV to access their local news, weather and community information, in addition to a comprehensive package of national video programming. People want more choices in programming, they also want ease of use.

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

S. MORRISON
GREENWOOD, AR

Sincerely,

Shellee Morrison
622 Mt Zineche
Greenwood, AR 72936