

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I want you to support the merger of EchoStar and Direct TV. It has nothing but benefits for consumers including the following:

- allow everyone, nationwide, to receive High Definition programming
- provide more programming choices
- create a viable competitor for all cable systems nationwide, decreasing pricing or pricing increases
- provide local programming by satellite nationwide
- provide affordable high-speed internet access nationwide, especially rural areas that would never be served otherwise
- provide a clear digital signal nationwide, especially a benefit for those in fringe signal receiving areas

The one price nationwide policy promised if the merger is approved will ensure that the combined company can't charge more to rural customers or in areas not served by a cable company.

With all these positives and no negatives from a consumer point of view, I can't understand why swift approval has not occurred. Except for cable companies who want to limit competition and media companies who want to have more power to set prices, there is no logical reason to stop this merger.

I urge you to quickly approve this merger.

Sincerely,

Steven Springer
9530 E. Nora Circle
Mesa, AZ 85207