

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

You guys need to realize that in states like Iowa if you live pretty much anywhere other than the 7-8 bigger cities we have here that you do NOT have access to cable and satellite tv is the only way to get television. Now the crink in that is here in iowa we have a range from blizzards in the winter with hazardous road conditions to tornadoes in the summer. We satellite subscribers are oblivious to this as we can't get local stations to get weather warnings. Aerial antenna's just aren't a viable option in many cases as well.

On top of this the majority of the area here can't even get access to the internet due to outdated phone lines that can't even support a 33.6 modem connection and usually can't carry a modem signal PERIOD.

Satellite services are not a luxury in areas like this, they are a necessity. Yet you continue to baby the cable industry, a monopoly by any definition. It's about time they have some competition as that's what america is based upon. Approving this merger is the right thing to do, it's the american thing to do as it creates MUCH needed competition to the cable companies who have been raping our pocket books for MUCH too long. Let alone this helping retailers who could use the extra revenue from selling dishes to previous cable subscribers.

STOP SUPPORTING THE CABLE COMPANIES!!

There is no reasont that the cable companies should continue to get their way and hold on to their monopoly. Approving this could spur some much needed competition.

Again, please stop supporting the cable companies.

Sincerely,

Scott vrba
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