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From: "S Templeton" <templeton62@vnet.net>
To: <mcopps@fcc.gov>
Date: 4/23/02 9:58AM
Subject: Dish Network/DirecTV satellite merger opposition

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

I am contacting you to briefly register my opposition to the proposed Dish Network/DirecTV satellite companies merger. This proposal is obviously to the detriment of the public who, after years of a mostly monopolistic cable environment, are now faced with yet another limit on its competitive opportunities.

As a satellite subscriber for only 2 years, I am afraid of the consequences such a merger will bring. Heavy investment on receiving equipment will now be lost, as a merger will most likely bring new equipment requirements. Additionally, this one satellite provider will lose all competitive motivation, and will be free to set pricing, equipment demands, etc. without my being afforded an alternative from another network. After considerable deliberation of Dish Network and DirecTV, I chose Dish based on many factors. I am afraid those decisions will be nullified with the merger to DirecTV.

I urge you to allow the competitive nature of the industry to flourish, and forbid the merger of these two satellite companies.

Sincerely,
Steven R. Templeton
Concord, North Carolina
templeton62@vnet.net

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