

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I would like to write you in support of the Echostar/DirectTV merger. After reviewing statements supporting this merger from both companies, it seems hard to find fault with the merger. However I remain sceptical! I have had Dish Network for about 2 years now and I have several familiy members that have had DirectTV over the past few years. Both companies in my opinion offer a great service, yet many of their consumers are frustrated over what I would call underhanded bussiness practices. For instance the service itself is fairly inexpensive. Until you get into the hidden fees such as multi receiver charges, expensive monthly guide, and fees to order pay per view over the phone. Not to mention signals that are lost frequently, Sneaking in charges for pay per view events that were supposedly order over your remote.

If the merger puts echostar in a better position to deal with these problems, and maintains an inexpensive access to broadband internet service while keeping sattelite television cost down, then I fully support the merger. However I strongly believe that echostar in return for use of the airways must:

1. Keep local stations free
2. No fee for aditional recievers
3. Keep broadband and sattelite service reasonably priced.

Sincerely,

Ryan Thompson
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Colorado Springs, CO 80910