



## Allen Hearing Aid & Audiology Services

01-348

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April 19, 2002

Michael K. Powell

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Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: (Proceeding 01-348)

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to you to express my support for the proposed merger between EchoStar Communications and DIRECTV. I am a strong advocate of this merger because of the promise it will bring to helping telemedicine grow and prosper in the coming years.

Currently, high cost and a lack of competition for reliable broadband Internet services have hampered telemedicine. I feel this merger will be helpful in opening up the field of telemedicine because of the unique delivery system that DBS provides. This merger will bring much needed service to all of our cities, large and small.

I hope you will look favorably upon this proposed merger. I am anxious to see the benefits of the merger in my practice as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

Peter W. Whitson, M.S., CFY/A  
Clinical Fellow of Audiology

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