

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to ask you to support, and urge the FCC to allow, the planned merger of EchoStar and Direct TV.

I have been am a Subscriber to Dish Network for several years and find the quality of picture and service to be excellent, much better than the local cable company. The Merger would allow huge savings and better coverage areas as the two companies blend their hardware and satellites together, resulting in better service, more channels, larger coverage areas and real competition to Cable companies.

This is one time where bigger really is better. If there are concerns about monopolistic pricing, simply take Echostar up on their offer to guarantee 1 pricing structure through out the U.S. (make it binding in some way). There would also be great benefits for high speed internet access to rural areas and faster implementation of HDTV.

One other point, recently Dish Network had to quit providing out of state Network channels due to a FCC ruling. To me, this seems silly. If I can have Newspapers from any city in the U.S. sent to my door, or read them over the internet, why should the government block me from receiving TV Channels from other states, when the technology allows it.

Thank You for your support.

Sincerely,

Don and Jean Wimer
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Dallas, OR 97338