

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing in support of the pending merger between Echostar and DirectTV.

As a satellite customer, I have enjoyed Dish Network for about five years. Unfortunately, in those five years, I've still been forced to pay for my local network channels. Currently, I'm paying \$12 per month just to add ABC, CBS, NBC and Fox.

I've never felt like my local cable company - Adelphia Communications - cared much about its customers, and to be quite frank, I hate sending them a check on a monthly basis.

I'm sure I'm not the only satellite customer in the country who is being 'forced' into paying for cable in addition to their satellite subscription.

My understanding is that through the Echostar and DirectTV merger, the new company will have the ability to provide local channels in all major US markets, giving consumers like me a real choice that I haven't got now.

I am greatly looking forward to the end product after the merger and hope that you will do your best to approve it.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

William (Scott) Leffler
226 Niagara Street
Lockport, NY 14094