

On the merger between Echostar-DirectTV: I see bad news for rural communities. Echostar see profits in the metro areas and appears to regard rural markets as secondary. I live in an area of Illinois where the benefits of the SBC-Ameritech have to find their way. We have no DSL available from Ameritech. There are no advanced phone services, i.e. voice mail, available unless from a third party. If big companies are continued to allow to merge with little regard for rural areas, all of America will suffer. It will create two tiers of service. I have DirectTV now and find it a good value. This merger will create higher operating costs for the company which will be passed on to the consumer. Rural markets will end up subsidizing Echostar's expansion into metro markets. Please block or amend this agreement to ensure affordable and quality service in America's smaller communities. Too often, we're a secondary concern. Thank you.