

It is urged that as a requirement of the merger between EchoStar-DirectTV that they be required to devote a certain amount of satellite transponder time "directly" to education for transmission of live educational content nationwide. Although a satellite broadcast company, must devote a certain percentage of its air time to public service programming, a distinction between "transponder time directly for education" and "public service programming," should be drawn. Public service programming is a right of passage for a broadcasting company. The educational needs of society at this time requires more than just public service programming. A path to progress in education should be required. That path may be opened by satellite. Satellite can provide the vehicle for bridging the educational gap and that gap could be more cost-effective if transponder time is allotted to education as a condition of the merger.

It is urged that EchoStar-DirectTV be required to devote transponder time to dissemination of live educational content nationwide. Through satellite transmissions there can be a nationwide classroom with the best that the teaching profession has to offer reaching even the most rural of areas. Through satellite transmissions and existing technology, the best teachers can teach the neediest students. The best, most inspiring math, history, science, language, marketing, safety, and motivational teachers, the best of the best, can be selected from across the nation and can be disseminated to classrooms and homes across the country through in an economically feasible manner.