

DATE FILED

RM-9335  
RM-9345

RECEIVED

AUG 31 1998

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

**From:** "Rodan" <rodan@mbay.net>  
**To:** A7.A7(SNESS)  
**Date:** 8/29/98 12:58am  
**Subject:** FCC Rules Governing Access to Broadcast Networks

Dear Ms. Commissioner,

I am writing to express my concern and objection to the rules about access to broadcast networks. I feel these rules are unfair to the consumer! DIRECTV recently informed me that "to comply with a recent federal court order," it was required to review my eligibility to receive certain network services via satellite. Based on the eligibility criteria the court requires them to use, I am no longer eligible to receive these network services from them.

DIRECTV advised me that "many of (their) customers can get local TV stations with a rooftop antenna." I am in the military and reside in government housing and, in accordance with housing regulations and policies, "external TV antennas to receive local broadcast networks are not permitted. Top-of-set antennas (rabbit ears) must be used."

I tried a rabbit ears antenna before subscribing to DIRECTV\*s PrimeTime 24 and found reception at this distance from my "local" broadcasting site (in Salinas, CA) to be extremely poor and totally unacceptable for viewing. Therefore, I feel I should be eligible to receive national networks from DIRECTV and have had to request a "waiver" to allow me to continue to receive national broadcasting services from DIRECTV.

I don't feel it is my responsibility to provide such a waiver in order to receive national broadcasting services from my satellite provider. I firmly believe that it is my right to decide from whom my television services will be provided! As a citizen, I am appalled that the FCC has such power to take that decision out of the consumers' hands! These rules should be reviewed and amended to return the decision-making privilege back to the American citizen!

Dan Harvey, MSgt, USAF

**ORIGINAL**

2

RM-9335  
RM-9345  
RECEIVED

AUG 31 1998

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

**From:** Carol Marchell <carolm@florida-water.com>  
**To:** A7.A7(NETMSG)  
**Date:** 8/28/98 6:50pm  
**Subject:** Comments to Commissioner Ness

Carol Marchell (carolm@florida-water.com) writes:

I just received notice that I am not allowed to receive CBS and FOX broadcasts on my satellite dish - which I currently pay for. These two local stations are especially difficult to receive a clear picture. Why am I not allowed to choose what station I want to watch, if I pay for the priviledge? Almost all sports stations are now "pay" broadcasts, unless I want to watch local teams - but I am not a fan! Also, our local affiliates will many times preempt shows for local weather, or other news that I don't particularly care to watch. There is only so many times I care to see what the hurricane is doing, and how to prepare for it! In the interest of competition, what can I do to protest this action?

-----  
Server protocol: HTTP/1.1  
Remote host: 12.77.193.95  
Remote IP address: 12.77.193.95

**ORIGINAL**

2

LATE FILED

RM-9335  
RM-9345  
RECEIVED  
AUG 31 1998

**From:** "Brendon Woirhaye" <terrapi@inreach.com >  
**To:** A7.A7(SNESS)  
**Date:** 8/30/98 2:33pm  
**Subject:** Satellite Home Viewer Act

**ORIGINAL**

I am an american who subscribes to digital satellite broadcasting, which includes delivery of programming from the big four national broadcasters - including NBC, CBS, ABC, and Fox. I live in Southern California, and am within an area where I get a signal of Grade B intensity, which means that my satellite access to these channels will be turned off because I can receive them with an antenna. The Grade B intensity maps, however, do not account for obstructions which hinder broadcast reception, leaving me with a much poorer quality signal than I can get with my satellite dish. There are multiple reasons that I prefer to receive these channels over my normal programming delivery device (my satellite), including:

- The antenna reception is poor, and I have to constantly adjust the antenna to get anything resembling a reasonable picture
- The satellite signal provides higher resolution and better sound quality than the local broadcast does, making it more enjoyable to watch
- My VCR is hooked in to the satellite system, not the antenna system. I cannot set it up to tune both systems at once for timed events.
- I get two or three chances to see a program with the setup I have now - there are times when I miss a Fox show on satellite, and can tune in the antenna one (through a bit of work and hassle) if I really want to see it. My household watches about 3 to 4 hours per month of NBC/FOX, and no ABC/CBS at all.

I have nothing against local broadcasters, but I do wish they would move more quickly towards hdtv and not spend their money in squabbles over customers who have basically opted out of local broadcasting by going to satellite.

I ask for your support in preserving the quality of our picture signals. Please represent my interests rather than those of the local broadcasting or cable industry.

Brendon Woirhaye  
5532 Parmerton Ave.  
Temple City, CA 91780

\_\_\_\_\_ 2  
\_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED FOR LATE FILED

RM 9335  
RM 9345

**From:** Frederick Brown <fredtoby@earthlink.net>  
**To:** A7.A7(SNESS)  
**Date:** 8/30/98 9:04pm  
**Subject:** Recently, a Federal Satellite Television

RECEIVED

AUG 31 1998

Recently, a Federal Court in Florida, at the request of the television networks entered an order that will cause me to lose my network service.

Please establish a viewing standard that will ensure that all families who cannot receive an acceptable network picture using an conventional outdoor rooftop antenna can receive network programming via satellite. Please stop the unfair court order until the new standard is in place.

I live in an area that the court defines as "predictive Grade B" and I cannot get a picture by using a conventional outdoor rooftop antenna, because my reception is blocked by hills.

I am well aware of the fact that the Grade B contour was never intended to be used to determine whether or not a consumer can receive an acceptable picture. It was originally intended as a rough calculation to prevent broadcast signals from interfering with one another.

Congress has asked the Commission for purposes of the Satellite Home Viewer Act to define "Grade B" for the purposes of protecting the right of every U.S. consumer to receive high-quality network service. It is now time for this definition to be accurately established!

PLEASE, I WANT TO KEEP THE HIGH QUALITY NETWORK SERVICE I NOW RECEIVE!!!!!!!!!!

**ORIGINAL**

2