

RM 9335

DOCKET FILE 6981010101
Grand Marais MN 55604
July 23, 1998

FCC-International & Satellite Bureau
1919 M Street
Washington DC 20504

I live 46 miles from the nearest town (Grand Marais) beneath a big cliff overlooking the Canadian border on Gunflint Lake. Before the advent of 18" dish technology, the only TV reception available to those living in this area was very snowy reception from one Canadian channel in Thunder Bay, Ontario. With the coming of small dish technology thru our Rural Electric Coop Arrowhead Electric in Lutsen MN my neighbors and I have able to enjoy the same television choices as other Americans, (particularly PBS which I, as a US taxpayer, helped to fund) for the past 3 years when small dish technology become available up here in the Northwoods by subscribing to a networks & cable package thru Arrowhead Electric.

Last Wednesday, July 17 I became aware that I was not receiving all the cable channels for which I was paying (the networks were working perfectly). After a little checking it was apparent that my receiver was not receiving all the transponders to which I was entitled. The cure was a new receiver which I arranged to get up from town the next day Thursday the 18th in the afternoon. I hooked up the new receiver and notified Arrowhead to restore my service which involved giving up my old access card number and giving them the new access card number since receivers and access card numbers are matched pairs. Both Arrowhead and I were very surprised to learn from DIRECT TV that they had received an injunction that day, Friday, forbidding them to accept "new" network accounts and so I was denied a network hookup since they considered my replacement access card to be that of a new account. Believe me, if Arrowhead and I had known that this was the situation I would have kept my old card and consequently the networks.

I think that you ought to be able to find some way so that those of us who have no other way to get decent TV except with a small dish can do so. After all the first million small dishes were reserved for REA customers in that predicament. I understand the concern of the networks caused by the purchase of small dishes by those who can receive a local cable channel, but how undemocratic and Unamerican it is to penalize us who live in rural areas. As I said earlier I particularly deplore the lack of availability of PBS. I find it very hard to understand how a Federal judge in South Florida can act in a manner adverse to Americans living on the Canadian border in Northern Minnesota. I am hoping that you as the Federal Regulator can help correct this great iniquity.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Matsis
Eleanor Matsis

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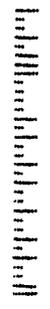
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FBI
International + Satellite Bureau

1919 M Street NW

Washington DC

20554



PM 9335

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Tuesday, July 21, 1998

To whom it may concern:

Please lift the restrictions placed on network satellite channels by a federal judge in Florida.

I live in a remote area of northern Minnesota - the Gunflint Trail. Although I would love to receive the major networks via the Duluth TV stations, I cannot. I have a huge antenna on a hill and the best boosters available and I still only receive Canadian TV. A DSS system purchased through Arrowhead Electric of Itasca has been a God-send.

Please do not take the major networks away from all of us in the US who cannot receive them any other way but by using

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DSS or similar systems.

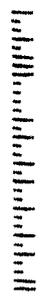
Sincerely,
Nancy S. Peterson
104 Voyageur Pt. Road
Gunflint Trail
Grand Marais, MN 55604

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104 Jey. Pt. Rd.
Grand Prairie, TX
75049



Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
International Satellite Bureau
1919 M Street N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20554



RM 9335

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July 23, 1998

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International & Satellite Bureau
1919 M Street NW
Washington DC 20554

To Whom It May Concern:

Please lift the restrictions
on receiving the network
satellite television channels.

It isn't right that you define
who should be able to
purchase network programming
from satellite providers.

We live in northeastern
Minnesota on the Canadian
border, 45 miles from the
nearest town. We cannot

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get any television via an
antenna.

Please help us keep in touch
with the world. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charles + Jean Oleheiser
413 So Gunflint Lake
Grand Marais MN 55604

Charles & Jean Olschaker
218-388-9935
413 So. Gunflint Lake
Grand Marais, MI 55604-2062



FCC
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1919 M Street NW
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