

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RM 9335

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AUG 24 1998

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

From: "BAM" <digitek@net-link.net>
To: J1.J1 (RKEENEY)
Date: 8/22/98 9:54am
Subject: Need your help!

Dear Head of the International Bureau Keeney:

Cable prices in my community are constantly increasing. I believe the only way to fix this problem is to create a comparable alternative to my cable provider. As a consumer, I want a choice in cable providers. Direct Broadcast Satellite (DBS) is the only other viable alternative to cable, but with DBS I am unable to watch my local network channels. This means I can't even watch my local news!

I understand there's an effort in Congress to change the current law, which is preventing me from having a choice. Senator John McCain needs your support to give DBS providers the ability to offer me my local stations. A change in the law is important to me as an EchoStar subscriber, and your support in underwriting this change is important to me as your constituent and a member of the American voting public.

Please support Senator McCain and enable my DBS provider, EchoStar, to provide local programming soon-without the must-carry provisions which EchoStar does not have the capacity to fulfill-so that EchoStar and the other DBS providers can offer voters like me a fully-competitive alternative to cable.

Sincerely,

Bret Waddell
643 E. Berrien St.
Paw Paw, MI 49079-1616

(616) 657-7066

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August 20, 1998

FCC International & Satellite Bureau
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

We are writing about our concerns about the kFederal judge who filed an injunction against Prime Time 24. We, as members of Arrowhead Electric in Northern Minnesota are being abused by this action. We have tried various mean of getting acceptable television reception in our area without much success. We live on a ridge, and have a high expensive aerial. Even so, our reception is poor, and at least half of the time unwatchable. Therefore, we are highly disappointed that we cannot purchase ABC,CBS,NBC,PBS, and FOX regular reception via satellite. This means that we can no long view local television stations. These stations come out of Duluth, Minnesota. Please see that this ruling is overturned so that we may subscribe to these stations via direct t.v. Thank you for your attention.

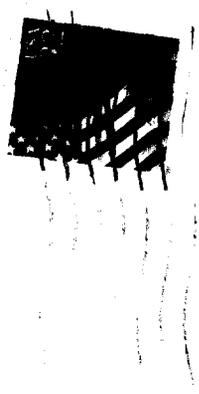
Sincerely,



Richard S. Johnson
41 Devil Point Road
Grand Marais, Minnesota 55604

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Johnson
41 Devil Paint Road
Grand Marais, MN 55604



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FCC International & Satellite Bureau
1919 M Street NW
Washington DC 20554



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Dr. and Mrs. J.D. Wheat
15781 Arnold Drive
Sonoma, CA. 95476
August 19 1998

Federal Communications Commission
Washington D.C. 20554

Dear Sirs:

We have been informed by our satellite television provider, DISH NETWORK, that we can no longer receive San Francisco CBS channel on their West coast feed because of some ruling by your agency. This really makes this network useless to us as we need local news access and now get only Los Angeles and Seattle! It certainly seems unfair both to Dish Network and all Bay area subscribers to force us to arbitrarily change because of some thoughtless bureaucracy ruling.

Please explain what has happened to cause this inconvenient and costly change for us! Can we do anything to change to the San Francisco CBS again? It must still be out there.

Very truly yours,

Mary D. Wheat

J. D. Wheat

Dr. and Mrs J. D. Wheat

Copy to EchoStar Communications Corporation, Englewood,
Colorado, 80112

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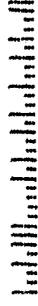
ceb



Federal Communications Commission

Washington D.C.

20554



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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

From: John Darsey <jdarsey@garlic.com>
To: J1.J1 (RKEENEY) , A7.A7 (MPOWELL, SNESS, WKENNARD) , FCCMA.
Date: 8/22/98 12:42am
Subject: Satellite Access to Local Programming

Commissioner,

I bought a satellite dish today, for two reasons: a) I can only receive two channels where I live, & b) I had bad experiences in the past with my local Cable company, Falcon.

After setting up the dish, I called to set up service, and learned that I cannot order a Network feed, with CBS, Fox, and UBN, because I am able to pick up NBC and ABC (poorly). Further, that this is because of current FCC regulations.

I thought the 1996 Telecom Act was supposed to remove barriers such as this. Why do I have to get release letters from the networks to be able to get a satellite feed with their programming? I would appreciate your reviewing this matter, and rectifying an unfair situation.

Sincerely,

John Darsey

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From: <MrCanDol@aol.com>
To: J1.J1 (RKEENEY) , A7.A7 (MPOWELL, SNESS, WKENNARD) , FCCMA...
Date: 8/24/98 4:14pm
Subject: Broadcast Signal in White Areas

AUG 24 1998

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

To whom it may concern,

I am seeking your support to permit Digital Broadcast Satellite (DBS) users to be able to view the broadcast signal in the white areas.

I understand you WILL determine WHO can & CAN NOT receive broadcast signal in "WHITE AREAS".

I urge you to permit those of us who have DBS to permit us to be able to view the white area signal as cable tv is too expensive & extremely poor quality.

Sincerely yours,
Tim McLeod
157Mill St
Wallkill, NY 12589

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AUG 24 1998

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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From: <dbroper@nbn.com>
To: J1.J1 (RKEENEY) , A7.A7 (MPOWELL, WKENNARD) , FCCMAIL.SMT...
Date: 8/22/98 10:44am
Subject: Satellite TV Service

A little over a year ago, we made the decision to go with The Dish Network instead of our local cable provider (TCI). TCI has been unwilling or unable to provide the programming we desired, their service was often interrupted, and the reception quality was often inferior. The final decision was made based upon the fact that DISH would be able to provide the four major networks and that we would be able to receive our local San Francisco news on at least one of these networks.

We were very pleased with our new service and were delighted to be able to break from the cable monopoly and receive the programming that WE were interested in. Now, without notice, our West Coast feed of the major networks was changed and all feed out of Los Angeles. We no longer can receive our local news via satellite AND WE ARE FURIOUS!!!!

WHY do the current laws favor and protect the cable industry???? We are we, as consumers, unable to have FREE CHOICE of the programming services available to us???? Why is this industry any different than the competition between players of other industries? We are allowed to choose our telephone provider and even our gas and electric provider based on the ones that WE feel offer the SERVICE and prices that meet our needs!!!! Why is the cable TV / satellite TV industry different???

We urge you to influence and CHANGE current legislation that limits our choices!!!! Allow US, the CONSUMER, to choose which services best meet our needs!!!!

Your prompt action to our concerns is appreciated. Thank you.

Douglas B. Roper
54 Laurel Glen Terrace
San Rafael, CA 94903

(415) 491-4872
dbroper@nbn.com

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CAB

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

From: "Pastor Kipp" <romekipp@norwich.net>
To: J1.J1 (RKEENEY)
Date: 8/22/98 5:39am
Subject: Satellite Broadcasting

Dear Ms Keeney:

We live in an area where clear T.V. reception is impossible with an outside antenna. We do not live where we can receive cable.

We do have a satellite dish receiver -- however the program provider is not allowed to hook us up to the major networks: ABC, CBS, NBC, and FOX.

The reason we are unable to have these networks provided is due to the fact that other people not too far from us are able to receive local stations with an antenna, therefore our area does not qualify for satellite programming of local stations which carry the major networks.

Are there any plans to change the laws so that the cable companies do not have a monopoly on these local stations?

If no change in the law is planned, I believe it is time something was started. Please let me know what you can do so we can receive local broadcasting via the satellite

Thank you.

Rev. Romeyn Kipp
126 Baptist Church Lane
South New Berlin, NY 13843

e-mail: romekipp@norwich.net

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

From: "Pastor Kipp" <romekipp@norwich.net>
To: J1.J1(RKEENEY)
Date: 8/22/98 5:36am
Subject: Satellite Broadcasting

Dear Mr. Tristani:

We live in an area where clear T.V. reception is impossible with an outside antenna. We do not live where we can receive cable.

We do have a satellite dish receiver -- however the program provider is not allowed to hook us up to the major networks: ABC, CBS, NBC, and FOX.

The reason we are unable to have these networks provided is due to the fact that other people not too far from us are able to receive local stations with an antenna, therefore our area does not qualify for satellite programming of local stations which carry the major networks.

Are there any plans to change the laws so that the cable companies do not have a monopoly on these local stations?

If no change in the law is planned, I believe it is time something was started. Please let me know what you can do so we can receive local broadcasting via the satellite

Thank you.

Rev. Romeyn Kipp
126 Baptist Church Lane
South New Berlin, NY 13843

e-mail: romekipp@norwich.net

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