

The Honorable Michael K. Powell  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to you today as a current satellite TV subscriber who would like to add my voice of support to the pending merger of EchoStar and DIRECTV.

After many years of receiving programming both in rural America, in major cities and in semi-rural America, I have had experience with broadcast TV, 'wireless cable' (in Kansas), attached cable (Kansas, Chicago and Maine) and now Satellite Television. I believe that I am in a position to comment both on the fair pricing, quality of service and better standard of programming that is available on Satellite.

I think that it is wholly objectionable that competitors to Echostar are having a bigger voice in the debate as to whether the merger is better for consumers. We did not see the same deference being given when mergers such as AOL Time Warner were being considered. Why are we seeing it today with Echostar?

In the interest of improving our access to competitive television and Internet service, I urge you to lend your support to this merger. At the very least, please ask your constituents their opinions on local cable and satellite providers - here what they feel is serving them better, and assess the benefits that greater access and better standardization for the satellite industry in North America will bring to the consumers across the whole country.

Sincerely,

Phillip Miller  
53 Granite Street  
Bath, ME 04530