

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 voice my support for the pending merger of EchoStar and DIRECTV. If these two satellite providers are allowed to merge it will provide many benefits to customers like me.

I live in a semi-rural area now. My only other option for TV service in this area is Charter Cable. They have a notoriously bad reputation for price hikes & poor customer service. Their worst part is that Charter doesn't seem to care. I am glad to have the option to stay away from Charter regarding my TV watching. That is not so with my internet service. The phone lines here are so bad that dial-up internet is not an option. Bellsouth, my local phone provider, has no plans to provide DSL in my area. So I have been forced to purchase Charter Cable's DSL service. I am being charged over \$60 a month for that service which is ridiculously high. If I had both services through my satellite provider I would save about \$40 a month.

If EchoStar & DIRECTV are allowed to merge I feel that it would put satellite providers on a more level playing field with Cable thus keeping costs down for the consumer. I am lucky in that local channels are available in my area. If the merger is allowed to happen all subscribers will have access to local channels even ones living in smaller cities than mine.

I don't feel that these tremendous benefits to consumers will happen without the merger.

In the interest of keeping television & internet service rates competitive. please support this merger.

Sincerely,

Teresa Tucker
3870 Highway 11
Pelham, AL 35124