

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 urge you to support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. Although I am not a DIRECTV customer, I believe the merger will increase video and broadband choices for consumers like me because the combined company will provide increased competition to cable companies. Mergers in the tech sector in my opinion are always good, because it enables simplification, sharing of technology (we can accomplish more when we work together), and better coverage.

The combined company will be a much stronger competitor to cable operators by being able to offer me local TV channels via satellite in my market area, which I currently do not receive.

I currently have broadband access to the Internet, but the combination of EchoStar and HUGHES will result in increased competition in the broadband market by providing an affordable high-speed Internet service nationwide via satellite. Line based utilities such as cable have DOUBLED IN PRICE in past 5-10 years so they need some serious competition.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Nathan Meryash
WPI Box# 246 100 Institute Rd
Worcester, MA 01609