

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I urge you to support the merger of DirectTV and Dish Network. The reason I went to dish service to begin with is that I was not happy with my local cable provider. I cannot understand why we continue to allow the cable operators to have the upper hand. I should be able to choose the service I feel best meets my needs. For me, that has been via satellite dish.

The one drawback for me with the satellite dish is that the two networks do not have the same available programming. A good example is the NBA package. My dish provider does not have access to that package.

One last piece of input -- why do blackout rules for sporting events apply nationally? I can see that a sporting event is available on my dish, but because I'm in Illinois and the event is in California I'm not allowed to watch it. I don't think that is appropriate.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

Mike Peterson
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