

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

As a customer of DIRECTV, I am writing to urge you to NOT support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. I DO NOT believe the merger will increase video and broadband choices for consumers like me as there will be fewer choices for service.

The combined company will be able to dictate higher rates and service content. In areas where there is no cable service and poor local coverage, there will be no other choice.

There is no proof that 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. In my areas where neither DSL nor cable service is available, I'd be at the whim of the combined company's billing decisions for broadband internet service.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Mike Atchley  
1781 Morning Terrace Drive  
Chino Hills, CA 91709