

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

DO NOT SUPPORT THE PENDING MERGER OF EchoStar (Dish Network) and HUGHES (DirectTV).

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 believe that while the merger may increase video and broadband choices for consumers like me, I believe more strongly that it will reduce competition in the satellite market.

The combined company will reduce competition and will allow the resulting company to behave in the same consumer hostile manner that has created the myriad of consumer complaints with the cable industry.

The satellite tv companies have been able to grow and become competitive with cable because they offer much better service than cable. Without the competition they will be another virtual monopoly like the cable companies. At the present time I have three choices, DirectTV, Dish Network and AT&T cable. The merger will reduce my choices to 2. After the merger it will be a race to the bottom to see who can offer the least for the highest fee.

PLEASE VOTE AGAINST THE MERGER.

Dish Network has promised that they will provide all consumers with replacement products for there existing equipment. I do not believe that this is possible. I currently have a TIVO system on DirectTV. As far as I know TIVO is not available with DishNetwork. Will they replace my TIVO unit, a \$500 receiver, with a new digital recording system? Or will they replace it with a \$50 reciever? I purchase a lifetime subscription to TIVO. Will Dish Network honor this subscription?

Because of the TIVO unit I must multiswitch at least 5 outputs from my satellite. The DishNetwork systems only allow up to 4. Will they update their hardware so I can keep my 5 outputs?

Again. PLEASE DO NOT SUPPORT THIS MERGER!!!

IT IS JUST ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR BIG BUSINESS TO SCREW THE AMERICAN CONSUMER.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Chris Havelick
5343 S Holland St
Littleton, CO 80123