

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 reject the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. I believe the merger will decrease video and broadband choices for consumers like me.

The combined company will be a much less responsive monopoly in areas not serviced by cable operators, and will have no incentive to innovate and reduce costs after the initial promotions to support the merger. Additionally, the claim that they will upgrade every customer does not address the fact the Hughes permits competition in set-top boxes while dish network does not. This will shut out options for consumers.

I currently have broadband access to the Internet, and the combination of EchoStar and HUGHES is unlikely to result in increased competition in the broadband market due to the high-latency and low-availability of satellite internet services.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Dana Canfield
5813 Beacon Cove Way
Indianapolis, IN 46237