

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 REJECT the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. Although I am not a DIRECTV customer, I believe the merger will do nothing more than grant a virtual monopoly lock on satellite television services for consumers. DISH and DirectTV product quality and customer service have been on a steady decline for the past 24 months. By allowing the two companies to merge, you will remove any incentive the direct broadcast satellite industry might have to act in a pro-consumer manner.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Dan Berkes
24383 Thomas Avenue
Hayward, CA 94544