

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 OPPOSE the merger of EchoStar and Hughes. This merger would create a monopolistic situation with a single digital satellite provider. DirectTV and Dish Network claim that cable provides competition, thus justifying their merger. This is not so, because cable television is not a competitive industry. Cable rates are unreasonably high, due to their exclusive deals with the municipalities they serve. Reducing the number of digital satellite providers to one will only enable the DirectTV/Dish Network combined service to raise their rates closer to the same unreasonable prices that cable television providers have been charging for several years. As an urban resident, I also do not find large and unsightly C-band satellite equipment to be a viable option. We need competition in DSS digital satellite service in order to keep the service a good consumer value.

Chris Wilde  
New Brighton, MN

Sincerely,

Christopher Wilde  
2952 16th St NW  
New Brighton, MN 55112