

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am a rural subscriber to dish network because I live in an area surrounded by bluffs beside Tryol Basin Ski hill. In the three years I have lived here, neither myself nor any of my neighbors have ever been able to get local Madison channels via antenna... and THERE IS NO CABLE SERVICE OFFERED HERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I THINK IT IS ABSOLUTELY RIDICULOUS THAT PEOPLE LIVING IN RURAL AREAS WHO CANNOT GET LOCAL STATIONS VIA ANTENNA OR CABLE ARE LEFT WITHOUT ANY ACCESS TO ANY LOCAL TV PROGRAMMING... and PLEASE don't think that people in our position can get any relief by applying for a waver. That is a complete joke! The fact that I live 15 miles from Madison does NOT mean I can put up a tower tall enough to get watchable local channels on an antenna! I've tried! At great expense, I might add. Geographic terrain is NOT taken into account in the waver process!!!!!! So, take a reality pill!

HOW LONG WILL THIS BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE? How long will YOU allow the CABLE COMPANIES to have a STRANGLE-HOLD ON A RURAL CUSTOMERS RIGHT TO VIEW THEIR LOCAL TV STATIONS?!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

GET OFF YOUR DUFFS AND DO WHATEVER YOU HAVE TO DO TO GET RURAL PEOPLE THEIR LOCAL STATIONS. THIS IS ABSOLUTELY DISGUSTING.

If you don't like this merger, you should be willing to do whatever else is necessary to allow the individual satellite providers to carry the local signals. EITHER THAT OR FORCE CABLE PROVIDERS TO OFFER SERVICE TO EVERYONE!!!!!!!!!!!!!! (I'd bet cable providers would suddenly let the satellites offer local programming if the cable company's suddenly HAD to provide service to EVERYONE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!)

What the heck is wrong with you people? And yes. I AM ANGRY!!!!!! So get off your butt and represent the PEOPLE'S best interests.

Sincerely,

Robin Rouby
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