

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

Dear Sir,

I am a member of your constituency living in Bartlett Illinois. I was a cable television subscriber for many years but have become dissatisfied with cable TV's programming, adoption of digital television (HDTV) and every increasing cost.

I believe that allowing DirectTV and Echostar to merge will be beneficial to the end consumer. Competition is the engine that continues to drive our economy and a combined satellite service will foster healthy competition on the cable industry and ultimately result in better service for the entire nation.

I agree that significant benefits to consumers will result from a merged Echostart-DirectTV satellite company. The merger will free up spectrum for a single satellite provider to offer local service in all DMAs, add additional content, and significant HDTV bandwidth. These benefits by themselves warrant approval of the pending merger. In addition these advantages will put competitive pressures on the cable industry.

In conclusion, I am seeking your support for the merger of Echostart and DirectTV.

Sincerely,

Steven Upp
331 Wentworth
Bartlett, IL 60103