

**the national tax limitation committee**  
151 N. Sunnyside Ave., Suite 100  
Roseville, California 95666

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HON. MICHAEL POWELL  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
445 12th St., SW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20554



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01-348

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02-1081291

May 14, 2002

Hon. Michael Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CS Docket No. 01-348

Dear Commissioner Powell:

Americans are confronted with a variety of taxes and fees imposed by government directly and indirectly. Personal income, gasoline, excise and other taxes are obvious. Less conspicuous are the costs of government regulation—and the costs associated with regulatory delay that keeps prices of goods and services higher than they should be.

It is with the benefits of competition in mind that we urge immediate approval of the merger between EchoStar and DirecTV, because the merged company would be better able to compete in the overall telecommunications market. Any delay in this merger results in a hidden tax (a continuation of higher prices) on customers.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

LEWIS K. UHLER

May 15, 2002

Account Services Department  
PO Box 20584  
Lehigh Valley, PA 18002

Re: Account #57-00043933

To Whom It May Concern:

I appreciate the account summaries recently mailed to me in response to my request for documentation of the amount allegedly owed by me to Worldcom Wireless. The summaries, however, fail to show how I owe your company any payment. The summaries (as best as I could tell) cover a three month period spanning February 2002 - April 2002. These summaries are irrelevant given that I requested that this cellular phone be deactivated on October 11, 2001. Had I known that it would be necessary, I would have kept better records of my phone calls, but to the best of my recollection here is what transpired:

1. In early and mid 2001 I received letters from Thomas Barton, Vice President of Customer Service at Worldcom Wireless stating that because of pending enhancements to your billing system, customers' bills were being delayed.
2. Suddenly, in September of 2001 I received a collection notice warning that if I did not pay my outstanding bill my phone would be deactivated.
3. On September 28, 2001 I spoke to Tonya Morris and asked the amount necessary to pay my account in full. I decided to do a "check by phone" in the amount she indicated - \$211.36. That check #3502 cleared my account on October 17, 2001.
4. Fed up with Worldcom's poor service, I decided to switch carriers. On October 11, 2001 I called and spoke with a Johnathon who informed me that I was no longer under contract with Worldcom and could deactivate the phone at any time.
5. On October 15, 2001 I spoke with Andre Manifold and requested deactivation. He informed me that he was not able to perform this function, but gave me the phone number for the department that could. I immediately called the number and spoke with a woman who carried out the deactivation for me. Unfortunately, I do not have the name of the woman I spoke to, but subsequently account representatives have confirmed for me that there is a notation on my account showing my request for deactivation.
6. I opened a VoiceStream Wireless account two days later.

I agree that I may owe Worldcom for the period September 28 - October 15, 2001. If you will please send me a bill for this period, I will gladly pay it. I will not, however, pay for a cellular phone that (as far as I am concerned) has not been in service for eight months. I look forward to