

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 you today as a current satellite TV subscriber who would like to add my voice of support to the pending merger of EchoStar and DIRECTV. The combination of these two satellite providers will provide numerous benefits to consumers like me, including more choices in channels, programming, broadband and new television technologies.

By merging, the combined company will be a much stronger competitor to cable television and can offer more programming choices and, most importantly, all local TV channels in every market in the U.S. By providing local TV channels everywhere, this merger will make satellite television a strong alternative to cable in our community. Throughout the country, people will now be able to turn to satellite TV to access their local news, weather and community information, in addition to a comprehensive package of national video programming. But just as exciting, the merger will bring the availability of affordable high-speed Internet service by satellite to over 40 million Americans who don't have high-speed Internet access. These tremendous benefits to consumers won't happen without the merger. Satellite-delivered Internet service will bring an affordable and competitive alternative to cable modems and DSL to consumers in big cities, small towns and rural areas alike. This will give me a competitive choice for Internet access and will be especially advantageous to rural communities where cable modems and DSL are not likely to be available anytime in the near future.

In the interest of improving our access to competitive television and Internet service, I urge you to lend your support to this merger. As an appendage

I read with agast that the FCC turned down the merger application. In today's high tech we send tv signals all over the world society 'I find it totally unjustifiable to reject this merger. We are a free people and freedom of choice is one of them and my cable company could never provide to me for my hard earned dollar the programming choices available to me now and with the merger even more of what our info demanding lifestyles seek. We have the chance to provide digital signals to every tv set in America and you want us to go back to the 1950's w/ off air antennas again by defeating this merger.

I believe you all need to rethink your strategy in Wash., and give the American viewing public all over this great nation a choice of how and where to get television signals. You approved digital radio as XM and SIRIUS are up and running which is a real waste as I spend more time at home than in my car and those two outfits haven't got the foresight to think of home reception. They think we all live in our vehicles 24/7. So please do the American public the largest favor you could ever do and pass this resolution to let EchoStar and Direct TV merge, We are in the digital age and analog is going to be a thing of the past. Please do not stand in its way. My God digital signals are all over Europe, This great nation is 200 years old and I find it hard to think the FCC is still in the dark ages. Please heed the American tv viewers who are also American taxpayers. Thank you.

Sincerely,

david lascko

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