

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 am writing to urge you to support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. I am looking forward to viewing all national choice selection of local channels at a sitting by a viewer in any part of nation so as not to depend upon 'Fox Network' for up to the moment news. Bottomline open allstates local channels to be viewed from any state in the United States.

The combined company will be a much stronger competitor to cable operators by being able to offer me a substantial number of local TV channels via satellite in my market area.

Broadband access to the Internet is not available to me at this time and this issue is not important as offering channels such as Amber Alert, Civil Defense, Global Communication Network. If the merger is approved, the new company will be able to provide me with affordable high-speed Internet access via satellite along with the other 40 million American households who do not have affordable high-speed Internet access now.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Michael O Connell
15631 Loma Vista Avenue
Los Gatos, CA 95032