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OCT 24 2002

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Mr. Michael K. Powell, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I would like to express my support for the merger proposal between **Hughes** and **EchoStar**. The Federal Communications Commission is **currently** considering the merger between **these two** companies. **As an Iowa REALTOR@**, I view this merger **as a great** opportunity to **bring** a much needed, innovative service to Iowa homeowners.

These two satellite providers have worked together to form a partnership that **would** bring high-speed Internet access and a wide menu of pay-TV offerings to **the often** forgotten rural population in America. **Many Iowa** homeowners are **frustrated** because they do **not** have access to these **new** technology options. This merger would provide them with the services they want, as well as, give them additional tools to create **new** opportunities for **their** communities.

It is important to ensure that **rural areas** have **equal access** to the types of technology that benefit **our** larger metropolitan **areas**. I believe **this innovative** idea **will** benefit the people of **Iowa**, and would **ask** for your **support** of this merger with the **FCC**. I appreciate your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Donald Maupel

*Mel Foster
Davenport, IA*



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