

IOWA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS



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Mr. Michael K. Powell, **Chairman**  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I would like to convey my **support** for the EchoStar and Hughes Electronics merger proposal that **the** Federal Communications Commission is considering.

As a **REALTOR®** in Iowa, I have seen **many changes** take place in the real estate profession over the **years**. **One** of those changes is the need for better and **faster technology** regardless of where you live. **Currently, our rural areas are suffering** because they do not have the tools available **to** advance **with** technology.

I **am** writing to **ask** for **your** support of **this** merger so we can give the smaller communities **the** opportunity to thrive in a global marketplace. **This** merger **will** allow consumers who **currently have** no choices in high-speed **Internet**, or **even** local **Internet dial-ups** to be provided **with** options for the technology that most **urban** areas already have.

I believe if **the** FCC approves this merger, it will provide an important **tool** for rural **Iowans and the businesses** that **serve** them.

Sincerely,  
*Karen J. Utz*

*Mel Foster  
Davenport, IA*



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