

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 not to support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. I believe the merger will decrease video and broadband choices for consumers like me.

The combined company will be a huge monopoly with no competition. I believe that this will ultimately result in higher prices and less choice than we currently have. Local station access is not THAT important to me. I'd rather have the option I now have of both the East and West Coast feeds of the networks as it allows me to watch shows that would normally be on too late in an earlier, more desirable time slot.

Broadband via satellite is still much too expensive and suffers from weather-related signal degradation far too much to make it a viable alternative to the majority of consumers in my region. Installation charges are exorbitant when compared to DSL and other broadband options. I don't foresee these charges diminishing by allowing the two companies to merge. I strongly urge you to deny the merger.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Gina Emory
1710 Roundhouse Circle
sandpoint, ID 83864