

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 believe the merger will increase video and broadband choices for consumers like me.

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. Please note that the local cable company, Cox Cable, is my only choice and their price for a similar product is nearly 2 1/2 times DirectTV. When looking at a monopoly situation you must include cable and satellite into the equation. Looking merely, at the 2 satellite services is doing a disservice to me.

I currently have broadband access to the Internet, but the combination of EchoStar and HUGHES will result in increased competition in the broadband market by providing an affordable high-speed Internet service nationwide via satellite.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Barry Morrill  
743 W. 11th St. #1  
San Pedro, CA 90731