

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

Hello, I am a local installer of both Dish Network and Directv, and have been for a few years, I live and work in Mississippi, which is a prominent rural state, which means that most of my customers live in rural areas without the availability of cable, and as far as off-air antenna, the quality is very poor for most people....

If this merger meant that EVERYONE could have local stations, as well as broadband internet access, I believe that it would quadruple the potential of revenues here in this state as well as others, and make A Lot of pleased customers across the nation.

For the most part, I would honestly believe that the cable market could actually have fair competition, I mean satellite has the better deal all day long, but I cannot offer any type of local networks, which kills my possibility of availability in Jackson and surrounding areas supported by cable systems.... As far as NRTC, I have worked for them before also (Pegasus), and to have the ability to charge a customer more money for the exact same thing due to zip code, is a rip-off.

Thank you for reading this letter, I know I am only but a mear voice, but I represent a lot of people in my idealisms.

I am writing to urge you to support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. Although I am not a DIRECTV customer, I believe the merger will increase video and broadband choices for consumers like me because the combined company will provide increased competition to cable companies.

The combined company will be a much stronger competitor to cable operators by being able to offer me local TV channels via satellite in my market area, which I currently do not receive.

Broadband access to the Internet is not available to me at this time. 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,

franklin martin
6300 jackson raymond rd
raymond, MS 39154