

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to urge you to DENY the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. Although I am not a DIRECTV customer, I believe the merger will NOT increase video and broadband choices for consumers like me because the combined company will NOT provide increased competition to cable companies. Satellite providers are pirates, in their own right.

The combined company will NOT 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 receive via antenna, anyway! These arrogant people believe that they can charge a king's ransom for something that should be free. I OPPOSE any type of MONOPOLY, and this is yet another.

DENY THIS MONOPOLISTIC MERGER, PLEASE!

I currently HAVE all of the broadband access that I can handle, via conventional DSL, as do many other people in this country, wether it be via DSL, or cable modem. If the merger is approved, the new company will NOT be able to provide me with affordable high-speed Internet access via satellite.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

pip martin  
123 anywhere street  
greenbow, AL 21186