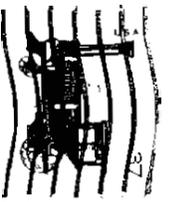
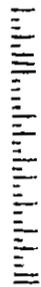


The Powers  
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Chairman Michael Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554



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September 17, 2002

Chairman Michael Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael Powell,

I am writing to urge you to strengthen, not repeal, the few remaining rules that prevent near total concentration of ownership in the clutches of a few corporations. The current domination of the radio, broadcast and newspaper industries by a handful of companies is already damaging our democracy. Already dramatically loosened over the past decade, ownership restrictions that, for example, keep a single television network from owning stations that broadcast to more than 35 percent of the nation's homes or a single company from owning more than eight radio stations in the same market, are critically important if we are to protect our nation from the very real dangers of media monopolies.

As America's Founding Fathers understood, a free, diverse and vigorous press is a necessary bedrock foundation for a functioning democracy. In recent decades, however, responsible news coverage and the presentation of a broad range of political views have become increasingly threatened. Corporate chains now control nearly all radio and television stations. Massive budget cutbacks for news departments, the dumbing-down of political coverage, and even dangerous demagoguery have become the norm in America's mainstream media.

Those private interests who support getting the FCC's media ownership regulations point to new media avenues like cable television and the Internet. Here, too, however, we find the same handful of familiar names dominating what information the vast majority of Americans receive on a daily basis. The massive telecommunications lobby defends repeal of ownership regulations as a source of new business "efficiencies," yet it is the FCC's responsibility to defend the rights of consumers not corporations.

As part of your 90-day comment period, I am asking you to stand up for the free marketplace of ideas supported by a free, diverse and independent press by supporting and strengthening current limits on media ownership consolidation.

I also want to urge you in the strongest way to reach out to ordinary citizens to hear their views, rather than to the well-paid lobbyists of those who stand to benefit financially from changing the FCC's rules.

I look forward to bearing where you stand on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Dorrie Powell



Dorrie Powell



Mr. & Mrs. Martin Straka  
W8460 County Rd. 356  
Stephenson, MI 49887-8361



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FCC CHAIRMAN MICHAEL POWELL

445 12TH ST SW

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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FCC: CHAIRMAN MICHAEL H. POWELL

445 12<sup>th</sup> ST SW

Washington, D C 20554

October 7, 2002

Dear Chairman Powell

We live in rural Michigan and rely on satellite for television reception and programming.

We oppose a merger of DIRECTV & ECHO STAR. We can foresee a satellite TV monopoly if such a merger takes place. We pay plenty for programming already and do not want to see one company dictate what we watch and how much we have to pay.

Many of us in this neighborhood are in the 55-75-age bracket and subscribe to either DIRECTV or DISH NETWORK and live on a fixed income. Please see what you can do to help protect our interests.

THANK YOU

Sincerely yours,

MARTIN & Joyce STRAKA W8460 Co. Rd. 356 Stephenson MI  
Theresa & Phil Kosowski W8435 CR 356 Stephenson MI  
Sherwin & Sharon Wilson W8524 Co Rd 356 Stephenson MI

Bob & Michelle Urbane N16844 Veaser Rd. Wilson, MI

Dennis & Elizabeth Urbane 1411 14<sup>th</sup> Rd Bark River MI

Walter & Josephine Lakay W8449 Co. Rd. 356 Stephenson, MI.

Paul & Rose 177879 Z-1 Rd Stephenson, MI.

Ronald & Joan Swanson 10379 Old 356 Stephenson, MI 49887

Ken & Kim Marcussen W8165 Co Rd 356 Stephenson, MI