

I write this in complete opposition to the proposed sale of the 61.5 orbital "DBS" slot from Rainbow DBS Company, LLC to EchoStar Satellite, LLC. Transferring ownership of this slot to EchoStar would clearly not be in the best interests of consumers. Just as the proposed merger of EchoStar and DirectTV a number of years back, this proposed merger of DBS systems would provide a significant reduction in High-Definition capabilities to the viewers of the United States. Given the direction of the country to embrace High-Definition as set forth by the FCC, and the fact that transferring the Rainbow DBS satellite into the EchoStar fleet would eliminate nearly all of the current HD channels provided by Rainbow DBS (as stated by the CEO of Echostar himself in numerous press releases concerning EchoStar's stance on HD), we feel that it would be an unacceptable use of capable DBS broadcasting facilities over the airwaves.