

I respectfully request you deny the proposed sale of Rainbow 1 satellite and uplink center and transfer of licenses to Echostar. VOOM is currently using these assets and licenses to bring a needed alternative source of HDTV programming to the nation that the other two competitors have refused to do. VOOM offers the DBS market a much needed 3rd competitor because if the subject assets are transferred to Echostar many of the HDTV channels such as Starz, Cinemax, TMC, etc. will have no DBS delivery service available. Echostar's Charlie Ergen has stated repeatedly that he will not offer these other HDTV channels because he "finds them not compelling." DirectTV has simply ignored answering our requests for these channels. VOOM is our only resource. Additionally, VOOM has offered a unique collection of original genre channels of it's own that offer an alternative outlet for HDTV programming that is available and the other two competing DBS services have not made an equal effort to distribute this programming.

If the FCC allows this sale, it would put an undue burden on both the new VOOM HD LLC company as well as all of its current customers that would be forced to seek other reception alternatives. Allowing this sale and transfer of licenses could force VOOM out of business and force the many voters to lose their investment in equipment purchases as well. Please deny this petition of Echostar to acquire these assets.