

The sale of the satellite to Echostar will remove the only major DBS satellite system with a HDTV focus. The sale is a huge step backwards to the adoption of HDTV as a national standard.

It is unclear that Echostar will promote HDTV. As an Echostar past customer, I had stopped service twice due their lack of commitment to provide HDTV broadcast. In any given day in the San Francisco Bay Area, OTA HDTV broadcast overwhelm Echostar's offering.

Recommend the sale to proceed only if (1) Echostar maintains the level of HDTV service like Voom or (2) Echostar made available to Voom usage of the satellite to support existing and future customers until Cablevision's first of 4 satellites from Lockheed Martin is operational.