

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

To all my elected officials:

You will note that this is not a form letter and these are my own words. I say to you now, that having a firm knowledge of the relevant technology relating to cable TV and satellite TV, and as someone who is generally opposed to mergers, I clearly view this merger as the exception to the rule because I SUPPORT the Echostar Dish Network Direct TV merger because it is the ONLY thing that will bring TRUE level playing field competition to the monstrous cable TV companies. I have ALWAYS been dis-satisfied with cable TV service over the last 20 year, but it wasn't until satellite that I had the choice NOT to keep paying the high price for little service and the continuing rate hikes.

Cable has a SIGNIFICANT advantage compared to satellite relating to the bandwidth or ability to offer more channels and video on demand and internet access such that the only way satellite can compete is to allow a merger that would bring comparable bandwidth available to satellite. IF this merger is NOT permitted, it would be the bidding of the Time Warner's and AT&T's and Rupert Murdoch's and other mega entities who want less competition and who also want--such as Time Warner's HBO--to deny satellite customers the critical mass--large numbers of subscribers--needed to keep satellite bills as low and competitive as possible. Look, I don't like the idea of all these obscene mergers in that past, but YOU allowed these giants to come into existence, and now you have a situation where ONE company owns the Cable TV franchise AND OWNS the programming on that and competitor's franchise and on and on. Tell me, how is Echostar anywhere NEAR as ubiquitous as those who are stopping at nothing--apparently loudmouth members of the FCC have been saying everything they can to declare the merger 'dead' before they even meet to vote--to keep things just the way they like them.

Satellite is doing a much better job of providing reliable quality service at reasonable prices, and now you might just put a stop to that?

Consider the fact that cable is running mad in the streets not knowing what to do about the competition. I received a call from my old cable TV company promising me even CASH to come back to them. When has that ever happened before? NEVER, that's when. And that is a good thing to start happening.

Now, cable is gearing for a host of additional services that either Direct TV or Echostar CAN NOT EVER (if you really understand the technology, which I doubt you do) offer except as a merged entity with combined bandwidth and satellite orbital positions. Quite honestly, if you prevent this merger, you will hand EVERYTHING over to the mammoth mega cable TV companies. Imagine, the government guaranteeing cable TV NO equal competition.

And by the way, I do VOTE.

Let's not do Rupert Murdoch and Time AOL or any other of those mammoth entities any more favors. They are doing quite well enough, thanks to you. Now, let's do something for the people, the consumers, your constituency, and get this merger moving and approved so that we can see cable AND satellite go at each other and consumers benefit with improved service, innovation, and lower, or at least, less raised prices.

Don't allow yourself to be a stooge for Rupert or his kind. I trust you will do the right thing. I'm hoping you have a better understanding of what's at stake.

Sincerely,

Paul Medina  
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