

As an employee of Dish Network, I oppose the merger of Direct Tv/Dish Network. Due to the fact that Dish Network's upper and executive management, acts as a dictatorship towards its employees, mainly its satellite technicians. The resignation of many employees and lower level managers have been forced, pay rates have been cut, while prices have increased. They have been trying to convince their employees, that they have acquired a higher base pay, but in fact many employees stand to make at least 20% less than they did in 2001, with the 1-3% annual increases that were given. Dish Network is overbooking work and cutting back on experienced manpower. They have threatened contractors with less work if they hire any experienced installers previously employed by Dish Network. They have seen an increase in damage claims, because of their hiring of inexperienced installers and non-caring sub-contractors. Their training of new installers consist of reading a manual for a week, then sending them out into the field with other installers that have less than a year's experience in most cases.

Dish Network opposes any kind of Union workforce, and continually gives out 15-20 hours of work and driving to each installer, expecting it to be completed within a 10-hour period. If this merger were approved, it would more than double the workload on a depleted, and mostly inexperienced staff of installers.

This dictatorship must not be allowed to grow by allowing this merger. Consumers need to be protected from a company that has such a high employee turnover rate. Because when a company shows it doesn't care for its employees, you better believe that guy out putting the dish on your house that works for this company doesn't care either.

In closing, this merger would cause problems for consumers by not having an option of more than one satellite provider, and the possibility of damages to their property by inexperienced installers or sub-contractors. It would also be a problem for satellite technicians only having the option of one satellite company to work for.