

HUGHES ELECTRONICS CORP
Form 425
April 19, 2002

Filed by EchoStar Communications Corporation
Pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act of 1933
and deemed filed pursuant to Rule 14a-12
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Subject Companies: Hughes Electronics Corporation,
General Motors Corporation,
and EchoStar Communications Corporation
Commission File No. 333-84472
Date: April 19, 2002

The North Dakota invitation and Pennsylvania press release set forth below were distributed.

[ECHOSTAR LOGO]

[HUGHES LOGO]

**Local Channels and Competitive Broadband
for All Consumers in North Dakota**

**ECHOSTAR AND HUGHES OFFICIALS
COMING TO NORTH DAKOTA**

Please Join Us for a Demonstration of
Satellite-Delivered Broadband Internet Access
and Television Technology
That will be Available to North Dakotans
If the merger of EchoStar and Hughes Electronics
is Completed

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**Tuesday, April 23, 2002 ~ 11:30 am**  
The Harold Schafer Leadership Center on the University of Mary  
campus in Bismarck, North Dakota  
7500 University Drive, Bismarck  
~ A light lunch will be provided ~

Representatives of EchoStar and DirecTV will demonstrate the  
benefits of satellite-delivered high-speed Internet access and television programming.

For additional information contact Darrin Lee at 701-471-4321 or email [dlee@GreatPlainsGroup.com](mailto:dlee@GreatPlainsGroup.com)

In connection with the proposed transactions, on March 18, 2002, General Motors Corporation ( GM ), HEC Holdings, Inc. ( Hughes Holdings ) and EchoStar Communications Corporation ( EchoStar ) filed preliminary materials with the Securities and Exchange Commission ( SEC ), including a Registration Statement of Hughes Holdings on Form S-4 that contains a consent solicitation statement/information statement/prospectus. These materials are not yet final and will be amended. Holders of GM \$1-2/3 and GM Class H common stock are urged to read the definitive versions of these materials, as well as any other relevant documents filed or that will be filed with the SEC, as they become available, because these documents contain or will contain important information. The preliminary materials filed on March 18, 2002, the

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definitive versions of these materials and other relevant materials (when they become available), and any other documents filed by GM, Hughes Electronics Corporation ( Hughes ), Hughes Holdings or EchoStar with the SEC may be obtained for free at the SEC's website, www.sec.gov, and GM stockholders will receive information at an appropriate time on how to obtain transaction-related documents for free from GM.

GM and its directors and executive officers, Hughes and certain of its officers, and EchoStar and certain of its executive officers may be deemed to be participants in GM's solicitation of consents from the holders of GM \$1-2/3 common stock and GM Class H common stock in connection with the proposed transactions. Information regarding the participants and their interests in the solicitation was filed pursuant to Rule 425 with the SEC by EchoStar on November 1, 2001 and by each of GM and Hughes on November 16, 2001. Investors may obtain additional information regarding the interests of the participants by reading the preliminary consent solicitation statement/information statement/prospectus filed with the SEC on March 18, 2002 and the definitive consent solicitation statement/information statement/prospectus when it becomes available.

This communication shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. No offering of securities shall be made except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Materials included in this document contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause our actual results to be materially different from historical results or from any future results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. The factors that could cause actual results of GM, EchoStar, Hughes, or a combined EchoStar and Hughes, to differ materially, many of which are beyond the control of EchoStar, Hughes, Hughes Holdings or GM include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) the businesses of EchoStar and Hughes may not be integrated successfully or such integration may be more difficult, time-consuming or costly than expected; (2) expected benefits and synergies from the combination may not be realized within the expected time frame or at all; (3) revenues following the transaction may be lower than expected; (4) operating costs, customer loss and business disruption including, without limitation, difficulties in maintaining relationships with employees, customers, clients or suppliers, may be greater than expected following the transaction; (5) generating the incremental growth in the subscriber base of the combined company may be more costly or difficult than expected; (6) the regulatory approvals required for the transaction may not be obtained on the terms expected or on the anticipated schedule; (7) the effects of legislative and regulatory changes; (8) an inability to obtain certain retransmission consents; (9) an inability to retain necessary authorizations from the FCC; (10) an increase in competition from cable as a result of digital cable or otherwise, direct broadcast satellite, other satellite system operators, and other providers of subscription television services; (11) the introduction of new technologies and competitors into the subscription television business; (12) changes in labor, programming, equipment and capital costs; (13) future acquisitions, strategic partnership and divestitures; (14) general business and economic conditions; and (15) other risks described from time to time in periodic reports filed by EchoStar, Hughes or GM with the Securities and Exchange Commission. You are urged to consider statements that include the words may, will, would, could, should, be, estimates, projects, potential, expects, plans, anticipates, intends, continues, forecast, designed, goal, or the negative of the comparable words to be uncertain and forward-looking. This cautionary statement applies to all forward-looking statements included in this document.

### **[ECHOSTAR LOGO]**

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### **[HUGHES LOGO]**

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El Segundo, CA 90245-0946

**For Immediate Release**

April 19, 2002

Contact: Kristin Argento

717.214.2200

## ***Local Channels and Affordable Broadband Everywhere in Pennsylvania***

*EchoStar and DIRECTV present benefits of merger to Pennsylvania*

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Harrisburg, PA Yesterday EchoStar Communications Corporation and Hughes Electronics Corporation hosted a demonstration for key legislative staff, opinion leaders and members of the press, showcasing satellite-delivered digital television and high-speed Internet access. Senior executives from EchoStar and Hughes explained how the proposed merger between EchoStar Communications Corporation and Hughes Electronics DIRECTV will make local TV channels available to every resident in Pennsylvania.

All 11 television markets in Pennsylvania will have access to their local television channels via satellite, which does not currently exist, enabling a fully competitive cable alternative if the merger is approved.

Consumers across the country will pay the same price for their Direct Broadcast Satellite services regardless of where they reside.

The merger will also bridge the digital divide in Pennsylvania by providing consumers in every community with a competitively priced high speed broadband solution, states Arunas Sleky, senior executive of Hughes Electronics.

EchoStar Communications Corporation and Hughes Electronics Corporation announced the signing of definitive agreements that provide for the spin-off of Hughes from GM and the merger of Hughes with EchoStar on October 28, 2001.

For more information, please contact Kristin Argento at 717.214.2200.

DISH Network is a trademark of EchoStar Communications Corporation. DISH Network is EchoStar's state-of-the-art direct broadcast satellite TV system that is capable of offering over 500 channels of digital video and CD-quality audio programming, as well as advanced satellite TV receiver hardware and

installation. EchoStar is included in the Nasdaq-100 Index (NDX). DISH Network currently serves over 7 million customers. For more information, contact 1-800/333-DISH (3474) or visit [www.dishnetwork.com](http://www.dishnetwork.com).

DIRECTV is the nation's leading digital satellite television service provider with more than 10.7 million customers. DIRECTV and the Cyclone Design logo are registered trademarks of DIRECTV, Inc., a unit of Hughes Electronics Corporation. HUGHES is the world's leading provider of digital television entertainment, broadband services, satellite-based private business networks, and global video and data broadcasting. The earnings of HUGHES, a unit of General Motors Corporation, are used to calculate the earnings per share attributable to the General Motors Class H common stock (NYSE: GMH). Visit DIRECTV on the World Wide Web at [www.DIRECTV.com](http://www.DIRECTV.com).

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