



With the pending announcement of the deal to make Extra Innings exclusively available only on DirecTV as soon as tomorrow, word comes late this evening that the FCC is investigating the proposed deal through a statement released by Sen. John Kerry (D-MA).

The promise for the investigation came from FCC Chairman Kevin Martin, in a letter to Kerry that was received today.

The letter ( [see a scan of the complete letter here &ndash; PDF](#) ) reads in part:

&quot;I share your concerns regarding this proposed deal.&quot;

&quot;I am concerned whenever consumers cannot purchase the programming they want or are forced to purchase programming they don't want,&quot; Martin wrote.

The letter then goes on to read:

“As you requested, we have contacted the parties and requested additional information about their proposed agreement. Once we have this information, we will report to you on the deal’s implications for consumers and any recommended changes to the law to ameliorate and harms to consumers.”

## FCC Investigating Extra Innings / DirecTV Deal

Written by The Staff

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“This is great news and I appreciate the quick response from Chairman Martin,” Kerry said today. “It’s good to know that he also has concerns about a deal that has the potential to deny choice to so many consumers - all apparently in the interest of a short-term profit for Major League Baseball. I look forward to hearing a full response from the league and from DirecTV, and I remain open to working with them and other colleagues on any and all plans that further options for consumers and make it easier for all of us to enjoy our national pastime.”