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ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORP
Form 8-K
December 10, 2002

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K
CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): December 10, 2002

ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

NEVADA	0-26176	88-0336997
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(IRS Employer Identification No.)

5701 S. SANTA FE DRIVE	80120
LITTLETON, COLORADO	(Zip Code)
(Address of principal executive offices)	

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (303) 723-1000

ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS

On December 10, 2002, EchoStar Communications Corporation ("EchoStar") and General Motors and its subsidiary, Hughes Electronics Corporation ("Hughes"), announced the companies have reached a settlement to terminate the proposed merger of Hughes and EchoStar, effective immediately. See Press Release, dated December 10, 2002, "EchoStar and Hughes Terminate Proposed Merger Agreement; EchoStar pays Hughes \$600 million; Hughes to Keep PanAmSat Interest" attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

Dated: December 10, 2002

By: /s/ Michael R. McDonnell

Michael R. McDonnell,
Senior Vice President Chief Financial
Officer

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
99.1	Press Release "EchoStar and Hughes Terminate Proposed Merger Agreement; EchoStar pays Hughes \$600 million; Hughes to Keep PanAmSat Interest" dated December 10, 2002.