FORM 4

## **UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL             |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:              | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average burden |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| hours per response:      | 0.5       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  VOGEL CARL E  (Last) (First) (Middle)  9601 S. MERIDIAN BLVD.                                      |  |  |   |     |   | Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol     ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORP [     DISH ]      3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)     09/30/2006 |                |     |  |                       |                 |   |                          |      | below)  | able)  |               | 10% Ov<br>Other (s<br>below)<br>Chairman                                 | vner  |  |
|--|--|--|---|-----|---|---|----------------|-----|--|-----------------------|-----------------|---|--------------------------|------|---|--|---------------|--|---|--|
| (Street) ENGLEWOOD CO 80112  (City) (State) (Zip)  |  |  |   |     |   | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)  |                |     |  |                       |                 |   |                          |      | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable ne)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |  |               |  |   |  |
|  | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned |  |   |     |   |   |                |     |  |                       |                 |   |                          |      |   |  |               |  |   |  |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transa Date (Month/E   |  |  |   |     | 2A. Deemed  |   | emed<br>ion Da | te, | 3.<br>Transact<br>Code (Ins                                    | 4. Securition Dispose |                 | ties Acqui<br>I Of (D) (Ir  | red (A)                  | or   | 5. Amoun  | lly  | Form:         | : Direct<br>Indirect<br>str. 4)  | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |  |
|  |  |  |   |     |   |   |                |     | Code   | ,                     | Amount          | (A)<br>(D)  | or P                     | rice | Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)  |  |               |  | (111341.4)  |  |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |  |  |   |     |   |   |                |     |  |                       |                 |   |                          |      |   |  |               |  |   |  |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)  | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security            | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Ye | Cod | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |   |                |     | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                       |                 | 7. Title and Amou<br>of Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Securi<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |                          |      | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)   | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficia<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported | e<br>s<br>dly | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)                 |  |
|  |  |  |   | Cod | de V  | (A)   | (D)            |     | Date<br>Exercisable  | Ex<br>Da              | piration<br>ite | Title   | Amo<br>or<br>Num<br>of S |      |   | Transacti<br>(Instr. 4)  |               |  |   |  |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Buy)   | \$32.74  | 09/30/2006                                 |   | A   |   | 300,0   | 00             |     | (1)  | 09                    | /30/2016        | Class A<br>Commor<br>Stock  | 300                      | ,000 | \$0   | 300,00   | 00            | D  |   |  |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Buy)   | \$32.74  | 09/30/2006                                 |   | A   |   | 150,0   | 00             |     | (2)  | 09                    | /30/2016        | Class A<br>Common<br>Stock  | 150                      | ,000 | \$0   | 150,00   | 00            | D  |   |  |
| Restricted<br>Stock  | (3)  | 10/05/2006                                 |   | A   |   | 50,00   | 0              |     | (4)  | 09                    | /30/2016        | Class A<br>Common<br>Stock  | 50,                      | 000  | \$0   | 50,00  | 0             | D  |   |  |

## Explanation of Responses:

- 1. The grant is subject to achievement of certain performance criteria and will vest at the rate of 10% per year commencing September 30, 2007 until September 30, 2010, and then at the rate of 20% per year thereafter
- 2. The option vests at the rate of 20% per year, commencing on September 30, 2007.
- $3. \ Each unit converts upon vesting into one share of stock, which will be issued to the reporting person immediately upon vesting. \\$
- 4. The grant will vest at the rate of 20% per year commencing September 30, 2007.

## Remarks:

/s/ Carl E. Vogel, by Lori Kalani, his Attorney in Fact

10/06/2006

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- $^{\star}$  If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.