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Mar 1st 2019

Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

The US has fallen from 10th to 20th in average broadband connection speeds. between 2017 and 2018[1]. Further strengthening monopolies like AT&T, or Comcast will further weaken the competition in our market, reduce choices for consumers, and drive up prices for an already sub-standard service.

The FCC should ensure that broadband competition is encouraged. Broadband access is a benefit to the public, and should not be squandered for the sake of a few companies' profit.

[1] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_Internet_connection_speeds

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