

Ardene Anderson  
320A Upper Terrace  
San Francisco CA 94117

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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,

I subscribe to an INDEPENDENT PHONE AND INTERNET PROVIDER!! Why? Because they are local, provide excellent dependable coverage, they have competent, well trained customer service people who speak clearly, knowledgeably and provide answers that work (no "cookbook" for them) and are easily accessible, and the service provided from technical support to billing and DSL connection is affordable.

My experience with ATT was horrendous - and then some. From uncomprehending customer service personnel to accessibility to web and phone service my experience was beyond bad.

Competition should be supported' Consolidation of services serves only the business objectives (money making) of the large corporations, not the individual consumers.

I URGE YOU TO SUPPORT MORE ACTIVE COMPETITION within the communication services world, especially to encourage such agencies that provide broadband services and public radio and tv.

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