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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,

Access to the Internet is essential. Just as the power line delivers energy to keep a family sheltered and fed, an internet connection provides access to information, goods and services that few Americans would opt to live without. Lacking internet is like lacking mobility. You may survive, but life will be considerably more stressful and difficult. Opportunities are diminished and the ability to improve ones circumstances is seriously compromised. I dont know anyone without access to the internet in some form or other. Do you?

Beyond the baseline necessity of providing affordable access, there must be competition among providers to provide superior service to those who are willing and able to pay for it. A competitive marketplace keeps rates reasonable and it encourages innovation in continually evolving technologies. Without competition, I would still be stuck with slow broadband from ATT. Competition offered me the ability to obtain far superior service from a local provider (Sonic) at roughly the same cost.

I urge you to be fair and to be sensible by maintaining an affordable and competitive marketplace for internet service.

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