

Charles Merrill  
151 Dublin Court  
Petaluma CA 94952

Jun 18th 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,

I use a local internet provider that uses fiber optic cable over copper lines and find their service and residential pricing to be competitive with the big companies such as AT&T.

Broadband is critical to our home and small business. Reduction in choice of providers and more concentrated power with the big providers such as AT&T will bring on higher costs to me as a customer.

To be stuck with only one or two providers is not competitive and will definitely lead to more concentration of power.

In our regional area, SONIC is a high quality provider that delivers its service over fiber optic cable and is really great to work with in all respects. Their pricing is competitive, customer service is excellent (and provides jobs for local people) and are a boon to our economy.

We live in a small city of 60,000 and SONIC has just opened up in our part of the city. Before they were able to extend their cable and towers, the only choice we had for internet was AT&T or Comcast. Both are monopolistic and overcharge for their services.

Sincerely,

Charles Merrill