To the Federal Communications Commission:

I am offering up commentary on the 17 – 108 filing which will eradicate the Network Neutrality principles we (everyday people) worked so hard in different ways over the years spearheaded by amazing people such as Aaron Swartz. The fact that those principles even got put into place, in the face of all the opposition by crooked ISP monopolies, was in itself a sort of miracle. Now today, a mere two years later, we face the end of all that was achieved. Is this how we make progress? To simply corrode and eradicate any basic rights involved in any service, good, property, our own bodies, or whatever else there may be to contest and own?

I for one would like to think we have at least started to make the most basic of baby steps towards a world which is less about the consolidation of wealth, power and influence to a tiny portion of the population, while the rest are kept as basically serfs or slaves in almost every way. Of course, in a literal sense, this is simply not true; we are serfs. But in the societal consciousness there was a glimmer of that ideal: of scarcity of resources and information and conglomeration of all types of influence and power, from the sociopolitical and the metaphysical or spiritual (whether by restriction of information or of authority or of responsibility for one’s own actions) to the material goods we use and consume and the societies we build and rely upon, there was that one bright spark of hope.

“Hey, this Internet and the nature of it being principled towards being open and free to all has really helped us, humanity, as a species, in a myriad of different ways. Maybe it’s a good idea we keep it free to use for all and open, no matter whether you’re a billionaire CEO or a homeless dude living on the street?” That sort of thing. Because it has, and it will continue to do so, if we just let it. I could talk about the good, the stupendous, the bad or the ugly, because they’re all there on the internet. But I could never express how much it has changed things over the few decades it’s been alive. Free speech for one, is alive in some sense of the word because of this type of ideal: that everyone has a place in this world, and may have something to say or contribute that is worthwhile to us all.

Now, because of the election of one former Verizon Lawyer as your Chairperson, that stands to change, and doubly quick. Are you going to let him spearhead the consumption of the entire internet by big cable so that it can be the next Pay Per View fight night? Something to think on when the vote on this goes around…