

Brent Merrill
1666 Smith Flat Road
Placerville CA 95667

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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,

When I lived in an area where there were only two providers (telco and cable). the prices were out of control and the service was substandard. The providers did not care, as they had no incentive to do any better.

Once I had the ability to pick a competitive provider, my Internet access is much improved, and the price is reasonable.

The incumbent telcos and the cable companies are already making huge profits. Eliminating the rules that foster competition will only make them richer as they continue to raise prices and no longer have incentive to invest in their networks.

Many years ago, broadband Internet service was considered a luxury, but today, it's a necessity. Many people can do without a hard-wired landline, but few people can survive in today's world without reliable, reasonably fast Internet access.

We recently bought a home at the edge of a smaller city. We assumed that we'd be able to get the same service as our previous residence, but unfortunately, that's not the case. The local cable company refuses to provide service unless we pay \$15K to be hooked up, and the local telco will only offer 1.5 Mbps service. We've tried satellite service, and it also is unreliable. We really need for a local provider to build infrastructure, but if the incumbents can prevent competition, there is no hope for us.

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