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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 am a resident of Palo Alto, CA. My residential telephone service and internet provider (via DSL) until about ten years ago was ATT. The service was technically adequate for the day, but customer support was terrible, reducing my life expectancy each time I was forced to interact with a service representative -- generally a person with non-native command of English based overseas. ATT rates also increased regularly, with no improvement to service. I switched to Sonic, able to purchase local, long-distance and international voice service, DSL internet service, and hosting service for my website, plus superb customer service from reps who had instant fingertip access to all the information needed to troubleshoot problems -- for about 50% less than ATT had been charging. I have been happy ever since, tho I have not yet upgraded to fiber-based internet, though it has recently become available.

Already Comcast has a monopoly on internet service here via cable, which it abuses daily. A return to effective monopoly for voice and fiber-based internet would be a huge step backwards, degrading service and raising prices. I urge the FCC to maintain competitive access to last-mile infrastructure in all communities across the country.

John Haeger