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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,

The 1996 Telecommunications Act is supposed to work by enabling competitive market entry and encouraging new network deployment.

But AT&T and their trade association, US Telecom, have recently petitioned the FCC to take away access to critical unbundled network elements. These unbundled elements are critical last-mile copper and inter-city fiber the very technology that allows competitive ISPs to grow, expand fiber deployment, and compete. Without access to this infrastructure, my ISP is at risk of losing access to a huge portion of its customer base, including me, leading to potentially higher rates, less fiber deployment, and even less options for consumers.

I chose a small ISP for their net neutrality stance, for their superior customer service and for their affordable prices and would hate to be forced back to price-gouging Comcast or AT&T, neither of whom has any respect for customer privacy.

You must reject the US Telecom petition and allow small ISPs to continue in the businesses they've worked so hard to build and allow consumers choice in a competitive broadband market. The alternative is monopolistic. Thank you.

Michael Reilly