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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,

My wife and I are both small business owners and internet consumers, who expect and need to be able to take advantage of competition in the broadband world. Local independent carriers **MUST** be able to remain competitive, and it is your responsibility to make sure that's possible. We currently don't have fiber, and are waiting for our DSL provider, a local independent provider, to be able to deliver it to us, which will happen soon. They also provide our telephone service, thanks to the access they currently have. We strongly believe in supporting local independent businesses, and rely on their connectivity for our own business and personal internet access. Our local provider is also an extremely strong supporter of privacy and consumer protection, which is very important to us.

Do not allow AT&T and US Telecom to take away independent provider access to unbundled network elements, as they have petitioned you to do. It is your duty to prioritize consumer protection and a competitive landscape, and we are counting on you to do so.

Mason Jones