

sascha cohen  
495 3rd Ave  
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94118

Aug 29th 2018

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,

after years of inadequate service and indifferent customer support from a major carrier (AT&T), I selected Sonic ([www.sonic.net](http://www.sonic.net)) as a competitive provider --- receiving low cost, high efficiency services and (really) an unparalleled level of customer service and responsiveness.

As a consumer as well as a small business owner and consultant, it is imperative that a competitive playing field not only remain, but grow in broadband selection and delivery. Without it, personally, I cannot run my tech business effectively, nor act as an informed consumer to receive basic 21st century services for my home and family. The large corporate providers have a vested interest in limiting competition, but that approach hinders my ability as an entrepreneur and business owner to provide my clients with the best service possible, and as a consumer to receive a level of service which we all deserve --- especially at the price points driven by those large carriers.

Prior to being a competitive fiber customer, I was connected via (competitive) DSL --and in direct comparison to my previous DSL service with a large carrier, my costs were reduced by 60%, and my actual service -- measured in throughput capacity, uptime, and reliability -- outperformed my previous service by a factor of 20. Yes: 20 times better than previous, at less than half the cost.

Please do not allow cost increases to drive competition out of the market for internet broadband and telephonic services. Please maintain the existing opportunities for remarkable small competitors like Sonic to provide for their communities. We are counting on you to give us the open and dynamic market that we have come to expect, and hope to see grow.

Thank you.

sascha cohen