

William Yeager
620 Berkeley Ave
Menlo Park CA 94025

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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 have been using Sonic.net for several years for my families Internet connectivity. Prior to this I used AT&T and their IT service was both slow as well as abysmal, while the price including telephone service was much to expensive for even the lowest bandwidth tier.

I have been using the Internet since it was invented, and my family since the late 1990's.

Finding Sonic.net was a blessing. Sonic.net's IT service is rapid and world class; the cost including telephone calls rock bottom; the Internet connectivity is always, yes always up.

I know that 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 allowed local, competitive ISP's to grow, expand fiber deployment, and compete.

To permit such an action to take place will all but kill the competition, drive prices up, and give us the users poorer service. All in all it will be a disaster and lead to a complete dismantling of how, those of us who helped build the Internet in the 1980's and are still ardent users wished it to evolve.

Yes, I am one of these innovators, having invented the multi-protocol, Internet router as well as IMAP at Stanford University in the 1980's. This router software was licensed by cisco systems and launched their company. Ironically, while working at Sun Microsystems, I invented the SIMS message service that was used by AT&T as their initial Internet mail service. I am quite familiar with large carriers and their motivations having visited, given presentations and attended meetings with large operators in the USA as well as everywhere from Paris to Hong Kong.

And as a consequence of many years of use, and work in both research, the IETF, and industry have a deep understanding of what will make the Internet accessible to all Americans. It is what drives capitalism heart. it's open access to local and wide area network components that will in turn maintain a level playing field, and thus create the COMPETITION that is necessary for better Internet service.

Thank you for your consideration.

William Yeager