Dear FCC,

While incumbent ISPs may be providing you with information about how their current practices do not harm consumers, I beg you to reconsider the actual facts. The majority of United States consumers do not have access to broadband as defined by the FCC itself. If they do, it is only by one sole provider, because any other ISPs in the area are not capable of delivering the speeds necessary to qualify as broadband.

Rural broadband cannot be deployed via wireless technology, and should not be considered an option. While wireless technology may *aid* rural users in communicating with farming equipment, or other wireless devices in rural areas, broadband could be delivered via power lines if the FCC were to allow this method to occur. This would allow ISPs to deliver broadband at capable speeds to rural Americans in a timely manner, as power companies already have wire run to these rural locations.

When the FCC speaks about removing Net Neutrality from its books, it threatens the American consumers. ISPs already enforce practices that violate the FCC’s Open Internet order, and without Net Neutrality consumers will have no recourse should ISPs invoke harmful practices. Removing Net Neutrality would be a step in the wrong direction for the United States, and would create an environment similar to AT&T before their Antitrust breakup in the 1980’s. ISPs currently have the capability to not only provide access to the internet, but control what sites are visible to consumers, what content they can consume via their data networks, and are currently charging “Data Cap overages” when consumers view ISPs as “access providers”, not CDNs.

If ISPs continue to charge overages for access, they are creating an environment where users are not simply accessing the data network, they are paying for access to the network, but also the content delivery services they use (Netflix, Hulu, Amazon), Operating System Updates from Microsoft, Apple, Google, Amazon, and this is on top of just browsing the internet and sending/receiving e-mails. This is the equivalent of price-gouging, and would be like the federal government charging taxes for Americans to drive on the Interstate highway system, and then sending them a bill based on how many miles they had driven on the Interstate highway system. It encourages users to not actually utilize the service because they know they will get gouged for actually using the service as intended. ISPs need to find alternative business models that do not involve compensating for their failing television business models.

It is not fair to American consumers that the FCC believes Net Neutrality is a failed idea. Net Neutrality provides a way for consumers to be on even ground with ISPs when it comes to fair access to services. If the FCC repeals Net Neutrality, it will only serve to show how deep the pockets of the telecommunications industry are, and how deep their influence in Washington goes. The FCC is an ***independent*** agency that is supposed to be providing American Consumers with regulations regarding the protection of vital telecommunication services, one of which is Internet access. As an American citizen, it frightens me to see the stranglehold that corporations are putting on so-called “Independent” agencies, and how much control they have over how much Americans pay for what are now being considered vital telecommunications services.

Sincerely,

Joseph Morris