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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,

When I moved across the U.S. in 2011 I checked reviews of Internet providers; a local provider in Northern California, Sonic, was rated higher than the big companies and I tried them out. Their DSL speed was faster than I'd had with a big telecom company in my old city and their responsiveness to requests for support and information was incomparably better.

Last year (2017), in our new neighborhood, I switched our Internet service from a big cable company to Sonic's gigabit fiber when it became available in our area. This time, the speed was a fourfold increase that the big company still hasn't matched. That plus the low cost, and the personalized service were the key to making the switch-over smooth and trouble-free.

Now I understand the big carriers are trying to "deregulate" Internet service in a way that will allow them to raise prices in a way that will force the small local service providers out of the market. This is terrible for us not only because Sonos has earned my loyalty in a way that Verizon and Pactel never did, but because Sonos's agility in adopting new technology has provided benefits that the big companies have yet to do.

I am a retired website developer who now maintains three websites for others free of charge as a volunteer: two for a local artists' nonprofit and one for a musician friend; the latter has now been running for more than 15 years. For this and other volunteer work I do, as well as for my personal use, reliable, fast, low-cost broadband service makes my online work incomparably easier than it used to be. If this so-called anti-competitive "deregulation" moves forward I will vigorously protest to my U.S. Senators and Representative.

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