Timothy Sutherlin

300 E. 92nd Street, Apartment 4A

New York, NY

10128

To the members of the commission:

I am writing to express my absolute and unequivocal opposition to the so-called “Restoring Internet Freedom” proposed rule change. The internet has been a boon to our economy and our democracy. It has become the backbone of our communications systems. If ever there were an example of a “common carrier”, the internet would be it. Please, do not allow the honeyed words of ISPs, who stand to make considerable money by preferencing content, to persuade you to abandon Net Neutrality protections. This would be a grave mistake.

The ISPs already enjoy a highly uncompetitive, sellers’ market, due to ton huge market shares and high barriers of entry. If they were to leverage that market share to benefit subsidiaries, strategic partners, or parent companies, their control of the market for internet service would become control over content and services provided via the internet. They could also charge firms for access to higher speeds. This would create huge barriers of entry for a market place of ideas and technologies that has been a vibrant source of innovation and free exchange of ideas. Ending net neutrality protections would snuff out the promise the internet holds for our future. The free market of the internet could not survive it. Start-ups wouldn’t start. The next great idea would die before people could even hear it.

Please reject this terrible proposal. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

-Tim Sutherlin