

Amy Balsom  
3735 El Centro  
Palo Alto CA 94306

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,

I am a resident in the middle of Silicon Valley. We need more competition for broadband, not less. Right now, there's so little pressure that internet service in the heart of SV is mediocre with no incentive to improve. Oddly, there is no fiber and DSL is on old ATT lines. ATT certainly has no reason to invest more since they virtually have a monopoly. I have chosen Sonic as my provider (phone and internet) because they are a local company that employs people in the Bay Area. But they, too, are held hostage to ATT because of regulations. Their customer service is amazing but the technology they are forced to use is not up to their standards or mine. We need more broadband competition to "rise all boats".

Thank you.

Amy Balsom