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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,

If the past is any indication of the future, AT&T along with other telecom giants don't care about their customers-- in fact the only way I was able to resolve a dispute with AT&T amicably was by involving the FCC. My choices without Sonic were: AT&T and Comcast, both of which have previously taken advantage of their two-headed monopoly. Their sales tactics, fine-print contracts, and "customer service" are all designed to keep the customers paying more for old technology. Between the two companies: AT&T and Comcast (XFINITY), there is only an illusion of service options; both are one in the same. For instance, after my contract ended, my monthly bill doubled without notice-- the only option I felt I had was to call them, get some "one time courtesy adjustment", oh, and by the way, agree to a new two-year agreement (since they claim they don't have contracts)-- wait, how is a money-binding 'agreement' any different?

With Sonic, I appreciate not having a contract, a promotional price, promotional period, or any of the games that have become synonymous with 'AT&T' and 'Comcast'. The only reason I was able to even get Sonic Fiber to my home is that last mile of service delivery and aggressive expansion on Sonic's part. If AT&T and Comcast take control of that last mile, all of the consumers will be at their mercy.

Broadband is the only way I could work from home one day a week, and telecommute while I was out on parental bonding leave so I rely on fast, always on, and affordable service.

Please leave the access to infrastructure open to smaller companies-- and leave it competitive. These large telecom companies are seeing their revenue streams dry up as more consumers switch to cellular or VoIP service for phones and streaming service for Television. Instead of becoming more competitive, adjusting prices, and improving service, they're attempting to leverage their longstanding relationships to lobby support and push out competition via political means. They act as if telecom is a nationalized utility, when in fact they are simply private companies with shareholders and board members to answer to. Please do what's best for the American consumer and put a stop to their market shutout for competitors. I truly believe we all win in a free and open market when companies legitimately have a need to improve and and compete to survive; one in which a company needs to provide an excellent experience to gain and maintain customer base.

Thank you for your consideration,

Miguel Rivas