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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 USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

Remember why we deregulated Ma Bell in the first place. No competition is bad. Monopoly is bad.

As the owner of an internet company that grew from humble roots in a spare bedroom, we have used both TelCo internet services and third-party internet providers working in conjunction with the local telephone company. Our employees work a couple of days from home a week - everyone needs fast internet for this to work.

Recently, Sonic brought gigabit fiber to our area. They got their start by leveraging deregulated last-mile copper. Two decades ago, another pioneer called DNAI brought ISDN-based internet to homes in our area using the same approach. The twenty years in between have been filled with similar stories: Covad comes to mind with some of the first DSL offerings.

All of these small companies brought new technologies and speed increases to the table. The Telcos reacted to play catch up. Without the outside stimulus known as competition, we would all still be using dial-up lines or slow, expensive, leased T1 lines.

Many other countries have vastly superior internet speeds because they don't have the powerful Telecom giants in the picture. Here's some background reading for you:
<https://psmag.com/news/why-is-american-internet-so-slow>

We all know that internet businesses and Silicon Valley play a major role in this country's economy. We need bandwidth and competition in order to keep that edge.

Regards,

Claresco Corporation
CEO

Brett D'Ambrosio