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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,

As DSL customers, we choose Sonic.net because they provide superior customer service. Previously, as AT&T customers, we experienced a week long internet outage for our home and small business usage. Due to their monopoly status, AT&T showed little interest in helping us regain our internet access in this time, preferring instead to try to sell us a new modem at an inflated price and direct our calls to an offshore call centers. In the end, the problem was in the local AT&T distribution center from which our line had been inadvertently dropped during routine maintenance. Shortly thereafter we switched to Sonic and have enjoyed quick responses to our customer service questions.

Today one third of Sonic customers are connected with Sonic fiber. The 1996 Telecommunications Act is supposed to enable competitive market entry and encourage new network deployment.

AT&T and their trade association, US Telecom, have recently petitioned the FCC to take away access to critical unbundled network elements. These unbundled elements are critical last-mile copper and inter-city fiber; the very technology that allow Sonic to grow, expand fiber deployment, and compete. Without access to this infrastructure, Sonic is at risk of losing access to a huge portion of their customer base, leading to potentially higher rates, less fiber deployment, and even less options for consumers.

Competition in phone and internet provider services is key to American infrastructure and the economy as a whole. Please do not allow AT&T to dominate and monopolize internet services as this will lead to complacent and sluggish service providers, a situation worse than a state owned utility.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Kathryn Hall