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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,

For many years, I had no choice for broadband at my San Francisco house. Comcast was the only option above 10mpbs, and had no option but to go with them. AT&T DSL was unacceptably slow. For years, I would regularly search the web for "broadband options in San Francisco" only to be disappointed that there were none.

Several years ago we hosted friends from Moldova, a tiny country in Eastern Europe few people ever heard of, and they were surprised to learn about our low bandwidth and high cost. At that time, they could easily get 100 mbps very inexpensively, whereas I, in the heart of Silicon Valley, was getting 10 mbps or so for close to \$100/month. I was embarrassed.

As soon as Sonic became available in my neighborhood last year, I dumped Comcast (who still couldn't offer anything close to what Sonic provided) and am now enjoying a reliable 1 gigabit connection for close to half of what I was paying for advertised 100 mpbs from Comcast (which I regularly discovered to be lower, often barely above 10 mbps). I regularly tell my friends and family around the SF Bay Area about Sonic or just the amazing gigabit speeds of fiber, only to disappoint them -- most of them are stuck with Comcast and are praying for competition to come along.

This is why we need competition. If things are this bad in the heart of high technology, what are folks to do in other areas? The current quasi-monopoly is unacceptable and, put simply, un-American. Please support and foster broadband competition.

Thank you,

Dmitry Dimov