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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,

I am a low-income senior homeowner living in the San Francisco Bay Area.

I have had DSL from competitive providers for about 16 years. I am now with my fourth such provider. Quality of service has of been a reason for changing providers.

I have known that in all cases the source of the DSL was AT&T and the copper pair the service came in on was owned and maintained by AT&T. The cost was less this way and I preferred not having to deal with AT&T directly for tech support. Until this year I did have landline phone directly from AT&T. I was paying about \$100 per month for DSL and phone not including long distance.

This spring the ISP I was with was dropping legacy DSL and going to dry circuit DSL, effectively AT&T u-verse. The only phone service they offered was VOIP. I am not in favor of VOIP because it does not have the uninterruptible power that the landline system has.

I checked out a Berkeley company I knew of and found I was able to get a package that included VDSL2+, phone and long distance on the single landline system copper pair, for about one half the price I was paying.

AT&T is the source of this service and did the outdoor installation work necessary for this. Because of a minor problem the with 80+ year old copper pair, its inconvenient, location, and lack of a modern termination box, AT&T installed, at no cost to me, a new two-pair cable and a new termination box. AT&T had some problems with making this change over and three visits were required for them to get everything right. I learned in the process of this that my Berkeley ISP LMi.net is partnered with another competitive provider, Sonic.net.

I did all of the interior wiring changes related to this change. Because I already had a VDSL2+ modem, I was able to supply that and did a self-install of the new service.

I now have faster DSL, landline phone with more features including free long distance, and three

functional pairs of copper coming to my home, one of which is being used, for half of what I was spending per month.

AT&T is the source for all of this, but no longer sells DSL directly to the public. While it appears that legacy DSL is being phased out, VDSL2+ is considered within the industry to be a robust last mile choice with a good future.

Clearly, providing these services and support for third party providers has been a part of AT&T's business model for a long time, since the 1996 TCA as I understand it. I think the current arrangement should be continued.

At this time, I do not need faster broadband. I would like all the non-content clutter to disappear from web pages.

I find a lot of value in the service I get from LMi.net. I think it would be a mistake and bad public policy to allow AT&T and the like to wiggle out of providing things they no longer want to sell to competitive providers at a reasonable wholesale price. I also think the landline phone system should be maintained for the foreseeable future and that that its uninterruptible feature be integrated into VOIP systems. Otherwise, we will be regressing our phone/telecommunications system to 19th century standards.

Thanks for your attention,

Dan Mattson