

Guy Fenner  
5086 Binns Hill Drive  
Hood River OR 97031

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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,

Please don't reduce telecommunication competition in rural areas. These areas are often served by only one major provider, and small competitive providers often provide better/faster/cheaper service, with local offices that can better deal with service issues.

I live in a rural part of Oregon that has only one major broadband provider (cable) which does not reach most parts of this county. Two small competitive providers provide broadband internet service to most of the county, often with higher speeds than what is available from the cable company. If you take away their ability to access UNEs, much of this county will lose its only broadband provider, and the single major telephone provider will be the only option for slower DSL service at higher prices.

Please don't reduce competition; it will hurt rural areas and increase the divide between the digital Haves and Have-Nots.

Guy Fenner