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Aug 31st 2018

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 writing to oppose the petition from USTelecom for forbearance from line-sharing requirements, based on my recent experience. I'm a retiree living in the East Bay in Northern California, and my home access has been via DSL provided by a local independent carrier (Sonic.net). I use it throughout the day, and relatively slow response and downloads were an annoyance I put up with to keep the monthly bills reasonable. As cable became the dominant way people got better internet service and websites and streaming services took advantage of higher speeds by making their services more network-intensive, I felt the pinch (effective slow-down). But, since I'm not interested in cable TV and had had service issues with AT&T in the past, I stuck with DSL from Sonic. So it was a big relief when Sonic announced installation of fiber-optic cable in my area this spring. I signed up early and have enjoyed insanely improved speeds for several months now for a moderate rate increase.

I gather that Sonic was able to offer this service thanks to the line-sharing requirements implemented by the FCC. I strongly support enabling competition leading to better services and competitive prices via continued maintenance of these requirements, and I urge the FCC not to agree to the proposed weakening of them.

Thank you,

George Griffeth