

Matt Berman
445 Cypress Ave.
Half Moon Bay CA 94019

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 live in a rural area where, for many years, the only option for broadband was Comcast, and they were just a nightmare to deal with -- constant frustration, service outages, etc. Then a small, local competitor opened up, Coastside.net. The day I switched was a happy day, and I have had no problems since.

I use broadband both for work (teaching writing, editing, communications, website development) and home use, and can't be without it even for a short time. Since I switched then years ago, there have been hardly any outages, the very few have been extremely short, and it's great dealing with local, responsive people.

Please don't do anything that would lessen broadband competition, make it harder for local companies to compete, or raise our rates.

Thanks,

Matt Berman