

Steven Barry
400 Coventry Rd.
Kensington CA 94707

Sep 1st 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 support broadband competition.

I am a consumer of broadband services in a market that, until very recently, had only two providers (others simply re-package these provider's services): AT&T and Xfinity.

The cost and quality of the services provided were widely analyzed and widely reported by other consumers to be "expensive" and "poor," respectively. **Complaints that I experienced personally with Xfinity.**

The cost of unbundled broadband from Xfinity in this market (94707) was excessively high and the quality was poor - I often observed service drops, router and modem malfunctions without outright service drops, speeds far below the advertised (and paid for) level, and sufficiently high latency so that the combination of these technical faults frequently made business Web conferences nearly impossible to conduct. When I compared my experience with other reports from consumers in my area on Websites like dsreports.com I found my experiences to be consistent with those other reports. That is, overall, there were very few satisfied customers for Xfinity in my area.

The same was true when I surveyed alternative broadband providers; any provider that could provide and advertised speed of at least 50 Mbps at my location (over 5,500 ft. from a "Central Office") had very high cost and very poor reviews from my neighbors.

This situation has persisted until my current ISP began providing Fiber to the Premises in recent months. Sonic has provided very high speed, very reliable service since installation. In addition, Sonic provides highly competitive telephone service as part of my "deal." Their customer service has been excellent (in contrast to my experience with Xfinity and reviews for AT&T). And, finally, their price has been reasonable and well below Xfinity and AT&T unbundled pricing for internet alone at very high speeds or pricing for very high speed internet with telephone such as I have (to have a direct apples-to-apples comparison).

To summarize, I strongly support the **current competitive environment** that has allowed Sonic

to enter my market and have strong reason to believe from personal experience and other data referred to above that if companies such as Sonic are not allowed access to the infrastructure that they now have under the current provisions of FCC rules that both I and many other consumers will suffer both inferior service and higher prices from providers who restrict the use of that infrastructure to competitive entities.

Thank you for your consideration of this input for your deliberations.

Steven Barry