

Richard Rice  
643 Charles Street  
Santa Rosa CA 95404

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,

For fifteen years I have been a customer of a local broadband provider because they provide lower rates and better customer service than I have received from larger providers like AT&T. To remove access to local broadband will create a monopoly of the large telephone companies which will increase rates and reduce the quality of customer service for millions of people in this country. Competition is the central part of the free enterprise system in America. Do not eliminate local broadband access for me and millions of other consumers.

Richard Rice