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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,

I have been a client of Sonic.net for more than 10 years. I previously had ATT & several other carriers for both personal, business & government use.

The major carriers did not provide reliable service. Their billing practices were shoddy, bordering on fraudulent. To obtain customer service or refunds took a minimum of 6 months & required unrelenting persistence on behalf of the customer.

I strongly demand that you allow competitive providers to remain in the marketplace. There is a reason the major carriers, especially ATT have been the subject of so many class action lawsuits, none that have not been resolved in the favor of the carrier to my knowledge.

The marketplace MUST remain open & competitive. Additionally competitive local broadband providers are critical for use in emergencies (the most recent fires & Verizon not sending out emergency evacuation calls until 8 hours later because the "plan" did not cover such service caused the direct loss of a least 3 people).

Having been the victim of the Santa Rosa fires, I cannot stress strongly enough how critical Sonic's service was to the literal lives of my children, grandchildren & myself. Having barely minutes to leave, Sonic's service meant the difference between life & death to us.

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