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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 say NO to price hikes and limited competition! The USA should not be about gouging the American public for everything (especially access to internet, TV or phone services). What happened to everyone having access to news and important services and issues in our society?

Broadband is critical to my home in a rural area with typically bad weather. I need to be able to work from home in inclement weather and cannot do so without good broadband connection.

I also have school-age children who need access to the internet for studying, homework, and projects. And I have a high school student who needs it to take SAT practice exams and to apply for colleges, upload documents, and check email, as well as other school work. They cannot do this if you take away my fiber access (or charge me higher prices for slower service)

I am only 5 miles from town but in a strange area (dead zone) in which I have had trouble even getting coverage in the past (I had dial-up access far longer than other folks in my area). I also had satellite access that was sketchy at best - and not good with bad weather or high cloud cover. I now have the best internet/broadband service I have ever had and at a reasonable/affordable rate (for a single parent raising kids) and you want to limit that and hike the prices up on me and others like me??? You also will charge me more and our service will be limited.

I had dial-up in the past. Then I was with a DSL provider that became too expensive and too limiting (limited usage per month) for the kids' school work. I also had satellite coverage (thru both DirecTV (WildBlue) and DISH that was costly, limited and nothing like the fiber-optic network I have access to now. One Fall, DirecTV cut off our internet b/c it was "bundled" with the TV that we could not afford anymore. My son was at a critical point in the college application process and this was a MAJOR setback for him - he had no internet for over 3 months at a critical time. Then when we got internet thru Verizon (mifi device) it was so limiting that we only got about 2 weeks of use per month. This was NOT conducive for school work and banking and important uses from our home.

I have the best internet I have ever had thru Rockbridge Global Village (CLEC and the RANA

network). I would be totally devastated if I were to lose this service and be limited - with slower, more limited service, and at a higher cost to me. I have a very strict, limited budget as a single parent.

Others promise they are coming and will be affordable - and the reality is that they delay for YEARS and then come at such a high price tag people are unable to buy-in to the new services being offered.

PLEASE do not do this to the average American citizen who does not have the access or the means to pay the high prices. I moved to a rural area from the big city over 20 years ago - and our options have been horrible when it comes to broadband. This simply should not be the case in a country like the USA.

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