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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 want more competition to provide telecom access, and therefore oppose the USTelecom petition. Current rules are bad enough that competition barely exists at all. The USTelecom petition would make this situation even worse, and hurt consumers and business by causing less choice, less service, and higher costs.

My costs have skyrocketed over the last 15 years as my service quality has stayed static. This is because the large telecom providers (ATT and Comcast) have a stranglehold on the network and regulators. Broadband service is now required for every home and business for a range of necessary activities such as bill payment, appointment scheduling, and email. It is not a luxury. That is why consumers need protection to maintain competition, reasonable service and cost.

The USTelecom petition will prevent all of this, and must be denied.

Bruce Richman