

Kate Schonmeyer
11025 San Pablo Ave., Apt. 310
El Cerrito CA 94530

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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 USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

For most of the 48 years I have lived in California I have had access to only one television provider and one telephone provider. In the bay area there are many neighborhoods on both side of the bay that cannot get TV reception with an antenna. I have always lived in those neighborhoods - on both sides of the bay. So I was always stuck with cable. For many of those years there was only one telephone provider - Pac Bell. When it broke up into the "baby Bells" we suddenly had too many choices, none of which was a significant saving over the others. Comes the internet. Cable or a phone provider; same lame choices. Then cell phones. By now there were lots of different names, but very little difference in price or service.

For the past 21 years I've lived in El Cerrito, on San Pablo Ave. I had no choice for TV reception. It had to be cable, which meant it had to be Comcast, take it or leave it and have nothing. Bundling services with Comcast meant I could save a little if I bought cable, phone and internet; at least for the term of the initial contract. Even when I gave up my home phone for cell service I could share with a family and decided to give up live TV for streaming, it STILL cost me \$90 a month for internet only. This was supposedly because Comcast's internet service, Xfinity, was blazing fast.

When finally a second internet provider was ALLOWED to offer service in my neighborhood over AT&T's phone lines, I thought I'd give it a try. Guess what? Sonic.net gives me internet and phone for \$55 a month. I can't even guess who would need faster internet service - maybe diehard gamers. But for someone who has had Comcast's internet service since 1998, I can honestly say THERE IS NO NOTICEABLE DIFFERENCE IN INTERNET SPEED. All it does is save me money. As a senior on a low fixed income, you can imagine how much I appreciate this.

Please save competitive internet and phone service. Say NO to price hikes that will increase the cost of internet and phone services.

Kate Schonmeyer