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Sep 5th 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,

I live in a coastal rural community and feel grateful for the advantages provided through the Coastsides.net company to keep my telephone service costs reasonable. Not all communities are as isolated as ours would be if there were a natural disaster, but their existence has made it possible for me to conduct my business at a bearable cost.

As a senior citizen I find it's even more important to maintain a phone line that isn't part of a large conglomerate. The large companies want their customers to consolidate their services, but this is not actually advantageous when their system fails as then all services are lost.

Please vote to maintain local competition. It keeps us safer.

Thank you,

Joan Dickey