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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,

Please do NOT approve the USTelecom petition that would dismantle critical components of the 1996 Telecommunications Act and would deprive small, competing telecommunication companies of critical wholesale access to the copper-wire phone infrastructure that is essential to their business.

With more and more businesses and government agencies requiring that consumers conduct business via the internet, DSL broadband service has become a critical utility for most people, myself included. After years of frustration with the poor customer service and high prices charged by large telecommunications companies, I am the very happy customer of a small local company that provides the quality telephone and internet service at a reasonable price that I could not obtain from larger companies. Please help maintain competition in this critical market by rejecting the USTelecom petition.

Heidi Hafer