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Sep 6th 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,

USTelecom has petitioned you to change the rules regarding bundling of services to ILECs. USTelecom alleges that the USTelecom petition will improve competition and investment.

The USTelecom petition will do neither. It will increase large carrier's profits and reduce quality of internet services for consumers while making them pay more for less.

I chose a small competitive telecom company because they provide top quality service. It sounds that USTelecom doesn't like their major carriers to have to do so much competing.

It is well known that major carriers have blocked my small independent carrier, Sonic, from installing more fiber optic.

Seems that USTelecom's actual intent is to make small telecom companies simply go out of business. The USTelecom petition would greatly raise costs for independents and likely place many of them out of business.

USTelecom is not about "competition" to improve services to consumers, but is about increasing their own profits at consumer's expense by passing higher prices on to consumers and delaying USTelecom's allies from having to deploy improved infrastructure such as fiber optic.

We get it. We see what's going on.

USTelecom, knows the major carriers must sell capacity to small independents. And that's good for consumers. It encourages the majors to compete by providing better quality, higher capacity networks instead of the easy route the USTelecom Petition wants: just give them more profit and screw the consumer.

I run a small business and depend on the transmission of large graphic and data files at speeds above 60 mbps.

Comcast and AT&T claimed speeds they could not deliver to me. Sonic delivers.

USTelecom in their own statement, says "Specifically, the petition focuses on unbundling obligations, which require some ILECs (incumbent local exchange carriers, a.k.a. local telephone companies) to sell access to parts of their networks to certain competitors at extremely low rates set by regulators."

The rates USTelecom alleges are "...extremely low rates..." are the same ones providing unprecedented profits for the major carriers today while simultaneously providing access for small telecom firms, like Sonic, to deliver high quality innovative services while expanding capacity with fiber optics. USTelecom's implication that "...extremely low rates..." are bad fails to hold water.

USTelecom also uses the red herring argument, that, "...When these rules were created, wireline phones still dominated the communications landscape, and wireless, VoIP, and cable telephony were in their infancy. And texting, social media, and other non-voice forms of communication were still off on the horizon." Such red herring statements are used because they appeal to "reason" when examination reveals that competition in the communication business has always existed, wirelines or not, and will always exist. USTelecom just wants less competition and more profit.

Your responsibility to America is NOT boosting profits for your old pals, it is, however making better services and better prices for all of American consumers. The fact is that competition---an American Capitalist trait---has been good and it sure appears that USTelecom wants to eliminate it so they can sweep higher profits into the bank accounts of the major carriers.

If you are thinking about responsibilities to American consumers, then you will oppose the USTelecom petition.

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