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Sep 10th 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,

Living in Los Angeles for a number of years, and working as the Operations Manager for a small industrial design firm, I was truly frustrated that our only options for broadband providers were effectively AT&T or Comcast. Both companies offer flaky, undependable service. Both required an entire closet to house their hardware if we wanted speeds faster than dial-up. Neither provided the consistent bandwidth we needed, yet their pricing was exorbitant and their customer service abysmal to non-existent.

Returning home to the Bay Area a few years later, I was ecstatic to have a CHOICE of providers, only to discover AT&T and Comcast doing everything in their power to throttle or destroy their competition. Refusing to enslave myself yet again to either company, I struggled for several years with Sonic's DSL which was spotty, slow and undependable due to its dependence on PacBell's ancient and degraded copper lines. Here I've returned to Silicon Valley, ostensibly the center of Tech in the world, only to have dial-up speed internet access. As a nation we should be beyond embarrassed.

Ultimately, Sonic was able to run fiber to my neighborhood and low-and-behold I finally have dependable access to the internet. This means I can work from home as efficiently as I can at work. I no longer have to spend 4+ hours per day commuting to my job just to use the internet. This means I can take classes in the evening and actually participate in AVCN calls. And all for under \$100 per month, substantially less than AT&T or Comcast. Given the extraordinary cost of housing here, with salaries unable to keep up, I quite simply cannot afford to pay more for less service.

AT&T and Comcast's share holders are already in the 1%. They don't need any more money. The rest of us are just trying to survive. Protect the American people from these extortionists. Support and protect competition in the broadband marketplace.

Sincerely,

Natalie Price