

September 21, 2018

Via ECFS

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks, WC Docket No. 18-141

Dear Ms. Dortch,

I am writing to you on behalf of ProEnergy Services, an energy services company based in Sedalia, MO. Since its inception in 2002, ProEnergy has grown to over 1,000 employees with 10 facilities around the globe. We are a Socket customer, and we urge you not to grant USTelecom's petition.

We currently purchase high-speed internet and telephone services from Socket for our corporate office in Sedalia, MO. Our relationship with Socket has grown from a single copper T1 installed in our first corporate headquarters in 2007, to a fiber network with multiple buildings on our 90-acre campus. Socket also provides connectivity to two locations in Texas, as well as our facility in Ft. Collins, CO.

Prior to the conversion to fiber, Socket provided service over the local telephone company's legacy copper facilities. By first utilizing the available copper network to build a customer base in Sedalia, Socket was able to then invest in the infrastructure required to build a state-of-the-art fiber network that ProEnergy – as well as other businesses, hospitals, and schools in our community – now access for the technology we require.

Please do not end the ability of providers like Socket to offer an alternative to the incumbent providers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mitch Bail", written in a cursive style.

Mitch Bail  
IT Manager  
ProEnergy Services