

CC96-262

From: JAMES E. SULLIVAN <james.sullivan@CCMAIL.ORL.MMC.COM>
To: A7.A7(rchong)
Date: February 11, 1997 2:45pm
Subject: INTERNET ACCESS FEES FOR LOCAL CARRIERS

THE SUBJECT OF LOCAL CARRIERS CHARGING FOR LOCAL INTERNET TRAFFIC IS LUDRUCUOS. HOW CAN THEY JUSTIFY THIS ISSUE? I KNOW THEY WILL SAY THE TRAFFIC IS CLOGGING THEIR CAPACITY BUT YOU KNOW AS I DO FIBER OPTICS RESOLVES THIS. ALL CARRIERS (LONG DISTANCE OR LOCAL) HAVE OR ARE ALLOCATING BUDGET TO INSTALL THESE LINES BASED UPON THEIR CURRENT CAPITAL BUDGETS.

TO PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE I CONNECTED TO THE INTERNET BUT WAS ON LONG DISTANCE CARRIER. IN MY INNOCENCE I IGNORED THAT FACT UNTIL I GOT A BILL FOR \$422 FOR ONE MONTH SERVICE. I WAS BEING CHARGED 10 TO 12 CENTS A MINUTE AS AN AVERAGE. I WAS ONLY SURFING RATED G SITES FOR SCHOOL AND WORK (I AM AN ENGINEER GOING TO SCHOOL AT NITE TO FINISH MY STUDIES). NONE THE LESS I AM DISCONNECTED UNTIL I FIND A LOCAL CARRIER.

IF THE FCC ALLOWS THE PROPOSALS TO BECOME LEGISLATION OR AN APPROVED ECONOMIC REGULATION YOU WILL CONSIDERABLY SLOW THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION. THE COMMON MAN WILL NOT BE ABLE TO AFFORD ABOVE AND BEYOND ALL HIS OR HERS REGULAR BILLS.

IF THIS PASSES ONCE AGAIN SPECIAL INTEREST LOBBIES WILL HAVE SHOWN JOHN Q PUBLIC WHO TRULY CONTROLS OUR GOVERNMENT. I AM REFERRING TO SPECIAL INTEREST MONEY GIVEN TO PORK BELLY POLITICS AND REEELECTION CAMPAIGNS.

I AM IMPLORING YOUR ORGANIZATION TO STOP THIS DEAD IN IT'S TRACKS BECAUSE I WOULD LIKE MR. CLINTON'S DREAM OF A INTERNET COMPUTER IN EVERY SCHOOL TO BE A REALITY. SCHOOL'S WILL CUT THIS OUT IN A HEARTBEAT BECAUSE IT WON'T BE A JUSTIFIED COST UNLESS OF COURSE THE LEGISLATIUON EXCLUDES THE GOVERNMENT, SCHOOLS, ON NOT-FOR-PROFIT.

THANK YOU FOR YOU TIME AND CONSIDERATION IN THIS MATTER.

JAMES E. SULLIVAN
(352) 236-6680
3710 N.E. 70TH AVE.
SILVER SPRINGS, FLORIDA 34488

FEB 11 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

No. of Copies rec'd 1
List ABCDE

CC 96-262

From: Visionary <ga_yankee@earthlink.net>
To: A4.A4(isp)
Date: February 11, 1997 1:10pm
Subject: CC Docket No. 96-263

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Re: Internet Access & Information Service Provider NOI (CC Docket No. 96-263).

My name is Edward L. Reed. I am a law abiding, tax paying, internet user.
I am sending this to impress upon you the absurdness of the proposed telephone rate increases for modem/online/internet usage.

1. I pay local, state and federal tax on my phone usage costs.
2. I pay a telephone line use fee for my phone usage.
3. I pay line maintenance costs for my phone usage.
4. I pay for extra lines (which includes additional costs as listed above) in order to support my online usage.

So you see, I, and probably every other online user, already pay increased rates for our additional usage. The telephone companies are already being paid for future development and expansion through these fees and charges.

PLEASE, DO NOT APPROVE RATE INCREASES. We already pay the phone companies for the costs they say they must incur.

Edward L. Reed
Address furnished upon request

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      ( o o )
+-----oooO--( )--Oooo-----+
| Message sent with          |
|   ATTITUDE!                |
| From:      .oooO           |
|   Ed Reed  ( ) Oooo.       |
+-----\---( )-----+
          \ ) /
           \ /

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Feb 11 1997

CC: FCCMAIL.SMTP("senator_coverdell@coverdell.senate.g...

No. of Copies rec'd 1
List ABCDE

From: Jim Gibson <jgibson@mcn.org>
To: A7.A7(rchong)
Date: February 11, 1997 12:50pm
Subject: Data Line Rate Increase...Just Say NO!

CC 96-267
DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Commissioner Rachelle Chong ,

As much as I would like to write you a long letter listing the numerous reasons you should deny the rate increase requested by local phone companies I will keep this simple and just ask you to deny this increase in terms of fairness and what is right. I work in an Internet Service Provider

Organization (Mendocino Community Network). The local phone company, Pac

Bell, receives thousands of dollars a month from our ISP for the Phone lines we use to access the Internet. To increase their profits even more is unthinkable. To tax the user for this is redundant, wrong and in the long run will become a burden on the consumer and the educational facilities that teach our children. Please deny this request for a rate increase.

"Just Say NO!" Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,

Jim Gibson

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CC 96-262

From: Harry H Offutt <Harry_H_Offutt_at_BDDIS__MAIL01@MAIL.CBPI.COM>
To: A4.A4(isp)
Date: February 11, 1997 11:27am
Subject: Phone Company ripoff!!!

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear FCC:

The internet and www are too valuable to the American population to be limited by commercial enterprize. Instead of reducing access through charges, they should be expanding and improving the vehicle!

THE PHONE COMPANY HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE THE ARCHITECTS FOR OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE!

It sounds like the phone companies are just trying to make more money! Most home internet users are adding second phone lines to their homes already. this alone is grossing the phone company \$10-\$50 per household. Their are people like me who are forced to access an inetnet carrier(like AOL) through a toll 800 or long distance call already because of limited phone service.

This response is based on the following info E-mailed to me at work:

"Your local telephone company has filed a proposal with the FCC to impose per minute charges for your internet service. They contend that your usage has or will hinder the operation of the telephone network."

Sincerely,

Harry Offutt
Software Engineer

CC: A7.A7(rchong)

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CC 96-262

From: Peter Monaghan <petedds@pipeline.com>
To: A7.A7(rchong)
Date: February 10, 1997 7:28pm
Subject: Dial Up Charges to Internet

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

>Date: Mon, 10 Feb 1997 19:13:53 -0500
>To: isp@fcc.gov
>From: Peter Monaghan <petedds@pipeline.com>
>Subject: Dial Up Charges to Internet

>To whom it may concern:

>
>I recently changed my service (Telephone) to a call pack on the advice of Ameritech. They told me I was spending too much money with the "long" connect times I had and the call pack would allow unlimited time at one charge for the connect. However, I had to purchase a package with 100 connects. Now these characters want to raise our rates to minute only for Internet access! Bunk, they let me connect for a single charge per connect. They make me agree to a plan and because everyone gets a call pak for internet usage, they want to gouge us! I say, leave the call packs alone. These allow me to read professional information in a very timely manner. They allow my son to get his homework done and they are in line with Mr. Clinton's agenda item of getting all students access to "cybermation" to coin a term! The local companies should be forced to provide this service by laws which allow for inexpensive dial up connects. Tell them no minute charges for dial ups!

>Pete Monaghan

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List ABCDE

CC 96-262

From: Steven Suslick <ssuslick@kmart.com>
To: A7.A7(rchong,sness,jquello),J1.J1(FCCMAIL)
Date: February 11, 1997 7:00am
Subject: Minute charges on internet access

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Commisioners:

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has been approached by the local telephone companies for a PER MINUTE RATE increase for data lines and internet access. This would be a "MODEM TAX" essentially on a flat rate charge by the local telephone companies. In addition, many people add extra telephone lines for internet use, rather than using their regular line. The telephone companies have profited from this fact, as they are doubling or even tripling the number of lines going to many residences, and doubling or even tripling the profits which they would normally make from these customers. State Public Utility Commissions guarantee a rate of return to regulated telephone companies, and I question whether telephone companies need any assistance whatsoever from the Federal Government when their profits are regulated on a local basis, in each State.

This request by the local phone companies appears to be generated by greed.

The local phone companies would not be asking for this rate increase if the issue was access for additional voice technology. Perhaps, the real issue is that the local phone companies have not kept their technologies current especially with data lines and, therefore, wish to do this now with inappropriate charges on the use of voice lines for data and accessing the internet. New technologies are becoming available for data transfer and accessing the internet, however, these technologies are not universally available to all Americans.

Allowing the local telephone companies permission to charge addition fees for data and internet access will hurt our entire economy. Business, both large and small, will pass the increase to consumers. Consumers will pay more for goods and services as a result of this action. In addition, the internet is a magnificent tool for information and many citizens will not be able to pay the additional fees. Educational access to the internet for our children, adolescents, and adults will be compromised if fees for access are implemented. Educational budgets throughout the United States are limited whether private, public or primary education or college education. The negative domino effect of this request is enormous.

In summary, I implore you to deny this request by the local telephone companies and allow the current flat rate structure which the local telephone companies are currently using whether for voice or data or internet access. Thank your for your time.

Sincerely, SR Suslick

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List ABCDE

CC 96-267

From: Charles Sorensen <sorensnc@graffon.dixie.edu>
To: A7.A7(rchong)
Date: February 11, 1997 12:10am
Subject: (no subject)

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

I would just like to let you know my feelings about the phone companies trying to institute a per-minute fee on Internet usage. This plan is a way for the phone Companies to extort money from people, that's it. I use the Internet to do research for college, and my children use it for entertainment and education. Any fees that are imposed will make it financially impossible for my family to use the Internet. All this will do is keep information and education in the hands of the rich. DO NOT FALL FOR THEIR LIES!!!! thank you very much for listening.
Charles Sorensen St. George, Utah

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CO 96-262

From: Chuck Dawson <cldawson@c4system.com>
To: A7.A7(rchong)
Date: February 10, 1997 10:56pm
Subject: Modem Tax

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Commissioner Chong;

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has been approached by the local telephone companies for a PER MINUTE RATE increase for data lines and internet access. This would be a "MODEM TAX" essentially on a flat rate charge by the local telephone companies. In addition, many people add extra telephone lines for internet use, rather than using their regular line. The telephone companies have profited from this fact, as they are doubling or even tripling the number of lines going to many residences, and doubling or even tripling the profits which they would normally make from these customers. State Public Utility Commissions guarantee a rate of return to regulated telephone companies, and I question whether telephone companies need any assistance whatsoever from the Federal Government when their profits are regulated on a local basis, in each State.

The local phone companies would not be asking for this rate increase if the issue was access for additional voice technology. Perhaps, the real issue is that the local phone companies have not kept their technologies current especially with data lines and, therefore, wish to do this now with inappropriate charges on the use of voice lines for data and accessing the internet. New technologies are becoming available for data transfer and accessing the internet, however, these technologies are not universally available to all Americans.

Allowing the local telephone companies permission to charge addition fees for data and internet access will hurt our entire economy. Business, both large and small, will pass the increase to consumers. Consumers will pay more for goods and services as a result of this action. In addition, the internet is a magnificent tool for information and many citizens will not be able to pay the additional fees. Educational access to the internet for our children, adolescents, and adults will be compromised if fees for access are implemented. Educational budgets throughout the United States are limited whether private, public or primary education or college education. The negative domino effect of this request is enormous.

In summary, I implore you to deny this request by the local telephone companies and allow the current flat rate structure which the local telephone companies are currently using whether for voice or data or internet access. Thank your for your time.

Sincerely,
Charles L. Dawson
2507 N. Wilmoth Hwy.
Adrian, MI 49221-9347 cldawson@c4system.com

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CC 96-262

From: <Reza_Tafazoli@ptieng.procom.com>
To: J1.J1(FCCMAIL),A7.A7(jquello,sness,rchong)
Date: February 10, 1997 6:31pm
Subject: Internet Charge

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

I really don't want to get charge for my Internet dial ups.

Please don't let this happen

Thank you

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CC 96-262

From: Tom Boutwell/FASTTAX <Tom_Boutwell@clr.com>
To: rchong <rchong@fcc.gov>
Date: February 12, 1997 12:06pm
Subject: Docket: 96-263

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL FEB 12 1997

Dear Ms. Chong:

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has been approached by the local telephone companies for a PER MINUTE RATE increase for data lines and internet access. This would be a "MODEM TAX" essentially on a flat rate charge by the local telephone companies. In addition, many people add extra telephone lines for internet use, rather than using their regular line. The telephone companies have profited from this fact, as they are doubling or even tripling the number of lines going to many residences, and doubling or even tripling the profits which they would normally make from these customers. State Public Utility Commissions guarantee a rate of return to regulated telephone companies, and I question whether telephone companies need any assistance whatsoever from the Federal Government when their profits are regulated on a local basis, in each State.

This request by the local phone companies appears to be generated by greed. The local phone companies would not be asking for this rate increase if the issue was access for additional voice technology. Perhaps, the real issue is that the local phone companies have not kept their technologies current especially with data lines and, therefore, wish to do this now with inappropriate charges on the use of voice lines for data and accessing the internet. New technologies are becoming available for data transfer and accessing the internet, however, these technologies are not universally available to all Americans. Allowing the local telephone companies permission to charge addition fees for data and internet access will hurt our entire economy. Business, both large and small, will pass the increase to consumers. Consumers will pay more for goods and services as a result of this action. In addition, the internet is a magnificent tool for information and many citizens will not be able to pay the additional fees. Educational access to the internet for our children, adolescents, and adults will be compromised if fees for access are implemented. Educational budgets throughout the United States are limited whether private, public or primary education or college education. The negative domino effect of this request is enormous.

In summary, I implore you to deny this request by the local telephone companies and allow the current flat rate structure which the local telephone companies are currently using whether for voice or data or internet access. Thank your for your time.

Sincerely, Tom Boutwell
2253 Spicewood
Carrollton, Tx. 75006

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CC 96-262

From: Phillip H. Wang P.E. <pwang@microfusionlab.com>
To: A7.A7(rchong)
Date: February 11, 1997 6:22pm
Subject: Internet Access & Information Service Provider NOI (CC Docket No. 96-263).

Dear Commissioner Chong,

It seems to me that in order to provide better services to the users of an ISP, the ISP would have to increase its access capacity; at a cost to the ISP and a profit to the phone company. The phone company should use this added profit to enhance its overall data throughput by installing additional hardware/software.

A consumer shouldn't have to worry about if his or her phone line is linked to a fax-machine, a modem, an answering machine, or just a regular old phone. The charge should be the same for all calls. Single out ISP access for a surcharge is equivalent to saying binary data costs more to transmitt than voice data..... IS THIS TRUE??

Regards,

Phil

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CC: A4.A4(isp)

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0096-262

From: Dominic Orlando <dominic@leonardo.net>
To: J1.J1(FCCMAIL)
Date: February 12, 1997 10:09am
Subject: CC Docket No 96-263

Dear Commissioner,

Recently, the local phone companies approached the FCC asking for additional charges for Internet access by telephone. This is completely unreasonable. What's the difference between voice and internet data traveling through wire? Electrons are electrons! The rates should stay the same. Indeed, they must.

The local phone companies seem to be following the dictates of their greed-driven monopolys. If these same phone companies want a rate increase for email, then why not for faxing, teleconferencing and other voice technologies?

Allowing local phone companies permission to charge more for Internet and data transmission can have only one effect... it will stifle the nascent and burgeoning growth of the new Internet economy and community! Consumers and users will be saddled with the expense, resulting in either its slow-down or collapse. This will destroy the 21st century's great hope... killed by 20th century's greedy lack of foresight.

The children and adults of the next epoch will remember that a formidable educational tool, the Internet, was the last book thrown into the flames by the unthinking, callous and mistrustful "book burners" of the 20th century!

I implore you, as a citizen of the United Staes and a netizen of the world, to refuse this shallow request by the local phone companies. Let the democracy of the marketplace, along with the current flat rate system, continue nurturing the Internet's rapid and necessary growth.

Sincerely,

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dominic Orlando
8869 Lookout Mountain Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90046-1860

dominic@leonardo.net

CC: A7.A7(jquello,sness,rchong)

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CC 96-262

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2/12/97

From: <visitor@texas.net>
To: A7.A7(rchong)
Date: February 12, 1997 6:33am
Subject: Comments from Commissioner Chong's Homepage

George Rapach (visitor@texas.net) writes:

Commissioner Chong,

I recently came across a rumor on the internet that indicated that the FCC was considering a per minute charge for internet access. I would like to know if this is true? If so where would the pertinent information concerning agenda be found?

George Rapach visitor@texas.net
San Antonio, Texas

Server protocol: HTTP/1.0
Remote host: dnet02-23.sat.texas.net
Remote IP address: 206.127.4.53

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CC 96-262

From: Lucia J. Kelly <luckyk@erols.com>
To: J1.J1(FCCMAIL),A4.A4(isp)
Date: February 12, 1997 10:32am
Subject: CC Docket No. 96-263

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners,

We understand that local telephone companies are requesting reviews of their rate schedules due to the increased use of local telephone lines to access the Internet. A review or consideration of a "per minute" use fee will be the demise of the Internet as we know it today. For almost 100 years, the local telephone providers have allowed the unrestricted use of residential and business lines by their customers. For almost 100 years they have enjoyed the income from providing this unrestricted service. Modern technologies have enabled the communication providers to operate their systems with fewer and fewer personnel and considerably lower operating expenses for equipment and maintenance.

If I as a subscriber to my local telephone company wish to spend the entire 24 hour day conversing with my friends and family, I would only be using that service that is being paid for today. I see no difference in the application of the service that is provided to me whether it is by personal vocal conversation or personal data exchange thru the Internet.

Just this past week, the President of the United States has been urging Congress and the United States school systems to find ways to put every classroom and every child on the Internet. A "minute use fee" by the local telephone company providers would have a devastating effect on this program. No school system in our country would be able to afford rates far in excess of what they are presently.

I urge the Commission to take a dim view of this proposal and take all steps necessary to protect the citizens of this country from over eager profit-oriented public utilities. We look forward to a meaningful and open discussion when the requests for "minute use fees" are presented to your Commission.

Most sincerely,

Lucia J. Kelly
424 N. Armistead St., T-2
Alexandria, VA 22312
PH: 703-354-8792
E-mail: Luckyk@erols.com

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

CC: J1.J1(bettyfre),A7.A7(gclark,rchong),FCCMAIL.SMTP(...

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CC 96-262

From: <jkq@means.net>
To: A7.A7(rchong)
Date: February 12, 1997 3:45pm
Subject: Comments from Commissioner Chong's Homepage

Joan Quast (jkq@means.net) writes:

It is my understanding that the phone companies would like to issue a monthly charge for use of modems and fax machines. If this is correct I am against this as I believe I already pay for use of the phone line through my phone bill and my internet monthly charge. As a retired person I find the internet fun, useful, and educational. I would hate to give it up because of an increase cost to me because a big company chooses another way to make money off of John Q. public like me. I would like a response from you if this is correct information and whether the FCC is considering such a proposal.

Thank you
Joan Quast

Server protocol: HTTP/1.0
Remote host: ParkersPrairie-21.dialup.means.net
Remote IP address: 206.9.104.25

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CC 96-262

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From: <Pr8jazz@aol.com>
To: J1.J1(FCCMAIL)
Date: February 12, 1997 3:46pm
Subject: Please don't

Dear sirs.

I sincerely hope that you are not seriously considering allowing local phone companies to charge by the minute for internet access. The repercussions of allowing this to happen would be horrible. Consider how the internet has helped to erase many of the social and economic boundaries of our day. If the phone companies are allowed to charge their customers a higher rate just so that they may log on, when will it stop? What other services will be charged for next, even when there are no noticable services rendered? Yes, the people who are online cause the local companies to have a higher load, but the companies sold a service, that being unlimited local calls for a set amount per month. If they are allowed to start charging an extra amount for certain calls, what happens next. I'm sorry, but all I can see from this is an attempt by moneyhungry companies to squeeze a few extra dollars from an excellent system

CC: A7.A7(rchong),FCCMAIL.SMTP("quello","nsest"),A4.A4...

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DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

CC 96-262

From: <jkq@means.net>
To: A7.A7(rchong)
Date: February 12, 1997 3:43pm
Subject: Comments from Commissioner Chong's Homepage

Joan Quast (jkq@means.net) writes:

It is my understanding that the phone companies would like to issue a monthly charge for use of modems and fax machines. If this is correct I am against this as I believe I already pay for use of the phone line through my phone bill and my internet monthly charge. As a retired person I find the internet fun, useful, and educational. I would hate to give it up because of an increase cost to me because a big company chooses another way to make money off of John Q. public like me. I would like a response from you if this is correct information and whether the FCC is considering such a perposal.

Thank you
Joan Quast

Server protocol: HTTP/1.0
Remote host: ParkersPrairie-21.dialup.means.net
Remote IP address: 206.9.104.25

No. of Copies rec'd 1
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CC 96-262

From: Tom Boutwell/FASTTAX <Tom_Boutwell@clr.com>
To: rchong <rchong@fcc.gov>
Date: February 12, 1997 12:06pm
Subject: Docket: 96-263 **DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL**

Dear Ms. Chong:

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In summary, I implore you to deny this request by the local telephone companies and allow the current flat rate structure which the local telephone companies are currently using whether for voice or data or internet access. Thank your for your time.

Sincerely, Tom Boutwell
2253 Spicewood
Carrollton, Tx. 75006

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CC 96-262

From: j.d. long <jlong@cybernw.com>
To: 'rhundt@fcc.gov' <rhundt@fcc.gov>
Date: February 11, 1997 5:18pm
Subject: CC Docket No. 96-263

Dear FCC,

I would like to formally oppose Docket No. 96-263, Allowing local phone = companies to charge per minute rates to reach the internet. I pay a = flat rate for my phone line excluding long distance calls. This is an = unfair attempt by the phone companies to monopolize the industry. I = feel by paying a per minute charge onto of the existing cost of monthly = phone service would be a double jeopardy, I pay once to use the phone = and then again to access the internet. =20

If this docket passes it will give the phone companies total control = over the internet. =20

Thank you for you time,
James Long
8509 SE Insely
Portland, OR 97266

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CC 96-262

From: Phillip H. Wang P.E. <pwang@microfusionlab.com>
To: A7.A7(rchong)
Date: February 11, 1997 6:22pm
Subject: Internet Access & Information Service Provider NOI (CC Docket No. 96-263).

Dear Commissioner Chong,

It seems to me that in order to provide better services to the users of an ISP, the ISP would have to increase its access capacity; at a cost to the ISP and a profit to the phone company. The phone company should use this added profit to enhance its overall data throughput by installing additional hardware/software.

A consumer shouldn't have to worry about if his or her phone line is linked to a fax-machine, a modem, an answering machine, or just a regular old phone. The charge should be the same for all calls. Single out ISP access for a surcharge is equivalent to saying binary data costs more to transmitt than voice data..... IS THIS TRUE??

Regards,

Phil

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

CC: A4.A4(isp)

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CC 96-262

From: Michelle Miller <michm@jvl.net.com>
To: A4.A4(isp)
Date: February 11, 1997 9:04pm
Subject: RE: Docket 96-263

Dear Commissioners of the Federal Communications Commission,

The Federal Communications Commission was approached by local telephone companies to implement additional charges for internet access via telephone lines. This is totally unacceptable. There should be no difference in the rates between the use of the lines for voice versus data and accessing the internet.

This request by the local phone companies appears to be generated by greed. The local phone companies would not be asking for this rate increase if the issue was access for additional voice technology. Perhaps, the real issue is that the local phone companies have not kept their technologies current especially with data lines and, therefore, wish to do this now with inappropriate charges on the use of voice lines for data and accessing the internet. New technologies are becoming available for data transfer and accessing the internet, however, these technologies are not universally available to all Americans.

Allowing the local telephone companies permission to charge addition fees for data and internet access will hurt our entire economy. Business, both large and small, will pass the increase to consumers. Consumers will pay more for goods and services as a result of this action. In addition, the internet is a magnificent tool for information and many citizens will not be able to pay the additional fees. Educational access to the internet for our children, adolescents, and adults will be compromised if fees for access are implemented. Educational budgets throughout the United States are limited whether private, public or primary education or college education. The negative domino effect of this request is enormous.

In summary, I employ you to deny this request by the local telephone companies and allow the current flat rate structure which the local telephone companies are currently using whether for voice or data or internet access. Thank your for your time.

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Sincerely,

Michelle Miller
1049 Wisconsin
Beloit, WI 53511
608-362-6975 michm@jvl.net.com

Michelle Miller * Living in exile, * No matter where you go, michm@jvl.net.com * behind the cheddar curtain * There you are...
* * - Buckaroo Bonzai

CC: A7.A7(rchong,sness,jquello),J1.J1(FCCMAIL),FCCMAIL...

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0096-262

From: Michelle Miller <michm@jvl.net.com>
To: A4.A4(isp)
Date: February 11, 1997 9:04pm
Subject: RE: Docket 96-263

Dear Commissioners of the Federal Communications Commission,

The Federal Communications Commission was approached by local telephone companies to implement additional charges for internet access via telephone lines. This is totally unacceptable. There should be no difference in the rates between the use of the lines for voice versus data and accessing the internet.

This request by the local phone companies appears to be generated by greed. The local phone companies would not be asking for this rate increase if the issue was access for additional voice technology. Perhaps, the real issue is that the local phone companies have not kept their technologies current especially with data lines and, therefore, wish to do this now with inappropriate charges on the use of voice lines for data and accessing the internet. New technologies are becoming available for data transfer and accessing the internet, however, these technologies are not universally available to all Americans.

Allowing the local telephone companies permission to charge addition fees for data and internet access will hurt our entire economy. Business, both large and small, will pass the increase to consumers. Consumers will pay more for goods and services as a result of this action. In addition, the internet is a magnificent tool for information and many citizens will not be able to pay the additional fees. Educational access to the internet for our children, adolescents, and adults will be compromised if fees for access are implemented. Educational budgets throughout the United States are limited whether private, public or primary education or college education. The negative domino effect of this request is enormous.

In summary, I employ you to deny this request by the local telephone companies and allow the current flat rate structure which the local telephone companies are currently using whether for voice or data or internet access. Thank your for your time.

Sincerely,

Michelle Miller
1049 Wisconsin
Beloit, WI 53511
608-362-6975 michm@jvl.net.com

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CC 96-262

From: ERICH R. FONT <BIG-POUND-HOUSTON@worldnet.att.net>
To: REED HUNDT <rtundt@fcc.gov>
Date: February 12, 1997 10:02pm
Subject: CHARGING FOR THE INTERNET

THIS IS A PROTEST OF THE PETITION FROM THE PHONE COMPANIES (RM No. 8775 AND OTHERS OF THIS NATURE)

IF YOU ALLOW THIS PETITION TO GO THROUGH THESE COMPANIES WILL CHARGE EVERYONE THAT DOESN'T HAVE THESE OPTIONS ON THEIR COMPUTERS AND THIS WILL PUT THE INTERNET OUT OF THE REACH OF THE PEOPLE THAT CAN'T AFFORD THE CHARGE OF 2 CENT A MIN. .

HOW CAN THEY CHARGE EVERY ONE, THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE THESE PHONES SHOULD IN THE TIME OF REGISTRATION OR AT THE TIME OF PURCHASE OF SAID ITEMS SHOULD BE CHARGED AT THAT TIME AND NOT BE ABLE TO CHARGE ALL OF THE INTERNET USERS AS A WHOLE.

YOU PEOPLE NEED TO THINK OF A WAY TO CHARGE ONLY THE ONES THAT USE THE PHONES AND NOT THE OTHER USERS ON THE INTERNET THAT DON'T.....

ERICH R. FONT
4010 W. BELLFORT APT# 400
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77025

CC: SUSAN NESS <sness@fcc.gov>

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CC 96-262

From: Beit-Zuri, Eli <ebeit-zuri@gj.com>
To: A7.A7(rchong)
Date: February 13, 1997 5:26pm
Subject: telecom & the net

Greetings former walrus from a current G&Jer!

I spent a little spree as Pack Rat and each year enjoy a season on the Grammin' & Jammin' softball team (currently the Graham Yankees). We've been to the playoffs twice in my 3 years here...no correlation to my playing ability, I assure you.

Anyhow, the reason I write is because I understand the telephone companies have recently requested the ability to bill on a per-minute basis for use of their lines for internet access. I have noticed a recent string of propaganda proclaiming the impending downfall of our telephone system due to heavy usage for internet access.

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The proposed solution--financial disincentive--seems to me to be a thinly veiled attempt by the telecom industry to cash in on the growing tide of internet use. Their "solution" is short sighted greed which may crush the fledgling industry. The average person will not enjoy being billed for simply checking email--particularly if they are the unwitting recipient of lengthy attachments or unwanted spamming. The web is still slow and chaotic. The joy of exploration and discovery would become a costly exercise best avoided. How many companies will support additional customer service via a corporate web site, when usage of their site may disappear in favor of 800 numbers? What's good for telecom is not necessarily good for the country. Please do not allow the telephone companies to plunder our asset for their own personal gain!

If indeed there is a problem, I am confident a more equitable solution can be found.

Sincerely,

Eli Beit-Zuri

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