

Dear FCC Commissioners & Staff:

My name is Andrew Gerweck and I am writing to you regarding your reconsideration of the rules that require telephone companies to provide ISPs access to the public switched phone network.

I'm concerned that any action to limit access to independent ISPs will result in decreased flexibility for Internet users like me across America. I'm particularly concerned about any development that encourages many current trends toward a web-only Internet.

Without independent access to the telecom system, passive-based Internet technologies like cable-based Internet will probably continue to grow in their dominance. These types of technologies are well suited to the current Internet, but will show their weakness as the Internet continues to advance. The enormous potential of peer-to-peer (P2P) user applications has only been explored on its surface. Only with a free and open Internet will the kind of service conditions exist that will allow the Internet to continue to grow and increase the availability of connectedness and information for all Americans.

As a California resident, I've already seen the rate increases that have accompanied a reduction of competition in this area. Just the squeezing out of numerous telecom startups by market conditions has resulted in an increased hostility toward users and corresponding rate hikes.

I'm sure that you see that what's at stake here is not just the success or failure of a handful of independent ISPs. A rule to limit access of independent carriers would strike a deep blow to the ability of the public's Internet access to grow as new and innovative technologies become available.

Sincerely,

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