

Dear FCC Commissioners & Staff:

In this day of increasing corporate mergers and decreasing choices, we as consumers feel the sting in our wallets. In light of government deregulation, healthy competition is our only hope in keeping prices at a reasonable level. If huge telecommunications giants become the sole providers of broadband internet service, then surely we all will suffer. Bigger is most assuredly NOT always better.

Local ISP's should not be denied the ability to provide broadband to their customers. They are much better suited to dealing with individuals on a more personal basis. It is also preferable, in my opinion, to invest my dollars in the local economy wherever possible.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

Stephen W. Blakeney
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