

I am writing to oppose the reasoning behind NPRM 02-33, "Appropriate Framework for Broadband Access to the Internet over Wireline Facilities", because I am afraid that treating broadband Internet access as an information service (as proposed by NPRM 02-33) would deprive United States citizens of the single most important feature of the Internet that has made it such a runaway success over the last decade.

Let me introduce myself. I have a M.Ed. in Instructional Technology. Currently, I teach sixth grade science at Fort Caroline Middle School in Jacksonville, Florida and will be doing site-based professional development in the 2002-2003 school year. A classroom teacher since 1987, I've found that using science and society as a context provides learners with insight into living with their environment. I've taught in elementary, middle school, and high school, as well as working as an online mentor, technology coordinator, and curriculum developer since 1991. I specialize in designing and developing lesson plans and Internet curriculum. The Internet provides far more than information, it provides a place to collaborate, to meet with scientists and other experts to join a global community of learning. When my students and I collaborate with others via the Internet, learning becomes alive. Encyclopedias and dictionaries are information providers, the Internet is a people/collaboration provider. I got my masters from The University of South Florida, Tampa's "Learn From A Distance Program". Projects that I have been part of as a direct result of the Internet over the past ten years are:

- * AWS/Naval Academy: The Maury Project
- * Franklin Institute Museum Fellow
- * Florida State Meteorology Teacher Outreach program: Florida EXPLORES! - since 1992
- * Santa Fe Institute: Exploring The World Through Computer Models-Summer
- * Earth Space Science On-line at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, Jacksonville, FL
Montana State University's NASA CERES Project and Network Montana Project developing on-line curriculum and distance learning for science teachers.

I am writing as a concerned citizen of the United States, and I am writing with hope that recent great advances in communications technology -- and, more importantly, in network architecture -- will become available to all. So to equate "access" with "information", as does NPRM 02-33, is simply incorrect. All of my experiences with the Internet are EXPERIENCES not information gathering.

Thank you,

Stephanie Stevenson
Educator
Science and Technology
URL: <http://www.learning.centernity.com/~scstevenson/>
Phone: 904 699-7491
FAX: 904 745-4937

"If you're not living on the edge you're taking up too much space."