

Do not let the Bell "Wolves" own the chicken coop you already allow them to dominate. Competition requires competitors to be alive. If the FCC lifts the dominant classification from the Local Exchange Carriers (Bells), it will limit competition to a duopoly consisting of a bell and a cable company. Competition in the American Telecom marketplace will not be incentivized, it will be torpedoed. ISPs and CLECs will die, consumers will be deprived of choice and the FCC will be wholly to blame for the travesty. DO NOT DO IT. Chairman Powell: Please do not sell out to BIG BUSINESS, at the expense of competition and the small businesses of our country.

I lived in eastern Colorado for 20 years before moving to Tulsa. I was involved and was involved educationally in the development of the internet and technology. Fiber optic wire lay next to Interstate 70, yet for years, even though there was plenty of room for the technology to be shared with the public, and especially with the schools, we always seemed to be trailing because a large monopoly controlled those wires and were not accessible to all those towns which lay by the interstate (funded by federal dollars). It seems absurd to return to the old way of doing things when finally we are making some progress.

I also live in a metropolitan area. SouthwestBell is the main telephone company for the area--yet Broken Arrow, where I live, has Valor Telecom--which has been sorely lack--basically because it was sabotaged by GTE, who sold them the system. After several years they are finally on board and offering services to what is the third largest city in the State of Oklahoma!

We as the public, and educators, and business, now have optionsd in the internet, how it is provided, and all the areas of telecommunications. Let's keep up the good work and not let this healthy competition be bought and sold by big business.

Eric and Judy Talla