

Bell companies operate an "essential facility", and should have to accommodate other ISP firms that wish to purchase access from them. This wholesale provisioning will stimulate competition and be of benefit to the consumers. To not do so would cripple the '96 Telecom Act. As an American Citizen and consumer, I have always wanted a choice in who provides my internet service. Competition is good since pricing is also kept competitive. Without competition, we will be forced to pay much higher prices for internet services and those services may not be as good as what we presently have. It would also force small isp's out of business and further hurt our ailing economy. Small business is good. We SHOULDN'T have to have the big Bell's become WalMart's from whom we MUST buy our services!

Chairman Powell: Please do not sell out to BIG BUSINESS, at the expense of competition and the small businesses of our country.