

Did the FCC suddenly decide that they weren't doing a good enough job regulating local service when they passed the 1996 Telecommunications Act? I doubt it. The Senators on the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation held hearings with the FCC to pressure them to open up local service because the special interest groups (the politicians like to call them their "constituents" when carrying out their bidding) wanted a piece of that pie. The argument was that it would be in the public's best interest if there was competition. Competition hasn't helped us that much since the average local phone bill has gone up 15% in the last 2 years!

There is no such thing as perfect competition, and this wasn't set up to be even close. Verizon paid to set up the network, maintains and repairs it, and is supposed to have money left over to upgrade. The so-called competition merely resells the lines that they rent from Verizon at rates so drastically slashed by the FCC, and then again by each state's PSC (Public Service Commission) that they lose money on every line rented!

They've lost tons of customers because they aren't allowed to compete with the cut-rate prices offered by the competition since the FCC and PSC have forced them to raise the rates that they charge their own customers! That's why I laugh at the argument that people are saving money on their bills with the competition. Its fixed, stupid!

The competition was supposed to have built their own networks by now, but why would they when there's little overhead besides startup costs, few employees if any, and all they have to do is whine to their Senators, and I don't say "their" because they live in their districts, and the prices get slashed again!

The NY State PSC's ruling of 1/02, which cut the rates Verizon could charge the competition by another 50% and raised what they have to charge their own customers again directly resulted in 3,000 jobs lost, but the decision doesn't surprise me since the Commissioners were appointed by Pataki, who's 3rd biggest campaign contributors are telecommunications companies.

Verizon itself isn't squeaky clean in all of this since Ivan Sidenberg, the CEO, and his top 9 executives recently gave themselves a total of 650 Million Dollars in bonuses, especially when they knew that they were planning on laying personnel off. They've also made a habit of declaring a "state of emergency," which is supposed to be reserved for times when a large number of customers are out of service because of weather-related emergencies like ice storms or even acts of war like 9/11 when they can make employees work unlimited OT, not for self-imposed staff shortages. As a matter of fact, a lot of the people who were laid off risked life and limb to get Wall Street back up and running within the time frame President Bush asked for, and it wouldn't have happened without them. That's a fine "thank you very much."

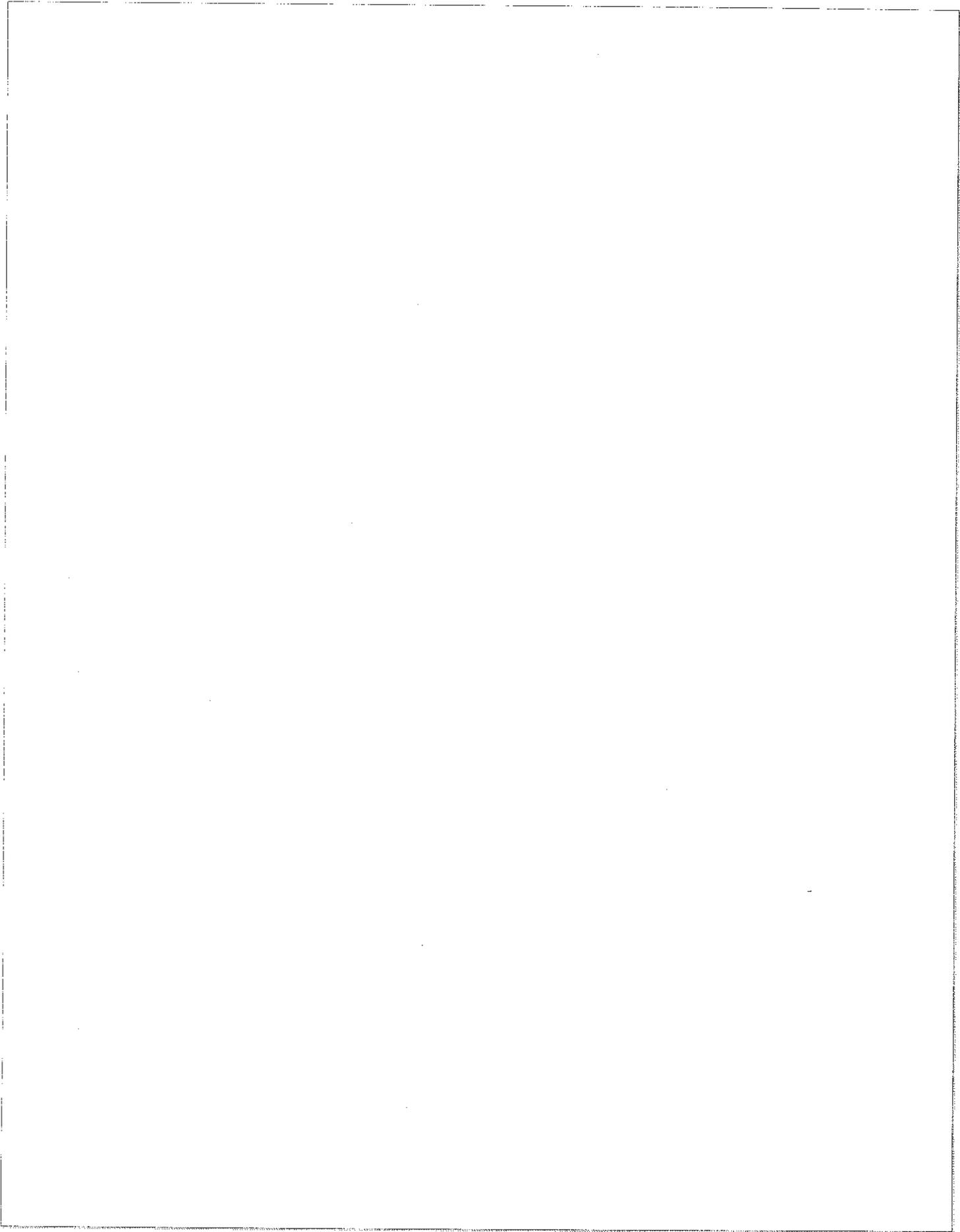
The FCC was supposed to make a ruling on 2/13/03 to make things more fair and bring jobs back, but the 3 Republican Commissioners have threatened to block it because of pressure from some of the Senators on the Commerce Committee, so its been delayed until 2/20/03 for now. What do they care about jobs?

Call the FCC (1-800-CALL FCC) and Senator John McCain (1-202-224-2235), the head of the Commerce Committee and one Senator who might listen to his real constituents, and tell them that you care about jobs and good phone service.

Sincerely,

Sandra Fournier

P.S. Unlike your so-called competition, I checked my own spelling, or should I say my "won" spelling, without relying solely on "spell check." You've got to give me points for that!



**From:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**To:** KAQUINN  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 7:27 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Keep the Internet alive

**From:** brian.lowe@belleson.com  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 7:27 PM  
**Subject:** Keep the Internet alive

Thursday's vote on the Unbundled Network Element Triennial Review will determine the fate of many companies and individuals. The future of the Internet is not whether RBOCs can afford to improve the bandwidth by adding new fiber, but whether it can be used affordably by individuals and small companies. If you restrict last mile access to RBOCs, not only will many more people from ISPs such as Earthlink and Speakeasy be put out of work, **but** many small businesses that depend on them (such as my online business Belleson Corp.) will also be put out of business. Keep the Internet alive--allow wholesale access to the last mile!

Brian Lowe  
Belleson Corp.  
852 Kingston Ln  
Bartlett, IL 60103-4545

**From:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**To:** KAQUINN  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 7:37 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Save us from the Bell Monopoly Bid

**From:** donfadden@earthlink.net  
**To:** KathleenAbernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Mike Powell, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 7:37 PM  
**Subject:** Save us from the Bell Monopoly Bid

Message from Donald Fadden

130 E. San Fernando Street #403

Dear FCC Commissioner:  
Please stand by us in this hour of need.  
The elimination of competitive access  
to wholesale phone networks  
will kill local competition and leave  
consumers with the worst of both  
worlds, an unregulated monopoly. Please  
reject the Bells self serving  
proposals to eliminate  
the UNE-Ps, which would pave the way  
for a bigger, meaner phone monopoly  
unrestrained by regulatory oversight.

Sincerely,

Don M. Fadden

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**From:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**To:** KAQUINN  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19.2003 7:41 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Telecom decision 2/20/2003

**From:** LARS35@aol.com  
**To:** KathleenAbernathy  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19,2003 7:41 PM  
**Subject:** Telecom decision 2/20/2003

Kathleen Q. Abernathy

**As** a concerned individual involved with our Telecom Industry, I hope you make the right decision and allow Bell companies to charge the CLEC's with the appropriate rates. Don't let them "piggyback" on the strength of the main telephone company. We (the consumer) have seen no positive growth or competition evolve from the ruling passed in 1996. In fact, I've seen just the opposite. Consumers are waiting longer for service, outside infrastructures are deplorable and lay off's abound. In upstate New York alone, we have lost nearly 3,500 dedicated telecom technicians. Bell companies can't support the leaching effects of these **CLEC's**. They aren't trying to form their own backbone, they are merely using the existing facilities of the dominant telco company. They are getting basically a free ride. This truly hurts the company, the employee's, and most of all the consumers. Please abandon the 1996 telecom act. It doesn't work.

Sincerely,

Larry Briand  
Lars35@aol.com  
Western New York State

**From:** KathleenAbernathy  
**To:** KAQUINN  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 8:24 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: UNE-P

**From:** res0wsej@verizon.net  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 8:24 PM  
**Subject:** UNE-P

Dear FCC Commissioner:

Elimination of competitive access to wholesale phone networks will kill local competition and leave consumers with the worst of both worlds, an unregulated monopoly. Please reject the Bell's self serving proposals to eliminate the UNE-Ps, which would pave the way for a bigger, meaner phone monopoly unrestrained by regulatory oversight. Please be sure they are NOT eliminated.

Sincerely,  
Michael Ude

**From:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**To:** KAQUINN  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 10:45 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: (no subject)

**From:** saabel3@aol.com  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein, Kathleen Abernathy, KM KJMWEB. Michael Copps, Mike Powell  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 10:45 PM  
**Subject:** (no subject)

Dear Chairmen,

I am a telecom employee that was laid off due to the rules and regulations that were set forth by my government. I would hope that when you make your ruling that decides whether I and everyone else affected by you that you would take into consideration that my livelihood depends on your ruling on 2/20/03. Don't get me wrong, I agree with competition, but why would you let companies come in and give them a free ride based on an infrastructure that was built by myself and other employees with the resources provided by my employer, Verizon. **It's** just not fair, they don't have to go out there and replace the copper or fiber lines, we do!! If you are going to let them do that then they should have to pay for the maintenance.

Please! When you make your ruling all I ask is that you remember the people who aren't represented by lobbyists, influence, and especially money (actually, what's the difference?!). Please remember that even though there are people who have basically bought and paid for this decision and expect it to be in their favor, there are a lot more people who are depending on YOU to make the most fair and the best decision for the working American people and their families, along with the people who expect the kind of service that they think that their money is paying for.

Please make the decision that's right and fair. In this case, when America is losing jobs left and right and you alone have the power to save tens of thousands of jobs I think that you have a responsibility to save American jobs.

Thank you for listening,  
Scott Abel

**From:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**To:** KAQUINN  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 10:56 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: **2120** HEARING: PLEASE READ!!!Fwd: (no subject)

**From:** saabel3@aol.com  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein, KathleenAbernathy, KM KJMWEB, Michael Copps, Mike Powell  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 10:56 PM  
**Subject:** 2/20 HEARING: PLEASE READ!!!Fwd: (no subject)

**To** the Chairpersons of the FCC:

Please read the forwarded message and I urge you to consider my point of view along with thousands of others before you make your decision.

Sincerely,

Scott Abel

**CC:** saabel3@aol.com

From: saabel3@aol.com

To: Commissioner Adelstein; Kathleen Abernathy; KM KJMWEB; Michael Copps; Mike Powell

cc:

Subject: (no subject)

Dear Chairmen,

I am a telecom employee that was laid off due to the rules and regulations that were set forth by my government. I would hope that when you make your ruling that decides whether I and everyone else affected by you that you would take into consideration that my livelihood depends on your ruling on 2/20/03. Don't get me wrong, I agree with competition, but why would you let companies come in and give them a free ride based on an infrastructure that was built by myself and other employees with the resources provided by my employer, Verizon. It's just not fair, they don't have to go out there and replace the copper or fiber lines, we do!! If you are going to let them do that then they should have to pay for the maintenance.

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Please make the decision that's right and fair. In this case, when America is losing jobs left and right and you alone have the power to save tens of thousands of jobs I think that you have a responsibility to save American jobs.

Thank you for listening,  
Scott Abel

**From:** KathleenAbernathy  
**To:** KAQUINN  
**Date:** Thu, Feb 20, 2003 2:09 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request for help for the little people.....

**From:** efinf@JUNO.COM  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Thu, Feb 20, 2003 2:09 AM  
**Subject:** Request for help for the little people.

Your job is to oversee the use of PUBLIC communication companies. THAT is regulation

For you to DE-regulate (remove) the Unbundled Network Elements Platform (UNE-P) will be dereliction of your duty.

Simple in my opinion. I KNOW many others who agree.

Please keep in place an element which will aid continued competition. This is one of the reasons the BELLS were separated, years ago. THAT didn't work well, and the result is a few companies with much power. Their efforts to gather more power will be helped if you remove the UNE-P.

Please do not help the companies you are in business to REGULATE - to hurt the general public.

If you saw the ads SBC has on the air right now - in this area - you would realize why we worry.

Sincerely

Gene Forcucci

**CC:** Kathleen Abernathy, Commissioner Adelstein, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB

**From:** KEN AND RACHEL  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 6:23 PM  
**Subject:** FCC LOCAL PHONE RULING

BE FAIR TO THE REGIONAL BELL COMPANIES. IT'S THEIR NETWORKS THAT MAKE AMERICAS COMMUNICATIONS GO FORWARD.

**CC:** KEN & RACHEL KANE

**From:** knit1pur1@aol.com  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps. KM KJMWEB. Mike Powell, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 9:58 PM  
**Subject:** Reject Bells' Monopoly Bid

Message from Patience Hutchinson

Dear FCC Commissioner: Elimination of competitive access to wholesale phone networks will kill local competition and leave consumers with the worst of both worlds, an unregulated monopoly. Please reject the Bells self serving proposals to eliminate the UNE-Ps, which would pave the way for a bigger, meaner phone monopoly unrestrained by regulatory oversight.

Sincerely,  
Patience Hutchi

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**From:** LARS35@aol.com  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 7:42 PM  
**Subject:** telecom decision 2/20/2003

Michael J. Copps

As a concerned individual involved with our Telecom Industry, I hope you make the right decision and allow Bell companies to charge the CLECs with the appropriate rates. Don't let them "piggyback on the strength of the main telephone company. We (the consumer) have seen no positive growth or competition evolve from the ruling passed in 1996. In fact, I've seen just the opposite. Consumers are waiting longer for service, outside infrastructures are deplorable and layoffs abound. In upstate New York alone, we have lost nearly 3,500 dedicated telecom technicians. Bell companies can't support the leaching effects of these CLECs. They aren't trying to form their own backbone, they are merely using the existing facilities of the dominant telco company. They are getting basically a free ride. This truly hurts the company, the employee's, and most of all the consumers. Please abandon the 1996 telecom act. It doesn't work.

Sincerely,

Larry Briand  
Lars35@aol.com  
Western New York State

**From:** laversky61@hotmail.com  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Mike Powell, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 7:20 PM  
**Subject:** Reject Bells' Monopoly Bid

Message from Lisa Geiszler

35 Martens Blvd.  
San Rafael, CA 94901

Dear FCC Commissioner: Elimination of competitive access to wholesale phone networks will kill local competition and leave consumers with the worst of both worlds, an unregulated monopoly. Please reject the Bells self serving proposals to eliminate the UNE-Ps, which would pave the way for a bigger, meaner phone monopoly unrestrained by regulatory oversight.

Sincerely,

Lisa Geiszler

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**From:** Icon@profitline.com  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Mike Powell, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 4:07 PM  
**Subject:** Reject Bells' Monopoly Bid

Message from Larry Conklin

168 Fireside Drive  
Oceanside, CA 92054

Dear FCC Commissioner: Elimination of competitive access to wholesale phone networks will kill local competition and leave consumers with the worst of both worlds, an unregulated monopoly. Please reject the Bells self serving proposals to eliminate the UNE-Ps, which would pave the way for a bigger, meaner phone monopoly unrestrained by regulatory oversight.

Sincerely,  
Larry Conklin

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**From:** leniml@earthlink.net  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Mike Powell, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19.2003 6:45 PM  
**Subject:** Reject Bells' Monopoly Bid

Message from Leonard M. Mandelbaum

1032 North Sweetzer Avenue, Apt 306  
West Hollywood, CA 90069-4340

Dear FCC Commissioner: Elimination of competitive access to wholesale phone networks will kill local competition and leave consumers with the worst of both worlds, an unregulated monopoly. Please reject the Bell's self serving proposals to eliminate the UNE-Ps. which would pave the way for a bigger, meaner phone monopoly unrestrained by regulatory oversight.

Sincerely,

Leonard M. Mandelbaum

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**From:** lgardner@fea.net  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Mike Powell, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 7:01 PM  
**Subject:** Reject Bells' Monopoly Bid

Message from Len Gardner

197 Avenida Majorca Unit C  
Laguna Woods, CA 92653

Dear FCC Commissioner: Elimination of competitive access to wholesale phone networks will kill local competition and leave consumers with the worst of both worlds, an unregulated monopoly. Please reject the Bells **self** serving proposals to eliminate the UNE-Ps, which would pave the way for a bigger, meaner phone monopoly unrestrained by regulatory oversight.

Sincerely,

Len Gardner

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**From:** Lisa Geiszler  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 7:27 PM  
**Subject:** reject Bells' monopoly bid

Commissioner,  
I urge you not to vote for the elimination of competitive access to wholesale phone network. This would kill local competition, increase phone rates and leave consumers with the worst of both worlds, an unregulated monopoly. Please reject the Bell's self-serving proposals to eliminate the UNE-Ps, which would pave the way for a bigger, meaner phone monopoly unrestrained by regulatory oversight. Most consumers are already unhappy with the phone service they receive, passing this would just increase this frustration and anger and would only benefit the corporation without helping the consumer at all.

Sincerely,

Lisa Geiszler

---

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<http://join.msn.com/?page=features/virus>

**From:** Lisa Geiszler  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 7:28 PM  
**Subject:** reject monopoly bid

Commissioner,

I urge you not to vote for the elimination of competitive access to wholesale phone network. This would kill local competition, increase phone rates and leave consumers with the worst of both worlds, an unregulated monopoly. Please reject the Bell's self-serving proposals to eliminate the UNE-Ps, which would pave the way for a bigger, meaner phone monopoly unrestrained by regulatory oversight. Most consumers are already unhappy with the phone service they receive, passing this would just increase this frustration and anger and would only benefit the corporation without helping the consumer at all.

Sincerely,

Lisa Geiszler

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<http://join.msn.com/?page=features/junkmail>

**From:** Lisa Geiszler  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 7:28 PM  
**Subject:** reject monopoly bid

Commissioner,

I urge you not to vote for the elimination of competitive access to wholesale phone network. THIS would kill local competition, increase phone rates and leave consumers with the worst of both worlds, an unregulated monopoly. Please reject the Bell's self-serving proposals to eliminate the UNE-Ps, which would pave the way for a bigger, meaner phone monopoly unrestrained by regulatory oversight. Most consumers are already unhappy with the phone service they receive, passing this would just increase this frustration and anger and would only benefit the corporation without helping the consumer at all.

Sincerely,

Lisa Geiszler

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**From:** lloydmdowns@JUNO.COM  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Mike Powell, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Thu, Feb 20, 2003 1:41 AM  
**Subject:** Reject Bells' Monopoly Bid

Message from Lloyd Downs

14766 Pine Cone Way

Dear FCC Commissioner: Elimination of competitive access to wholesale phone networks will kill local competition and leave consumers with the worst of both worlds, an unregulated monopoly. Please reject the Bells self serving proposals to eliminate the UNE-Ps. which would pave the way for a bigger, meaner phone monopoly unrestrained by regulatory oversight.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Downs

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**From:** lou@gadoinstrument.com  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB. Mike Powell, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 7:53 PM  
**Subject:** Reject Bells' Monopoly Bid

Message from Louis G. Gado

1562 Landell Court  
Los Altos  
CA 94024

Dear FCC Commissioner: Elimination of competitive access to wholesale phone networks will kill local competition and leave consumers with the worst of both worlds, an unregulated monopoly. Please reject the Bells self serving proposals to eliminate the UNE-Ps, which would pave the way for a bigger, meaner phone monopoly unrestrained by regulatory oversight. As a small business man our overhead keeps going up. This elimination will add to our overhead. Lets not help very large corporations hurt small business. With the current recession we are finding it difficult to to remain in business. The deregulation of utilities has already driven up our costs. I urge you to vote against UNE-P.  
Sincerely,  
Louis G. Gado

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**From:** M. Hussain  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 8:21 PM  
**Subject:** Reject Bells' Monopoly Bid

Dera Mr. Powell,

As a resident of California I have been victimized before in the name of competition especially with the **so** called electric and gas deregulation. I understand that "the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is considering proposals by the regional Bell companies to eliminate critical parts of the wholesale phone system known as the Unbundled Network Elements Platform (UNE-P)". This will surely increase **the** cost of telephone service - another utility being attacked for the sake of corporate greed.

I urge you to reject this bid catagorically. I am sick and tired of being victimized from every space around me. It is hard enough to keep a job these days as large corporations like Bells outsouirce many servcices, move jobs abroad for slave salary, migrate buisness legal entity overseas to avoid USA taxes and worse attack the very fabric of american life.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Mr. M. Hussain  
mhussainca@yahoo.com  
4397 N Willow Glen Ct  
Concord CA 94521

---

Do you Yahoo!?  
Yahoo! Shopping - Send Flowers for Valentine's Day

**CC:** dana@turn.org

**From:** marc@dybbuk.com  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Mike Powell, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 6:07 PM  
**Subject:** Reject Bells' Monopoly Bid

Message from Marc Geller

847 Haight St  
San Francisco CA 94117

Dear FCC Commissioner: Elimination of competitive access to wholesale phone networks will kill local competition and leave consumers with the worst of both worlds, an unregulated monopoly. Please reject the Bell's self serving proposals to eliminate the UNE-Ps, which would pave the way for a bigger, meaner phone monopoly unrestrained by regulatory oversight.

Sincerely,

Marc Geller

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**From:** Martin Oppenheimer  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 10:28 PM  
**Subject:** Docket Nos. 02-52, 02-33, 01-337 and 01338

Dear Commissioner Abernathy,

Please make no changes in the Telecommunication Reform Act of 1996

Proposals to suspend the Act as hyped by rhe Bell Companies would seriously hurt the small Independent Service Providers (ISP) and Users of their Internet Services.

Respectfully,

Martin Oppenheimer

**From:** Martin Oppenheimer  
**To:** Michael Copps  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 10:37 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Docket Nos. 02-52, 02-33, 01-337 and 01-338

Dear Commissioner Copps.

Please make no changes in the Telecommunication Reform Act of 1996

Proposals to suspend the Act as hyped by the Bell Companies would seriously hurt the small Internet Service Providers (ISP's) and Consumers of their Internet Services.

Respectfully,

Martin Oppenheimer N2HLA

**From:** mhussainca@yahoo.com  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Mike Powell, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 8:11 PM  
**Subject:** Reject Bells' Monopoly Bid

Message from Marian Hussain

4397 N Willow Glen Ct  
Concord, CA 94521

Dear FCC Commissioner: Elimination of competitive access to wholesale phone networks will kill local competition and leave consumers with the worst of both worlds, an unregulated monopoly. Please reject the Bells self serving proposals to eliminate the UNE-Ps, which would pave the way for a bigger, meaner phone monopoly unrestrained by regulatory oversight.

Sincerely,

Ms. M. Hussain

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**From:** msiebrass@yahoo.com  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Mike Powell, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Wed, Feb 19, 2003 8:26 PM  
**Subject:** Reject Bells' Monopoly Bid

Message from Michael Siebrass

2800 Ardilla Road  
Atascadero. CA 93422

Dear FCC Commissioner: Elimination of competitive access to wholesale phone networks will kill local competition and leave consumers with the worst of both worlds, an unregulated monopoly. Please reject the Bells self serving proposals to eliminate the UNE-Ps, which would pave the way for a bigger, meaner phone monopoly unrestrained by regulatory oversight. As we have seen here in California, deregulation works for the utilities but imposes undue hardships on the consumer.

Sincerely,

Michael Siebrass

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