

In my opinion, the FCC needs to consider the competitive implications of common carrier entities using their status to unfairly compete with private corporations who provide content for the internet. The common carrier entities were given that privilege to build the infrastructure and charge a fair price for maintaining and expanding it. Instead, common carriers use their status to cherry pick the growth of the infrastructure to those areas that can be most profitable while neglecting areas that need access or are using old infrastructure that is dire need of modernization. Other companies cannot come in and expand the infrastructure. Everyone that uses the infrastructure pays for the use and growth of the infrastructure.

Common carriers are using their status for uncompetitive advantage because:

- A common carrier in effect has a government sanctioned monopoly. Subscribers have few options to access the content that they wish to receive if net neutrality is not maintained. Since the common carrier is blocking the content, any ISPs that use that common carrier are also having that content blocked.

- A common carrier is effectively holding the subscribers hostage from external content providers from reaching their customers. For example, if an AT&T customer can receive media content through a third party over a fiber line for a better price, AT&T cannot compete with that third party and must find some way to block that competition. The common carrier who is also the ISP is in a conflict of interest position.

- Google, Yahoo, and MSN have paid their common carriers to expand and maintain the infrastructure for the internet in their areas to reach their customers throughout the internet. I'm sure the common carrier has benefited greatly from expanded infrastructure through more customers and larger bandwidth pipes. Should other common carriers have to pay Google, Yahoo, and MSN to send data to subscribers in those areas that these content providers have enhanced?

Common carriers should be barred from providing content and a common carrier cannot be an ISP. A common carrier MUST charge every ISP the same amount based on bandwidth so every ISP is on equal ground to

compete in the market place. If the situation is not rectified, the internet WILL fragment into a group of regional thiefdoms stifing competition and choice. The losers are the service subscribers who have little or no options in trying to get the content they want and the content providers who have no way to reach some of their customers without paying the internet "trolls" who hold their subscribers hostage to the rest of the internet.