

We approach a defining moment in the history of the Internet. The mere fact that a public agency has to power to establish rules of use mandates that the FCC represent the interests of the public. The cable and telephone industries spend untold millions on professional advocates/lobbyists to sway your judgment. The people have only their collective voices.

My voice says that neutral accessibility to the Internet is of vital importance, not only to the public at large, but also the intellectual and commercial future of the United States. Undoubtedly the Internet has become the primary medium for information and advocacy in the world. Currently certain cable companies are attempting to expand their control over content. Giving them such control allows them to charge monopolist pricing for the content. Modifying the concept of Net Neutrality is nothing less than giving the major Internet Service Providers monopolist power over the distribution of the content, the ownership of which they are now proposing.

Modifying the principle of Net Neutrality will also provide a disincentive for future work to improve Internet performance. As the number of users increases, increasing demands on the system will take place, demand that the monopolists need not answer. This invites foreign companies to fill the technological void and make careers in the United States for the most talented engineers to be less palatable, also reducing the ability of the United States to compete in a global environment.