

One of the developments we take for granted is electricity. In our own homes, we are allowed to plug in multiple appliances at the same time. We aren't charged more for using our washers and dryers, or less for using our toasters. The same goes for water. We aren't charged more for watering our lawn, or less for washing our car, nor is our water quality degraded depending on application. As consumers we can count on the utility companies to remain neutral on our use.

The same rules should apply to the internet. Consumers should be allowed to consume, and sustain if we want, the bandwidth we pay for regardless of content. Carriers should not discriminate or set different rates for voice, video or data anymore than energy companies shouldn't set different rates for ranges, refrigerators or blow dryers. If I pay for 50 Mbps of Internet up and down, I want assurance that I can use all 50 Mbps of Internet up and down.

Unlike energy and water companies, carriers have competition. Competition and technological improvements will lower the costs of providing bandwidth. To remain competitive, carriers should avoid over-subscribing bandwidth beyond the capacity of their networks. Like energy and water companies, once they've reached their capacity it's time to upgrade their facilities and prepare for growth.

I support Net Neutrality and Open Internet rules for Tier 1 providers all the way down to the last mile service providers! As a small Wireless ISP providing service in a rural area, the quality of our service is dependent on the quality of service we receive from our upstream provider. We cannot guarantee an open and neutral internet to our customers if our upstream providers practice traffic discrimination. At the end of the day, network traffic is all zeros and ones. It is not up to the ISP or the carrier to be the internet police.