

Chairman Genachowski,

I strongly urge you to reclassify broadband internet as a "telecommunications service" in order to protect the principle of Net Neutrality. Without strong regulatory protection service providers such as AT&T, Comcast and Time Warner will have the power and incentive to effectively end the internet as we know it. In the absence of Net Neutrality rules, these companies could:

1. Censor online speech critical of their practices.
2. Extort 'processing fees' from online contributions to charities, political candidates or from online purchases.
3. Create a tiered internet similar to what is seen in cable television.
4. Lie about what access they are granting and what they are censoring.

It is for these and other reasons that President Obama supports the principles of a system of strong Net Neutrality. Without the proper protections, the existence of a vibrant internet capable of spurring the invention of new technologies and spirited discourse will be in serious doubt.