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I'm a retired Information Systems manager who worked for a top 100 Multi-National Corporation and was responsible for eight Manufacturing and Sales sites in the South Eastern US. Several years ago we built and moved into our retirement home on land in Bradley County.

Adequate internet access at our home at a reasonable price has always been an issue, at first it was only available via POTS lines from AT&T. Several years later Charter Cable ran their network down our road but not to our driveway. When I asked them to quote an additional run to the house their estimate was \$15,000 - \$20,000. Clearly, that was not a competitive bid but it was the only one available. Needless to say, we didn't take them up on their offer. Several years later when WildBlue's Satellite service was implemented, we were one of the first subscribers in the area.

As Verizon's 4g network was rolled out we quickly migrated our internet service to a third-party who re-sells access to Verizon's 4g network via hotspot [at the time] for up to four devices. This subscription allows up to 20 gig/month, hardly enough to watch 5 HD movies in a month - if we were so inclined. We later purchased an IPAD specifically for traveling and contract with AT&T on a monthly basis for internet access via their 3g cellular network for \$25 for 2 gig/month. After exceeding our Verizon Network data allowance two months in a row we had to buy an additional 20 gig/Month hotspot-based account. So our situation is now: with NO streaming video, audio, TV, movies, TedTalk, YouTube, Netflix, or Hulu, etc. we barely stay within our total of 45 gig/month allowance. All this data for the sum of \$185/Month. As a comparison, if I were to contract the hotspot accounts directly with Verizon, the same configuration would run \$300 per month. So on a monthly basis we pay \$185 for access to 42 Gig of internet data for two retired adult users.

We have always contracted with Dish Network for all television viewing.

All this is to underline the fact that time and technology continues to advance. As Charter has proven to be non-competitive in our area we must look to other, more technically advanced providers for the next solution. In our case that provider is clearly Chattanooga's EPB Fiber based network.

Current legislation that restricts EPB from serving areas outside their own is not only illogical but anti-competitive. It is clear from my experience with Charter, that they aren't interested in investing in a fiber-based infrastructure. Charter seems to prefer to continue their current business model with minimal investment while reaping profits from their now-obsolete technology and who could blame them, certainly not their stockholders.

This consumer wants to ensure fair competition between all internet infrastructure providers so monopolies are no-longer perpetuated through legislation bought and paid for by the cable companies of the state.

I strongly urge the FCC to remove these artificial barriers to commerce in Tennessee by allowing EPB to provide their fiber based internet service into other counties.