

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington DC 20554

In the Matter of:	)	
“Accelerating Network Modernization” ¹ . . .	)	WC Docket No. 25-208
“Reducing Barriers to Network	)	
Improvements & Service Changes” . . .	)	WC Docket No. 25-209
“Reforming Legacy Rules for an All-IP	)	
Future” . . .	)	WC Docket No. 25-311

REPLY COMMENTS OF WIRED BROADBAND, INC.

AND THE FILING PARTIES

ON BEHALF OF AMERICANS INJURED AND DISABLED

FROM ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION

(ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION SYNDROME – EMR SYNDROME)



Filed June 22, 2026

¹ FCC26-11A1.

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FILING PARTIES

The parties listed in Appendix A (attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference) collectively constitute the “Filing Parties,” have granted permission to submit these Comments on their behalf, and join together to submit these Comments.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	4
1. Comments on the Need for Landlines	5
2. Comments by Local Government Entities	5
3. Opposition Response to Certain Comments	 12
Conclusion	 14
Appendix A – Filing Parties	 15
Appendix B – Comments on Lack of Viable Alternatives to Landlines	 20
Appendix C – Comments on Lack of Alternatives Due to Biological Effects	 90

Introduction

Wired Broadband, Inc., and the Filing Parties set forth in **Appendix A**, respectfully submit these reply comments on behalf of Americans injured or disabled by electromagnetic radiation, and those who do not want to be injured or disabled by electromagnetic radiation. The Filing Parties and coalition partner groups have a reach of over two million people across the country. We advocate for the safe deployment of communications infrastructure.

We are in **strong opposition** to the Commission's proposed Order to eliminate copper landlines. By eliminating copper landlines, the Commission would be removing the very lifeline that the Commission was created to maintain. The Commission's primary obligation since the Communications Act of 1934 has been to provide ubiquitous telecommunications service in the U.S. that is affordable with a statutory mandate "to protect life and property through the use of wire and radio communication."² Removing copper landlines would endanger the lives of Americans because there is no adequate or reliable substitute in the event of an electrical or cellular outage. Internet and wireless communications are not an adequate substitute for copper landlines.

1. Comments on the Need for Landlines

These Reply Comments show that a number of commenters need their landlines and they show a lack viable alternatives to landlines: (1) no reasonable or reliable voice substitutes for

² Communications Act of 1934, as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 USC §151 *et seq.*

landlines, (2) no power outage contingencies, (3) no emergency preparedness, (4) no other accessibility for individuals with disabilities. Therefore, commenters would be completely left without reasonable, workable voice substitutes

There has been an avalanche of comments to keep our landlines in Dockets 25-311, 25-208 and 25-209. Here are a few comments highlighting the importance of keeping our landlines; many others are set forth in Appendices B and C.

Nancy Hubert (25-208; 25-209)

It is AT&T that is informing people that the company no longer services copper and will not install landlines. They had incredible standards that they would hold themselves to (99.999% uptime) and backup systems that included floatable batteries as a backup." There is nothing comparable to this premier system. It was built to withstand disasters. Rural areas rely on it. Without the copperline landline system, people have no telephone service and no 911 service in a power outage once cellphone and VoIP batteries die and cell towers lose power. There is no replacement for the reliability, quality, or reach of landline service.

Ed Friedman (25-208; 25-209)

When compared with wireless, fiber, cable or VOIP in general, copper landlines are the clear winners for cost, reliability, energy savings, health and audio quality. [Emphasis added] WHY ARE WE EVEN HAVING THIS DEBATE???

Deborah Kopald (25-208; 25-209)

In 2005 the UK Health Protection Agency told the British public not to abandon their landlines for health reasons (microwave radiation emissions from cell phones, cell towers, etc.)

Irene H. Terrill (25-209; 9-24-25; 9-24-25)

I was forced to give up my landline because Verizon refused to keep it in good working order.

Lisa Henderson (25-208; 9-24-25)

AT&T claims that people are abandoning landlines, when what has actually been occurring is that people are being told that AT&T no longer services copper landlines, and won't install landlines any more. In power shutoffs (planned and unplanned) so-called landline "substitutes" are less likely to still be operational.

Patricia Burke (25-208 9-28-25)

Previously, I worked in the office of a medical provider. Every morning the answering machine for the corded landline phone would have blank spaces from callers using a cellphone and believing that they were leaving a message. **The widescale adoption**

of cellphones is inefficient, not secure, not reliable, not safe, and necessitates unnecessary consumption of energy, and irresponsibly adds to the e-waste stream. [Emphasis added] **During weather-related outages in MA with downed trees, once the batteries died on cellphones and VOIP systems, large swaths of the community had no connectivity. The FCC and the industry created these dangerous conditions.** [Emphasis added] The only justification for eliminating landlines is wide-scale surveillance. **Consumers want landlines because they are the more reasonable and responsible choice.** [Emphasis added]

Kim Hrac & Andy Schoenwetter (25-208 / 25-311 6-12-16)

AT&T claims “alternatives” are available to everyone; however, this is not true, and even when “alternatives” exist, they are not functionally equivalent. VoIP and wireless require backup batteries, which are **insufficient in extended power outages** or during disasters and rely on broadband or cellular, which are less reliable, poorer quality, and more prone to disruptions. Wireless is not accessible to many with disabilities and actual reception does not always match coverage maps. Traditional landlines are the only reliable way to reach 911 for many people. This is a national public safety issue. Landlines are lifelines!

2. Comments by Local Government Entities

The Commission’s NPRM seeks to transition from legacy copper-based telecommunications networks to all IP-enabled services. Wired Broadband, Inc. and the joining parties are opposed to eliminating copper-based telecommunications networks. In our prior submission during the Comment period, we pointed out the differences between copper-based networks and IP based networks and how copper-based networks were more reliable and resilient in natural disasters and emergencies.

An overwhelming response by commenters has been to maintain their landlines (see comments in Appendices A and B, incorporated herein by reference) with a number of state commissions stating that they are opposed to “keep and bill” which would unfairly shift the burden of paying for telecommunications services to consumers.

The Alaska Power and Telephone Company (AP&T) states that their:

“geography, logistics and cost structure have not changed as telecommunications technology has evolved, and phasing out CAF/ICC

support without replacement would transfer unrecovered costs directly to rural Alaskan ratepayers who are unable to absorb them.”³

The rates are not being driven by market forces, but by regulatory fiat.

“AP&T's customers cannot reasonably absorb the revenue reduction and attendant cost increase. A \$858,372 revenue reduction would fall directly on customers in some of Alaska's most rural, remote, and economically vulnerable communities.”⁴

In communities with subsistence-based economies and limited employment, many customers will be unable to absorb the increase and will discontinue service. “Customer losses then reduce the revenue base, requiring further rate increases - **the classic utility death spiral.**

[Emphasis added] Low-income families, elders, and tribal residents in cash-poor communities will be disproportionately affected, producing a regressive erosion of service access that directly contradicts the universal service principle underlying American telecommunications policy. “Custer Telephone Cooperative reached the same conclusion, noting that similar rate increases “would likely result in customers disconnecting service, which would further shrink the base of remaining subscribers and drive rates even higher in a cycle that is not sustainable.” AP&T faces these same diseconomies of scale, compounded by extreme weather, vast distances to interconnect with other facilities, and the absence of road access.

“The proposed CAF ICC phase-out would reduce . . . revenues by \$912,516.00 - roughly \$155 to \$277 connection per year. It provides no realistic path to offset the loss without dramatic rate increases for customers, or reductions in the investment that sustains the network that consumers depend on for safety and daily life...

Where rate increases cannot fully offset lost revenue, AP&T will face financial pressure to reduce capital investment. In a geographically isolated network, deferred investment leads directly to service degradation. Every dollar removed from AP&T's revenue base is unavailable to the communities that depend on its networks.

“AP&T's network is essential public safety infrastructure. Many communities have no road-accessible emergency services; the telephone network connects residents to assistance during medical emergencies, search and rescue operations, fires (including catastrophic wildfires in interior Alaska) and the extreme temperatures and weather events common throughout the state. Reforms that reduce AP&T's capacity to maintain these systems have direct public safety consequences.”

³ Comments of Alaska Power and Telephone Company, June 2026, <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/filing/1061054750872>, p.1 et seq.

⁴ Ibid.

Comments included that in certain situations where there are no adequate alternatives to landlines:

(1) Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) and Public Counsel

Unit of the Washington Attorney General's Office (PC) state that:

“Analyzing the telecommunications market at a national level suggests the existence of abundant competition, **but a more granular assessment shows that many communities still lack reasonably available alternative service providers.** In considering the Commission's NPRM, the Regulatory Staff of [UTC] conducted a competition study and found that, while competition has grown in Washington State, **sizable areas remain where customers must rely entirely on the Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC) for safe, reliable, and affordable telecommunications service.**”⁵

(2) The Public Service Commission of West Virginia (“PSCWV”)⁶ notes that

there are no alternatives to copper landlines, that they be maintained and that Verizon make substantial investments to maintain and improve the copper landlines. PSCWW states that:

“West Virginia remains a predominantly rural and mountainous state where many residents continue to depend upon traditional plain old telephone service (“POTS”) delivered over copper facilities for reliable voice communications, including access to emergency services and oftentimes located in areas lacking dependable wireless or broadband coverage⁷

“...any regulatory transition must continue to ensure that consumers in rural states such as West Virginia are not left without reliable and affordable communications service.

Accordingly, the PSCWV wishes to **emphasize the continuing importance of preserving access to copper-based POTS service until functionally equivalent alternatives are available at affordable rates.** [Emphasis added]

⁵ <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/10526158620485/1> p.1 et seq.

⁶ <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/filing/10526028669036>

⁷ <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/filing/10526028669036> p.4

“In many parts of West Virginia, geography, sparse population density, limited middle-mile infrastructure, and inconsistent wireless service coverage continue to present substantial challenges to the deployment and maintenance of replacement technologies including IP-enabled service. Consumers in these areas often rely upon legacy copper networks **as their only accessible and dependable means of communication** and these legacy networks are **still critical**, in many instances, for the safety and well-being of consumers in remote rural areas.⁸

“Rural carriers serving West Virginia face extraordinary costs associated with maintaining networks across challenging terrain and low-density service areas. Any reduction or destabilization of high-cost funding mechanisms could therefore materially impair these carriers’ ability to maintain reliable service for rural customers and could potentially accelerate the loss of communications access in already underserved communities across the State.⁹

“The . . . **PSCWV expressly recognized the continuing importance of copper-based service to West Virginia consumers until alternative technologies are available. The PSCWV imposed conditions expressly intended to preserve and improve traditional landline service, particularly in rural areas of the state where viable service alternatives remain limited. Among the applicable conditions, the Order required Verizon Communications to make substantial investment commitments in West Virginia specifically directed toward maintaining and improving existing copper network facilities or to invest in alternative technologies to provide service to traditional voice customers at comparable rates.**¹⁰

“The FCC should thus ensure that any federal policies governing network retirement, copper discontinuance, or technology transitions remain consistent with state regulatory commission efforts to ensure public safety, service reliability, and universal access obligations. West Virginia is encouraging and supporting the transition to new communication technologies. However, the transition to IP-enabled networks must proceed in a manner that recognizes the unique circumstances facing rural states such as West Virginia and provides states with continuing authority to preserve reliable communications service for all consumers including those that need an affordable substitute for copper-based POTS.”¹¹

⁸ Ibid. p.2.

⁹ Ibid, p.3.

¹⁰ Ibid, p.3.

¹¹ Ibid, p.4.

(3) COMMENTS OF THE CONCERNED RURAL LECS¹²

They address the lack of alternatives to copper landlines and impacts to them and to consumers, and the large number of consumers who still use copper landlines. They also address the “likely operational, financial and consumer impacts” of a “bill and keep” system.¹³

[T]he NPRM **likely overstates the migration to competitive voice service alternatives** in areas served by RoR LECs.

For the companies included in [their] analysis, **53 percent of customers—273,924 voice subscribers** out of 516,484 total subscribers—**continue to subscribe to traditional switched access voice services.**¹⁴

The NPRM suggests that these revenue losses could be shifted to end-user rates, **but it does not estimate the resulting rate increases or assess whether those increases would be just, reasonable, and affordable** under the Telecommunications Act of 1996.¹⁵ [Emphasis added]

“Ongoing support will almost certainly remain necessary because substantial costs continue to be associated with transporting voice traffic over an all-IP network, particularly where voice traffic must receive priority treatment over general Internet-bound data traffic. Emergency communications, including 911 traffic, require even greater reliability and prioritization. Voice communications—particularly emergency communications—cannot tolerate significant latency or congestion. As a result, carriers may need to purchase additional transport capacity, deploy redundant facilities, establish priority routing, maintain separate facilities, or take other costly measures to ensure that supported voice services satisfy the quality and reliability expectations reflected in the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Therefore, transferring to an all-IP system would be burdensome and expensive compared to maintaining the copper network.

¹² <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/1052665469568/1>

¹³ Ibid, p.1.

¹⁴ Ibid, p.12.

¹⁵ Ibid, p.16.

The FCC seeks to transition to a “bill-and-keep” framework, thereby shifting network costs to customers. The arguments against this framework:

(1) Comments of the Nebraska Rural Independent Companies (NRIC)¹⁶

The FCC's proposal is grounded on the expectation that companies would bill their own customers to recover any lost revenues ... this would result in **significant rate shock** to its member companies' customers. [Emphasis added] NRIC also explains why state law would preclude billing those lost revenues to its member companies' end user customers in the near term, resulting in a significant financial impact on the NRIC member companies.¹⁷

“Transitioning to a bill-and-keep framework would require NRIC companies to **shift the entirety of network cost recovery onto their subscriber base**, to the extent permitted by the Nebraska Commission. This **would drive retail rates to more than double their current level** in most instances. This would be an unprecedented action by the FCC, which historically has taken a more measured approach when phasing in changes that increase retail rates. Furthermore, these 6 See, Neb. Rev. Stat. sec. 86-146. 1 See, Neb. Rev. Stat. sec. 86-148. 6 rates **would create a "death spiral" of customer disconnects from the network resulting in a shrinking customer base that would be required to support an increasingly heavy burden of infrastructure costs.**¹⁸

“The elimination of access charges also thrusts severe **anti-competitive consequences** on many rural incumbent telecommunications providers that have invested significant financial and other resources into the deployment and operation of facilities over which other carriers provide their own services to end users.¹⁹ [Emphasis added]

(2) Comments of South Dakota PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION²⁰ against federal preemption in support of state and federal cooperation:

[T]he NPRM appears to rely on policy goals as the basis for exercising preemption. Preemption is an extreme measure that should be based on consistent, concrete Congressional direction. Policy goals, being subjective and amorphous in nature, are not an appropriate legal basis for preemption. Expanding the use of

¹⁶ <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/10526576021052/1>.

¹⁷ Ibid, p.4.

¹⁸ Ibid, pp. 6-7.

¹⁹ Ibid.p.7

²⁰ <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/10526212554999/1>

preemption by tying it to policy goals would not only undermine state authority and federalism but would also lead to significant regulatory uncertainty. The SD PUC respectfully urges restraint in the use of preemption and supports a framework of state and federal cooperation.²¹

There are commenters opposed to federal preemption proposed by the Commission.

(1) NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGULATORY UTILITY COMMISSIONERS (NARUC)²²

“This NPRM, inter alia, contends that the FCC (1) can extend a 15 year old flawed legal analysis to preempt rate-of-return intrastate originating access charges, (2) may have the authority to preempt a state’s authority to define the “network edge,” (3) may have the authority to preempt duties Congress assigned to States in § 252(c) and (4) may have statutory authority to preempt all state oversight of carriers providing VoIP-PSTN services. **The FCC is wrong on all counts.** In support of this position, NARUC states as follows: Congress references NARUC as “the national organization of the State commissions” responsible for economic and safety regulation of the intrastate operation of carriers and utilities. As Congress noted at the time, States have complementary universal service and low-income programs that will be affected by any FCC action in this docket. Cf. 47 U.S.C. §254 The 1996 Act is a carefully designed exercise in “cooperative federalism.” *Puerto Rico Tel. Co. v. Telecom. Reg. Bd. of Puerto Rico*, 189 F.3d 1, 8 (1st Cir. 1999). It required the FCC to work hand-in-hand with the States to open local markets to competition. It is explicit both when it preempts State authority and when it has the FCC set intrastate rates, including access charges. It requires any proposed preemption of intrastate operations to be on a case-specific basis and includes **numerous reservations of State authority**, e.g., §§ 251(d)(3), 253(b)&(c) and 261(b)&(c).

“Any changes to limits on State sui genesis police power established by Congress must be grounded in federal statutory text. The NPRM uses the words “preempt” or “preemption” at least sixteen times, all in connection with Commission questions about the need or desirability of limiting the authority of NARUC’s member commission to perform the tasks Congress assigned to them or preserved in the 1996 Act. ... [T]he NPRM proposals will impact State Commission jurisdiction and operations ... Given the **NPRM’s insistence on rolling all cost recovery into end-user rates, it is difficult to see how, at a minimum in high-cost areas, this push, which**

²¹ <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/10526212554999/1>, pp.1-2.

²² <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/10526236129337/1>.

necessarily increases residential and commercial rates, will not undermine those state efforts.”

The New York State Public Service Commission (NYSPSC)²³

NYSPSC states that modernizing our telecommunications framework cannot come at the expense of “state authority to protect consumers.”

“The NYSPSC has long recognized that technological transition must be implemented in a manner that protects consumers, preserves service reliability, and ensures that no communities are left behind as legacy networks evolve ... The mere existence of tension between the FCC’s preferred mechanism to achieve the same ultimate policy goals at the NYSPSC is not enough to justify preempting the considered judgement of a state sovereign.

“But modernization cannot come at the expense of longstanding state authority to protect consumers and ensure continuity of essential communications services. New York’s tariff framework is a core component of its authority over intrastate telecommunications services and an essential mechanism for protecting consumers and safeguarding the public interest during ongoing network transitions. These protections remain particularly important in New York, where 18% of consumers - particularly in rural communities - have limited provider choice.”²⁴

3. Opposition Response to Certain Comments

On the other hand, Verizon²⁵ appears to be going against the tide of opposition. We disagree with Verizon that the “Commission’s primary focus should be on facilitating the transition to an all-IP communications ecosystem.” The Commission’s primary focus is to ensure that communications protect “life and property.”

²³ <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/10526285177661/1>

²⁴ Ibid, p.4.

²⁵ <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/105262394621335/1>.

We are not in favor of Verizon's approach to have all carriers transition to "bill and keep." As opposed to the Commission's primary focus on facilitating the transition to an all-IP communications network, the comments submitted by others and in the Appendices, show opposition by local governments and consumers to eliminating landlines and opposition to transitioning to "bill and keep." Verizon argues for accelerating the transition, as it has spent "billions" of dollars to transition to an IP network while failing to address that landlines are the only alternative for communication in emergencies, disasters, and those who have EMR Syndrome. Landlines are not duplicative as VoIP cannot replace landlines in a power or cellular outage.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, WBI and the Filing Parties are opposed to the retirement of landlines as many people and communities across the country depend on landlines, including those disabled by electromagnetic radiation and have no other means of communicating except by wire. The Commission's primary mission is to serve the public interest as established in the Communications Act, otherwise, the Commission is going far afield from the stated purpose that gave rise to its existence.

On behalf of Americans Injured and Disabled from Electromagnetic Radiation and the Filing Parties

Respectfully Submitted,



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APPENDIX A

The parties listed below collectively constitute the “Filing Parties,” have granted permission to submit these Comments on their behalf, and join together to submit these Comments.

National Organizations – Filing Parties	
The National Call for Safe Technology, Odette J. Wilkens, Chair & General Counsel, NY	
The Weston A. Price Foundation, Sally Morell Fallon, President, Washington, D.C.	
Wired Broadband, Inc., 501(c)(3), Odette J. Wilkens, President & General Counsel	
Alliance for Natural Health - USA, Robert Verkerk, PhD, Executive and Scientific Director, Alexandria, VA	

U.S. State	Filing Parties
AK - Alaska	Hal Stachman, Sitka, AK
AL - Alabama	Donald Campbell, Huntsville, AL
AR - Arkansas	PACTS International, Ken Stroud, Advisory Board Member/Technical Director, with Havana Syndrome, Little Rock, AR
AZ - Arizona	Arizonans for Safe Technology
	EMF Wellness Tucson, Lisa Smith, PhD, Tucson, AZ
	Safe Tech Tucson, Tucson, AZ
	Floris R. Freshman, published artist and composer, Scottsdale, AZ, with EMR-Syndrome
	Susan Molloy, M.A., Snowflake, AZ
	Melissa Hayes, M.S., Oro Valley, AZ, Oak Haven Wellness, LLC, with EMR-Syndrome
	Renée Neumann, Tucson / Green Valley, AZ
	Kathy Flanagan, Prescott Valley, AZ, with EMR-Syndrome
	Karen Carswell, Flagstaff, AZ
	Warren Woodward, Sedona, AZ
CA – California	EMF Safety Network, Sidnee Cox, Co-director, Windsor, CA
	Fiber First LA, Charlene Hopey, Topanga, CA
	Malibu for Safe Tech, Lonnie Gordon, Executive Director, Malibu, CA
	Napa Neighborhood for Safe Technology, Amy Martenson, Napa, CA
	Safe Tech International, Sara Aminoff, Union City, CA
	5G Free California, Julie Levine, with EMR-S, Topanga, CA
	California Brain Tumor Association, Ellen Marks, Director, Indian Wells, CA
	Sustainability Management Consulting, Angela Casler, Chico, CA
	Eagle Forum of California, Orlean Koehle, CEO, Santa Rosa, CA
	Brenda Shafer, CA, with EMR-Syndrome
	Gene Wagenbreth, Topanga, CA Margaret Holt Baird, Esq, San Diego, CA, with EMR-Syndrome

	Raymond Michael LeVesque, RayGuardProtect.com, National Health Federation Board Member, Clear Lake Riviera, CA
CO - Colorado	Coloradans for Safe Technology, Andrea Mercier (mother of a severely disabled child who is adversely impacted various forms of non-ionizing radiation), Colorado Springs, CO
	Coloradans for Safe Technology, Nancy VanDover, DVM, OMD, Dipl Acup, CO, disabled by EMR
	David Byrd, Byrdman Publishing, Longmont, CO 80503 disabled by EMR-S
	La Plata for Safe Technology, Ingrid Iverson, La Plata County, CO, with EMR-Syndrome
	Longmont for Safe Technology, Doe Kelly, Co-Founder, Longmont, CO, with EMR-Syndrome
	Deborah Shisler, CO, with EMR-Syndrome
	Virginia Farver, Fort Collins, CO
CT - Connecticut	Connecticut for Responsible Technology, Private Membership Association (PMA), Paska Nayden, Co-Founder & Administrator, with EMR-Syndrome
FL - Florida	Florida Coalition for Safe Technology, St. Pete's Beach, FL
	Lauren Mones, St. Pete's Beach, FL
	KellyLee McFrederick, St. Pete's Beach, FL
	Kay Fitt, Palm Harbor, FL; Susan Lee, Miami, FL
	Susan Lee, Miami, FL
	Connie White, Miami Beach, FL, with EMR-Syndrome
	Shirley Denton Jackson, with EMR-S, unexpected early retirement from School District of Palm Beach County, FL - Research Project Manager and Safe Schools Coordinator - due to EMR-Syndrome, North Palm Beach, Florida
IL - Illinois	Safer Cell Phone and Wi-Fi Project, Marne Glaser, Chicago, IL
LA - Louisiana	Southern EMF Radiation Solutions, Shari Champagne, Houme, LA, with EMR-Syndrome
MA – Massachusetts	Massachusetts for Safe Technology, Cecelia Doucette, Director, Ashland, MA
	Pittsfield Cell Tower Injured & Concerned Citizens, Pittsfield, MA, injured with EMR-Syndrome
	Safer Siting 01240, Lenox, MA
	Safe Tech International, Patricia Burke, journalist, Millis, MA, with EMR-Syndrome
	Sustainable Upton, Laurie Wodin, Co-Administrator, Upton, MA, with EMR-Syndrome
	Last Tree Laws (.com), Kirstin Beatty, Director, Holyoke, MA, with EMR-Syndrome
	The Leto Foundation, Westborough, MA
	Alison McDonough, Canton, MA, with EMR-Syndrome

	Janet FitzGerald, M.S., CCC-SLP Rowley, MA, member of Massachusetts for Safe Technology
	Anna Nelson, Pittsfield, MA, with EMR-Syndrome Tais Howard, Lynn, MA
MD - Maryland	Safe Tech International, Kate Kheel, Taneytown, MD
	Katherine Katzin, Takoma Park, MD
ME - Maine	Global Union Against Radiation Deployment from Space, Bowdoinham, ME
	Maine Coalition to Stop Smart Meters, Richmond, ME
	Janet Drew, retired Registered Nurse, York, ME
	Jen Goddard, Board Certified Doctor of Natural Health, Thriving Proof Holistic Health Practice, and 2025 United States of America Mrs. Maine Pageant, Brewer, ME
MN - Minnesota	DAMS, Inc., 501(c)(3), educates public on dental health issues, St. Paul, MN
	Safe Tech Minnesota, Leo Cashman, Petra Brokken, St. Paul, MN
MO - Missouri	Loraine Uebele, FACHE, Kansas City, MO
	Marty Freyer, Mexico, MO
	David B. Klug, Kansas City, MO
	Bethany Klug, Supporter and Advocate for EMF Affected, Kansas City, MO
NC - North Carolina	Sharon Behn, Arden, NC
	Susan Marlan, Asheville, NC
	Nicole Stallings, Black Mountain, NC, with EMR-Syndrome
NE - Nebraska	Tammy Lee, Lincoln, NE, with EMR-Syndrome
	Linda Becker, Lincoln, NE
NH - New Hampshire	New Hampshire for Safe Technology, Deb Hodgdon, Stratham, NH, with EMR-Syndrome
	Kent Chamberlin, PhD, former member of NH Commission to Study Env't'l and Health Effects of Evolving 5G Technology; Prof. & Chair Emeritus, Fullbright Distinguished Chair, Univ of NH, Coll. of Eng and Phys Sci, Dept. Of Electrical and Computer Eng
NJ - New Jersey	Lisa Allen, Plainfield, NJ
	Diane Grossi, East Hanover, New Jersey, with EMR-Syndrome
NM - New Mexico	Lori Bagley, Concerned Individual, Albuquerque, NM, with EMR-Syndrome
NY - New York	New Yorkers 4 Wired Tech, New York, NY
	New York City Alliance for Safe Technology, New York, NY
	Safe Tech Westchester, Ruth F. Moss, Westchester, NY
	Amy Harlib, Concerned Citizen, New York, NY
	Fred P. Sinclair, Jr., Alfred, NY
	Kate Reese Hurd, Philmont, NY, with EMR-Syndrome

	Gabriela Munoz, Carmel, NY, with EMR-Syndrome
	Stephanie Stewart, LaGrangeville, NY
	Virginia Caswell with EMR-Syndrome, NYC (Stuyvesant Town), NY
	Barbara Stemke, New Paltz, Ulster County, NY
	Toby Stover, High Falls, NY
OH - Ohio	Craig McDowell, veteran, Rocky River, OH
	Erin McDowell, Registered Nurse, Rocky River, OH, Southwestern, with EMR-Syndrome, Ohio for Responsible Technology (SWORT)
	Jennifer Manzler, Certified Health & Wellness Coach, Cincinnati, OH, SWORT
	Jennifer Manzler, Certified Health & Wellness Coach, Cincinnati, OH, SWORT
	Sean Polacik, Automation Control Systems Technician, OH
OR - Oregon	Cristina Shonk, Cincinnati, OH
	Oregon for Safer Technology, Ashland, OR
	Kelly Marcotulli, Ashland, OR, with EMR-Syndrome
PA - Pennsylvania	The Soft Lights Foundation, Mark Baker, President, Beaverton, OR
	EMR Syndrome Alliance, Pennsylvania, PA
	Pennsylvanians for Safe Technology, Donna DeSanto Ott PT DPT MS FMCHC, Founder & President, PA
	Southwest Pennsylvania for Safe Technology, Mount Pleasant, PA, Susan Jennings, MPA, BA, Founder (son has EMR-Syndrome)
RI - Rhode Island	Jan Kiefer, Scottdale, PA
	Rhode Island 4 Safe Tech, Sheila Resseger, M.A., Co-Founder, Cranston, RI
TN - Tennessee	Janet Taché, Hohenwald, TN
UT - Utah	Rosemarie Russell, member of The Women's State Legislative Council of Utah, Hurricane, UT
VA - Virginia	Virginians for Safe Technology, Jenny DeMarco, Communications Director, and Mary Bauer, retired radio frequency engineer, Fredericksburg, VA
	Charles Frohman, M.Ed, HIA, lobbyist, National Health Federation, Williamsburg, VA
	Linda M. Cifelli, retired Registered Nurse, Williamsburg, VA
	Grace Hilbert, Annandale, VA, with EMR-Syndrome
VT - Vermont	Martine Victor, VT
WA – Washington	Citizen League Encouraging Awareness of Radiation, C.L.E.A.R., Mark Wahl Director, Langley, WA
WI - Wisconsin	Katrine Colton, Sheboygan, WI, with EMR-Syndrome
	Tracey Seymour, Westfield, WI, with EMR-Syndrome
	Carol Seibert, with EMR-Syndrome, Trevor, WI

Europe	Filing Parties
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Sweden	Eva Christina Andersson, E.U., Sweden
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APPENDIX B

Comments on Lack of Viable Alternatives to Landlines

Name of Filer: anonymous **Docket #** WC 25-208 WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** Jun 16, 2026

[...]Northwestern Santa Cruz County experiences regular (4x - 6x/year) power outages due to PG&E scheduled maintenance, PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoffs, and windstorms downing poles or trees on lines. These outages can last from several hours up to several days, depending on outage cause. Critically, a power outage also takes down internet connectivity; the only local provider, **Comcast, only provides about 2h of battery-powered connectivity at the junction box after PG&E power goes out. Our copper landline relies on neither an internet provider nor PG&E to function.** [Emphasis added] Any solution that depends on broadband internet will be unavailable during a power outage - which is exactly the kind of emergency in which we need a copper landline.

Name of Filer: Michael Manchak **Docket #** WC 25-208 WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** Jun 15, 2026

[...] **I write this letter as a concerned citizen and first responder in a region of the country that faces annual devastating fires, potential earthquakes, floods, heatwaves that disrupt cell phone service, and other disasters.** [Emphasis added] Especially with climate change, and the coming historic El Nino weather in the near and long-term future, we must continue to have landlines. Reliable landline service remains a critical public safety resource, particularly for seniors, rural residents, low-income households, and individuals who live in areas with unreliable cellular coverage, internet service interruptions, power outages, wildfires, earthquakes, and other emergencies. Unlike many modern communications systems, traditional landlines have historically provided dependable service when other technologies fail. **The proposed discontinuation of landline service would reduce consumer choice, [increase] dependence on cellular and internet-based technologies that are not universally reliable, and potentially place vulnerable populations at greater risk during emergencies.** [Emphasis added] Many alarm systems, medical monitoring devices, and emergency communications plans continue to rely on traditional telephone infrastructure. As a California resident, I am deeply concerned that the elimination of landline service prioritizes corporate cost savings over public safety, reliability, and the needs of communities that still depend upon this essential service. Telecommunications providers should be required to demonstrate that any

replacement service provides equal or better reliability, emergency access, coverage, affordability, and resilience before existing landline services are discontinued. **I respectfully urge the FCC to reject any proposal that would allow the widespread abandonment of traditional landline service without strong protections for consumers and a clear demonstration that the public interest will be served.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Kim Hracá & Andy Schoenwetter **Docket #** WC 25-208 WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** Jun 12, 2026

This letter is written in objection to our May 20, 2026 notice of AT&T home phone service discontinuance on June 1, 2027, section 63.71 application of Pacific Bell Telephone Company, d/b/a AT&T California. My husband and I have had a personal landline since we purchased our home in Oakland in 1991. **We feel that losing our landline would pose an undue burden and inconvenience on us, and we would not be able to find a reasonable substitute.** [Emphasis added] AT&T has filed petitions with the FCC to bypass the CPUC and disconnect customers in California, grandfathering service on July 19 and discontinuing on/after June 1, 2027. **AT&T claims “alternatives” are available to everyone; however, this is not true, and even when “alternatives” exist, they are not functionally equivalent. VoIP and wireless require backup batteries, which are insufficient in extended power outages or during disasters and rely on broadband or cellular, which are less reliable, poorer quality, and more prone to disruptions. Wireless is not accessible to many with disabilities and actual reception does not always match coverage maps. Traditional landlines are the only reliable way to reach 911 for many people. This is a national public safety issue. Landlines are lifelines!** [Emphasis added] For all of the above reasons, we hope AT&T will reconsider the discontinuance of landline service.

Name of Filer: Judith **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Jun 11, 2026

AT&T Public Comment: R2406012. AT&T's AT&T's COLR - Carrier Of Last Resort, is once again asking .gov to retire landline service. This shutdown is a false scenario. This is an AT&T stock buyback plan to the tune of \$40 Billion to enrich shareholders, not because it wants to modernize their service . . . I used DSL broadband, which was considerably less expensive until Earthlink.net did not support it anymore, and made me put in a new fiber optic line and buy a new modem, costing me 3 times more! My trusted landline phone does not rely on batteries. It does not rely on electricity to call 911. If and when an electrical outage happens in a major storm or earthquake in San Francisco, CA, I can call in an emergency and is my last resort. You don't have to charge a landline phone in an electrical outage. If and when cell towers are knocked over by an earthquake or

hurricane. **Landlines are the last resort in any rural or city community.**

[Emphasis added] We, who prefer to use landlines, know we can rely on them to work when cell phones cannot. Why would you take this important service away to pay off stockholders? AT&T had wired America using copper wires, and own them. AT&T is subsidized by the US government through the Affordable Connectivity Act helping 23 Million people! This act allows for the same amount of people to be able to connect to the internet at low cost. The US government subsidizes AT&T, according to Subsidy Tracker for State and Local, equals \$97,234,017 Million. AT&T accepts \$428 million in annual government funding. This affordable lifeline helps the disabled, old people, low income people and is a necessary lifeline for rural people. The numbers bear out for AT&T to continue landline service. Please, I urge you to take all these factors into consideration before you allow AT&T to cut American's lifeline landline service.

Name of Filer: Howard Cherrington **Docket #** WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** Jun 08, 2026

I'd like to comment on an apparent effort to eliminate land line telephones. I live in rural Washington state six miles from town beyond any cellular service or wi-fi signal and depend on the local telephone company's wires for both phone and internet. While being promised fiber optic for years, we are still dependent on copper wires to connect us to then world. When I bought my land in 1982, there was no internet nor cellular phone service. **If land line phone service is allowed to be discontinued, I will have no means of communication without driving at least 3 miles to pick up cell service and subscribing to a satellite based computer service. Any action that allows the elimination of land line phone service will affect thousands of rural citizens just as the reduction in USPS service has affected us. We would have no access to 911 services in an emergency. Please think of someone besides the owners of telecom businesses and don't abandon all us rural folks with few options left to us.**

[Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Virginia Cottone, Luis Luna Marlene T Luna **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 26 & Jun 01, 2026

I do not consider other services to be interchangeable with traditional POTS service. **My landline is the only reliable way to call for help in emergencies. Other options do not work in prolonged power outages here.** [Emphasis added] A transition to bill-and-keep would increase the rates I pay for my (already expensive) landline, which is a necessity that I require for health reasons, thus forcing me to absorb any price increases which is discriminatory. Eliminating these regulations would make it easier for telcos to further price gouge consumers. We can have the benefits of IP without being forced to give up reliable phone service.

Retain current regulations and compensation structures to protect access to reliable and quality phone service. This should be the priority, not the IP transition at all costs, which only stands to benefit industry which is already profiting handsomely. The Commission alleges several “benefits” of completing the transition from TDM to IP, but most of these benefits do not accrue evenly to everyone; rather, they are concentrated on the large service providers that want to eliminate TDM as a cost-cutting measure, not because it is technologically substandard or because eliminating TDM benefits consumers in any meaningful way.

Name of Filers: Sheella Mierson, Christina Berteau, Caroline Yunker, Joanmarie Woods, Marilyn Chin, Mimi Chin, Samuel Yunker, Barbara Bent, Jessica Bernstein, Phoebe Anne Thomas, Constance Anderson, Ruth Anderson, Christine Borje, Pauline Traverso Paulette Traverso, Thomas Parnell **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 30, 2025 & May 27, 2026

I urge the FCC to stop AT&T’s bid to discontinue landline phone service by June 2027 in California. This is a direct threat to the health and safety of millions of residents. **Landlines are vital during medical emergencies and natural disasters.** [Emphasis added] Thousands of residents around the state including in big cities like Los Angeles have been fighting this measure for years due to their inability to get cell service and their reliance on landlines. Reject this disastrous bid by ATT which poses a dire public health threat. ATT's bid to discontinue landline phone service by June 2027 in California is a direct violation of The Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act (EADACPA) in California. Removing landlines from elderly and dependent adults constitutes: – Neglect by not providing medical care via access landlines during emergencies when cell phones are down – Neglect by not protecting the elder and disabled from safety and health hazards (EMFs, etc) – Abandonment of the elder and disabled – Isolation of the individual – Engagement in treatment leading to pain, mental suffering, or physical harm. If the State of California approves the removal of landlines, they will be acting with "oppression, recklessness, malice" towards the elderly and dependent adults and the administrators will be guilty of elder and dependent adult abuse.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=15630&lawCode=WIC

Name of Filer: Pinion LLC **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

... In particular, the **NPRM fails to account for the fact that many rural communities still lack functional alternatives for the reliable wireline services provided by RLECs.** [Emphasis added] For example, fixed wireless services often

depend on vulnerable underlying infrastructure that can be compromised during emergencies, severe weather events, or extended outages, all of which occur with greater frequency and impact in rural areas.¹² And, in the case of low-earth orbit (LEO) satellites, these services depend on still-developing technology that can currently barely maintain the 100/20 Mbps speed level to meet the FCC's definition of adequate broadband service and that is completely unproven at the scale of adoption which the NPRM contemplates for the near future.¹³ In contrast, traditional wireline networks,...

Name of Filer: Suzan Lowitz **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

The elimination of landlines in California, specifically in Los Angeles, creates a huge **safety hazard**. [Emphasis added] In an earthquake or wildfire situation, electronically dependent communication might be impossible. **The storage batteries provided with a VOIP connection are very limited, and if cell towers are lost, cell communication is also impossible. My landlines have been the only means of contacting emergency services in the past when my near neighbors had no landlines.** [Emphasis added] I would appreciate further scrutiny of the deprivation of 199,000 citizens who continue to pay high fees because we believe landlines are necessary to maintaining our safety. Please don't take away my landlines!

Name of Filer: Robert Redinger Jr **Docket #** WC 25-311WC 25-208WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

Please save our landlines! **We need them, especially in emergencies when there is no electric!** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Susan Thwaits **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

[...] **The other services do not work during prolonged power outages** [Emphasis added] which we have experienced in California from natural disasters. If AT&T is allowed to discontinue Carrier of Last Result (COLR), we will be left with an unregulated telecom industry. Unfortunately, the industry does not have the consumers best interest at heart. Retain current regulations and compensation structures to protect access to reliable phone service.

Name of Filer: Chet Moss **Docket #** WC 25-311WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

We are not all the same. And do not all use the same technology to function... and survive. Millions of Americans depend on their landlines to be connected with

families, caregivers, and their communities at large -- they cannot be marginalized or worse -- isolated.

Name of Filer: Linda Ikeda **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

I value traditional voice service because it works when the electric power and/or cell services are down. [Emphasis added] This happens here and many people were endangered as they did not receive evacuation notices. Voice quality is excellent and it's easier to use than a cell phone. [...] The copper landline is a necessity for me and many many other Californians. We have electric power outages and fires. We need affordable copper landlines. Please do not eliminate these regulations thereby making it easier for telecommunications companies to price gauge us even more. Please retain current regulations and compensation structures to protect access to affordable, reliable and quality phone service.

Name of Filer: Paska Nayden **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

I respectfully request that the FCC protect and preserve access to traditional POTS (Plain Old Telephone Service) copper landline systems for the American people. For over a century, copper telephone lines have provided one of the most secure, stable, and reliable forms of communication in the United States. **Unlike wireless technologies, traditional copper landlines do not emit radiofrequency (RF) radiation into homes and living spaces and have historically remained functional during emergencies, severe weather events, and electrical outages.** [Emphasis added] [...] Beyond health concerns, reliable wired communication remains essential for: • **Emergency access to 911 services** • **Seniors and vulnerable populations** • **Rural communities** • **Power outage resilience** • **Cybersecurity and infrastructure stability** • **Public safety during disasters and network congestion** [Emphasis added] Wireless and cellular systems have repeatedly demonstrated vulnerabilities during storms, power failures, overload conditions, and emergencies. Copper landlines continue to serve as a dependable backup communications system and critical public utility. I respectfully urge the FCC to preserve and protect Americans' continued right to access reliable wired telephone service and not allow the complete removal of POTS infrastructure in favor of mandatory wireless-only communications. Thank you for your consideration and for protecting reliable communications access for all Americans.

Name of Filer: Michele Hertz **Docket #** WC 25-208 WC 25-209 WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

Dear Madam/Sir, My husband and I are senior citizens. We completely rely on our landline phone. [...] **Our alarm system is connected to the landline. If we did not have our copper landline we would have to purchase an entirely new alarm system, at tremendous expense, if we were forced to have a new electronic phone service.** [Emphasis added] Copper landlines are safe, secure and the only available phones during power failures. We live in New York. **During Hurricane Sandy, friends came to our house to use our copper landline phone because it continued to work throughout the entire long power outage. During that power outage, the only reason I was able to be in touch with my elderly mother-in-law in NJ was because she, her neighbors and we had copper landlines. My husband was away. I had to go pick up my mother-in-law but the bridges from NY to NJ were only open for emergency vehicles. She was not safe at home alone with no power and she was confused. I arranged, on my copper landline, with her neighbors, on their copper landline, to take care of my mother-in-law until I was able to cross the bridge to pick her up. I was able to keep in touch with her for two days until I got there and picked her up. When we saw each other we cried. It was so frightening that she was alone. The copper land lines may have saved her life and most likely others other lives also. New technology is not great just because it is new. Copper landlines are long time reliable lifelines.** [Emphasis added] They need to be protected. We need to keep them. Phone companies should not be allowed to bully people into having wireless equipment, especially if that equipment makes some people very sick. Thank you for considering my submission. Michele Hertz

Name of Filer: Marshall Sanders **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

[...] We want landline phone service and refuse to use cell phones. We have right of consent. FCC does not have right of consent. FCC is supposed to be providing for the social needs of the People. Eliminating, curtailing or interfering with landline service is criminal corruption on behalf of the criminals, BigTelecom. We are so ready for a direct democracy revolution... You have no idea. But you will when you have become an unemployable pariah to the People!

Name of Filer: Stephanie K Thomas **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

I am urging the FCC to stop ATTs attempt to discontinue landline phone service. This will harm many residents in my community and elsewhere. **These landlines are necessary for safety in my area and all over CA.** [Emphasis added] **I live in a fire zone and also an earthquake zone. I and many of my friends have many years in our lifetime- and many have disabilities. In addition many people I know undergo harm when near cell facilities. We need to protect those of us**

who are older and those younger residents as well. [Emphasis added] I have had my [copper land line] for over 50 years. Please reject efforts by ATT to stop this necessary service to which we have contributed funds over the years. Thank You

Name of Filer: James Crawford **Docket #** WC 25-208 WC 25-209 WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Landlines are generally not connected to the power grid, so if power goes down, it wouldn't affect our landlines, or our ability to make emergency calls. [Emphasis added] But telephones connected to the internet can go down when electricity goes down, because there is no independent source of energy as there is now. - This is pushing everyone to use wireless, which many people cannot use, especially those disabled by wireless radiation. - FCC's proposal would make people dependent on an inferior technology that cannot withstand power outages.

Name of Filer: TOBY STOVER **Docket #** WC 25-209 WC 25-208 WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Landlines are reliable even when there is no electricity. **Landlines have no EMR exposure. Landlines are essential for people disabled by EMR Syndrome.** [Emphasis added] Many people rely on landlines who are disabled. The landlines are connected to emergency services. They are essential to many who choose not to own a cell phone. **Land lines are also connected to alarm systems in homes.** [Emphasis added] Many people choose to retain their land lines & only use a cell phone if necessary when outside of their homes. We must retain the right to use land lines if we choose to. We must never cave to corporate pressure to eliminate them. Please do everything in your power to block this outrageous proposal that threatens public safety.

Name of Filer: Sheila Resseger **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Landlines are reliable, even when there is no electricity, as in an extreme emergency such as a snowstorm, hurricane, or fire. With copper landlines there is no electromagnetic radiation (EMR) exposure. [Emphasis added] EMR exposure is biologically disruptive to all cellular organisms, including humans. People who are already disabled with EMR Syndrome cannot tolerate exposure to this radiation. They must be able to maintain a copper landline, which by its nature emits no EMR.

Name of Filer: Pennsylvanians for Safe Technology **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

[...] Landlines are important for all people, not just those disabled by EMR Syndrome. **They are dependable and work when there is no electricity. Some of the people who survived during the California wildfires survived because they**

received a reverse 911 call on their landlines, which worked despite a power outage. Others in their area perished when their cellphones did not work.
[Emphasis added] [...]

Name of Filers: Zevulun Somers, Pamela R. Somers, Jesiah Somers **Docket #** WC 25-311
WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

We DEFINITELY want to keep our landline phone because it is **more reliable**
[Emphasis added] over the long haul as our son's cell phone does not always work
and is not always available to use for various reasons, including times when he is
not with us or the space fills up on it or it overheats. The other main reason:
landline phones are much safer to use [Emphasis added] because the copper
wiring emits little radiation.

Name of Filer: Ruth Moss **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:**
May 27, 2026

The country is engaged in a widespread effort to get teens off their cellphones. By
eliminating landlines, you will be pushing them right back on their wireless devices.
Support the effort to get all of us away from our screens. Preserve landlines! As an
additional point, when the power (as it surely will) landlines still work.

Name of Filer: Wanda MacClarín **Docket #** WC 25-208 WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May
27, 2026

I beg you to keep the copper landlines in California. I am almost completely
housebound since I fell and broke my hip several years ago. **MY LANDLINE IS MY
LIFELINE to the outside world. It is extremely reliable, works during the
frequent power outages we have in my neighborhood, and I can use the
landline without being poisoned by the EMR (Electromagnetic Radiation)
emitted by cell phones. Businesses, hospitals, and institutions of all kinds run
on copper landlines, in part because they are more secure and resistant to
hacking. It is telling that only landline telephones are allowed in the White
House Situation Room,** which was remodeled most recently in 2023. [Emphasis
added] All cell phones must be surrendered outside before entering the Situation
Room. It would be MADNESS to rip out the reliable copper landlines that many
businesses and residents in California still depend on and force them to have
spotty, sporadic failure-prone cell phone service and/or VOIP phone lines that are
vulnerable and no longer work after their batteries die during long power outages.
KEEP COPPER LANDLINES!

Name of Filer: Margaret Baird, Esq. **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date
submitted:** May 27, 2026

[...]I require a POTS copper landline to have access to communication.

[Emphasis added] There is no fiber optic access in my area. The digital landline is substandard, and multiple calls drop within a hour period. This also affects my access to be able to reliably telework. Copper landlines are lifelines, for myself and others. 911 is only the start of it. [...] **There is no equal access to services that others receive without a thought, for myself and others with EMR Syndrome, cancer, chronic migraines, autoimmune and many other medical conditions.** [Emphasis added] www.emrsyndrome.org www.childrenshealthdefense.org, www.ehtrust.org.

Name of Filer: John H. Welborne **Docket #** WC 25-208 WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Our family needs to have continued POTS service through the Webster office of AT&T in Los Angeles. VOIP, etc., are not interchangeable with traditional POTS service. **My landline is the only reliable way to connect to our alarm services and to call for help in emergencies. Communications consumers can have the benefits of IP without being forced to give up reliable phone service.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Allison Jablonko **Docket #** WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Please do not get rid of land line services. Other sorts of services are not interchangeable with traditional POTS service. **Landlines are the only way to call for help in emergencies, especially when users are experiencing prolonged power outages.** [Emphasis added] I urge you to retain current regulations and compensation structures to protect citizen/consumer access to reliable and quality phone service. Though I am no longer a resident of California, I was for many years, and still view California as the State that sets a standard of excellence for the rest of the country.

Name of Filer: E CUMMINGS **Docket #** WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

POTS service over TDM is demonstrably more reliable and provides better voice quality than IP-based "alternatives", which don't compare favorably to consumers. [Emphasis added] Electric grid power outages of hours or days, which are not uncommon in rural areas where I have family, will drain the flimsy telco-provided customer-premises battery which provides scant power for dialtone and ring voltage necessary for reliable everyday and emergency communications. While a solid Central Office battery system providing ample and ultra-reliable power for consumers' POTS telephone equipment. Further, I urge the Commission

to NOT reduce or eliminate the necessary revenue support for rural phone companies, which depend on it to help provide affordable telephone service.

Eliminating regulations would leave telephone service customers with nowhere to turn when telcos then provide inferior service and much higher prices. [Emphasis added.] IP-based services can still be offered to consumers without killing the proven reliable and high-quality (no latency or jitter) voice service that POTS over TDM service. I urge the Commission to not "throw the baby out with the bathwater." Thank you.

Name of Filer: Tommy Bear **Docket #** WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Alternative mobile, VoIP, and other IP-based voice services are unsatisfactory and unsafe substitutes for TDM-based services. TDM POTS is a guaranteed wired connection to a home or business on the Public switched telephone network and does not have the many limitations with alternative services that do not ensure public safety for everyone. Voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) telephone can drop packets causing garbled communication and loss of power or connectivity causing loss of telephone service. **VOIP IS NOT GUARANTEED BECAUSE BROADBAND SPEED VARIES IN DIFFERENT LOCATIONS AND DOES NOT HAVE GUARANTEED RELIABILITY. IT ALSO DOES NOT HAVE BATTERY BACKUP LIKE POTS DOES FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE IN THE PUBLIC SWITCH TELEPHONE NETWORK. Cable service is not guaranteed and not available in certain areas.** [Emphasis added] Cable service is also VOIP technology, not TDM. Cellular service may not be guaranteed. Cellular service may not work inside a home or business building, regardless of what coverages the carriers claim are available. Some elevator systems depend on POTS service only because many elevators do not have cellular service signal inside a building or elevator and has compatibility issues with services that are not POTS. We need regulation on TDM POTS services to remain so that service providers can be responsible to provide reliable service that people depend upon for 911 and reliable telecommunications. **There are remaining meaningful distinctions between voice service types. There are insufficient competitive alternatives to TDM-based interexchange service in rural and high cost areas such as wireless and satellite.** [Emphasis added] Often, cellular and satellite services that may work outside of business or residence will not work inside a building or home. In California, thousands of people spoke at the hearings and many consumers indicated this was an issue and the TDM POTS landlines were the best option available. Some consumers are at risk of large price increases to have to convert from TDM technology because they have to pay for new equipment and/or rewiring. IP-based calling does not provide the call quality that the Commission would otherwise require from alternative providers. Many people on fixed or Limited income may have physical and mental challenges causing

hardships. Some people require TDM services without EMF and need a lifeline discount. Thousands of consumers still want TDM services to be serviced by a local telephone company service technician for installation and repair.

Name of Filer: Sheella Mierson **Docket #** WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Thousands of residents around the state including in big cities like Los Angeles have been fighting this measure for years due to their inability to get cell service and their reliance on landlines. Reject this disastrous bid by ATT which poses a dire public health threat. I only use a cell phone in case of emergency, to protect my health (from the EMF - there is lots of data about this). **I am elderly and need to protect my health wherever I can. In addition, when someone else is talking on a cell phone, I often have a lot of difficulty understanding them, and it's much clearer if they switch to a landline.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Sheila Resseger **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Landlines are reliable, even when there is no electricity, as in an extreme emergency such as a snowstorm, hurricane, or fire. [Emphasis added] [...]

Name of Filers: Janice Branagh, Richard Branagh **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

We use our landline as our primary phone. There's been a lot of research showing that the **Radiofrequency radiation from cell phones can result in negative health effects including heart rhythm disturbances and some regulatory agencies such as the WHO have classified it as possibly carcinogenic.** [Emphasis added] Additionally, we have a metal roof which impedes the cell phone signal, and there are **hearing issues** [Emphasis added] as well in our household. The landline consistently gives good, and safe call quality.

Name of Filer: LM DiVincent **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Protect **copper landlines that still work when the electrical power is down** [Emphasis added] or other disasters.

Name of Filer: Sherrie T **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Landlines are generally not connected to the power grid, so **if power goes down, it wouldn't affect our landlines, or our ability to make emergency calls.** [Emphasis added] We are already being stripped of this very important access by the local utility companies who refuse to issue landlines any longer. Telephones connected to the internet can go down when electricity goes down, because there

is no independent source of energy as there is now. What are we to do in case of emergency with a dead cell phone. If someone even has a cell phone. This is pushing everyone to use wireless, which many people cannot use, especially those disabled by wireless radiation. Many are refugees just looking for solutions to stay connected to friends and families with a land-line that they are forcing us to get rid of. **FCC's proposal would make people dependent on an inferior technology that cannot withstand power outages. And strip away access for those with EMF sensitivities with no regard for safety.** [Emphasis added] Many don't want to be blanketed with all of this. We are already inundated with the towers with no escape or protection from the Government entities that are supposed to be protecting.

Name of Filer: Jason Winnett **Docket #** WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

Hello, Land lines? **They have always worked best, require the least carbon footprint, and are critical for public safety as recognized by their reliability during power outages, natural disasters and times of war.** [Emphasis added] Any effort to discontinue land lines represents an ulterior motive other than serving the public. I would even question if the bottom line of ATT or any other carrier would be served by eliminating land lines. As the old saying goes, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." The last oil tanker from the Persian Gulf has already docked and unloaded here in the US, and infrastructure that requires the least energy will be the most reliable going forward. Thus, land lines are a question of National Security. Thank you, Jason Winnett Berkeley, California

Name of Filer: Alton Wright **Docket #** Alton Wright **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

There is absolutely no mobile reception where I live. While we have VoIP via Starlink, it is not reliable and not functionally equivalent. [Emphasis added] Not all medical devices work over VoIP. Satellites can be hacked, jammed, and blown up by foreign threats or solar disturbances. Should we lose income and can't pay the SL bill, we are in trouble. If we sell our property, we will have to disclose that there is no communication with the outside world, unless the new owner purchases SL. This decreases our property values. Are our local governments prepared to absorb the property tax decrease? Should our landline service be curtailed, our safety during wildfires, medical emergencies, and physical threats will be severely diminished. Is the FCC going to shoulder the monetary blame if it is determined that the loss of life could have been avoided had landlines remained in place?

Name of Filer: Joshua Hart **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

FCC: Our family has used a traditional copper landline telephone for many years, and we value this irreplaceable service for its unique benefits, including reliability, quality of voice calls, and ability to function even in an emergency when the power goes out. We've had **multiple wildfire emergencies affect our community over the past several years, and communication is critical in order to know when to evacuate, and to identify places to evacuate to. If telephone landline service is dropped or curtailed, our family's safety will be at serious risk.** This is not a theoretical issue. **In 2018, the Camp Fire ravaged the town of Paradise and more than 85 people were killed. Many of them died because they did not receive timely evacuation notices, as the cell towers they relied on burned before such notices went out. Landlines are critical infrastructure, and an important back up communication system for communities. Even if only a handful of residents have them, this is critical for communities to be able to reach the outside world in an emergency where other communications might be down. We do NOT consider any of the claimed "alternatives" to be functionally equivalent to or adequate substitutes for copper landline service. Many people do not have cell service at their homes, and probably never will, due to geographic limitations, or individual functional impairments.** [Emphasis added] Even if we did have cell service at our home (which we do not) we would be unable to use wireless services due to injury/ disability caused by acute exposure to wireless microwave radiation used in telecommunications, an issue that impacts somewhere between 2% and 5% of Americans. In addition, many VOIP or cellular calls frequently are dropped or suffer interruptions, making conversations difficult and costing time, money and productivity. Is this "progress"? **We do NOT want regulations eliminated and do NOT want critical revenue support for rural phone companies eliminated. We want protections for landlines and regulations for telecom companies strengthened. This is clearly in the public interest, and clearly supports disability rights. Just because something has been around a long time does NOT make it obsolete. Landline telephones still play a crucial part in the country's communication infrastructure, an important back up when the power is out, and a quality and reliability that continue to be lacking in other alternatives.** [Emphasis added] Thank you for your attention to this critical matter of public safety...

Name of Filer: Linda Ikeda **Docket #** WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

I value traditional voice service because it works when the electric power and/or cell services are down. **This happens here and many people were endangered as they did not receive evacuation notices.** Voice quality is excellent. It's healthy. There is a looming health crisis because of wireless and alternative communications considered "modern." 1/3 of the population is sick from wireless

and electric applications. Many, many people want copper landline service but are repeatedly denied access. **Modernization should include robust copper landline communications as they are superior to alternatives. People long for reliable healthy phone service. They have tried the alternatives and want their copper landlines back. They don't like the alternatives. The alternatives are unacceptable. I do not want regulations eliminated and I do not want critical revenue support for rural phone companies eliminated. I do not want a transition to bill and keep, which would increase the rates I pay for my (already expensive) landline. The copper landline is a necessity for me and many many other Californians. We have electric power outages and fires; plus cell towers catch fire.** [Emphasis added] We need affordable, safe, copper landlines. Please do not eliminate these regulations thereby making it easier for telecommunications companies to price gauge us even more. Please retain current regulations and compensation structures to protect access to affordable, reliable and quality phone service.

Name of Filer: Nina Beety **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

[...] Telecom corporate leadership is also comprised of humans with loved ones also needing reliable service and **911 access in** emergencies. When seconds count – choking, heart attack, stroke, bleeding, evacuation notices in a disaster – all of you engage instead in arbitrary and capricious – irrational -- thinking and an absence of reasoned decision making that is in contradiction to Americans' well-being and interests. It is unclear under what core tenets, principles, and loyalties each of you operates.

[...]” FCC ignores that these “alternatives” are inferior in quality and reliability, and are not functionally equivalent. [...] Telephone service is not an extra, that someone buys in addition to broadband... It is essential communication. The incumbent LEC’s public switched telephone network (PSTN) service is the essential and necessary telephone service for all Americans.People I've spoken with would have kept their traditional phone service except for these issues, particularly the expense. The FCC could have exercised control over that, but its focus was educating barriers to increasing corporate profits. If customers had been made honestly aware of the trade-offs, including increased cancer risk and DNA damage from microwave radiation broadband and mobile “alternatives”, few would have left. [...]

Name of Filer: Rose Werner **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

[...] My landline is my ONLY reliable way to call for help in an emergency. I cannot use a cell phone due to my disability (and visitors here have also informed me service is not reliable here anyway), and VoIP and satellite do not work in prolonged power outages, which are common where I live. **Landlines are true lifelines here and having one or not can mean life or death. Therefore, I do not view these other inferior services as genuine "alternatives".** I prefer technologies that consistently work well and are high-quality, not whatever is flashy today and stops working when you need it most. Additionally, because of my disability, I rely on SSI and Lifeline in order to be able to pay for my basic phone service. I do not have long-distance service and cannot afford to pay for it. I do not want to be forced to pay for an all-distance calling "bundle" plan. Additionally, bill-and-keep would harm low-income users like me by raising the effective price we pay for service; currently, the caller pays to reach me, and with bill-and-keep, I would be forced to pay more in order to receive incoming calls, something that landline users have NEVER had to do before. There is no true alternative to my ILEC for the kind of service I receive - if they raise their rates, I will have to choose between paying the phone bill and putting food on the table (something I already have to do, due to the the meager \$6 Lifeline discount, which has not kept up with the rampant price increases for POTS service). Please retain current regulations and compensation structures in order to protect consumers who need access to reliable and quality phone service. The FCC's proposed forbearance and "IP transition" do not benefit consumers like me in any way, they only benefit the already highly profitable telecom industry who stands to pocket more profits by cutting off people's service. Yes, access to digital technology is also important and I welcome technological advances that do not infringe upon access to reliable POTS landlines. **We do not want an "IP transition", we want digital technology deployed IN ADDITION TO AND ALONGSIDE the existing reliable copper network. And if I have to choose, then I prioritize my access to traditional landline service for being able to communicate in emergencies and my own personal safety.** It is simply more important. [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Susan Peters **Docket #** WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

I live in New York City. I used to have a landline. Then it was taken away because they were 'being removed from the city'. Today I have a phone that goes through the internet. Last Thursday, **my internet connection went down. I had no way to talk to anyone from my apartment. I had to go down to the doorman in the lobby who kindly let me use the building phone.** Luckily my building has doormen that I can ask. I have friends who are more than 5 blocks away. I would have had to find them home to get some support from friends. **It is a crime to take away landlines.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Ronald R. Fenwick **Docket #** WC 25-208WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

I am opposed to both of these NPRMs. The telcoms have consistently failed to adequately disclose to their customers the disadvantages resulting from

terminating their POTS. Further, the telcoms have also manipulated their pricing to make POTS service grossly more expensive than voip and the other wireless services they are promoting which has directly resulted in the current small number of POTS customers. **Our nations Landline copper wire network must continue to be maintained by the telcoms because it is the only reliable method of communication during power outages and so necessary to rural and disabled Americans and to our emergency responders for 911 calls.** [Emphasis added] [...]

Name of Filer: Jessica Bernstein **Docket #** WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

[...] Landlines are VITAL in medical emergencies and natural disasters such as earthquakes and fires. **As someone who is mostly bed bound, it is life threatening for me to be without a landline.** REJECT this disastrous bid by AT&T which is a dire public health threat.

Name of Filer: Luis Luna Marlene T Luna **Docket #** WC 25-208 WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

I do not consider other services to be interchangeable with traditional POTS service. My landline is the only reliable way to call for help in emergencies. Other options do not work in prolonged power outages here. [Emphasis added] A transition to bill-and-keep would increase the rates I pay for my (already expensive) landline, which is a necessity that I require, thus forcing me to absorb any price increases. Eliminating these regulations would make it easier for telcos to further price gouge consumers. **We can have the benefits of IP without being forced to give up reliable phone service. Retain current regulations and compensation structures to protect access to reliable and quality phone service.** [Emphasis added] [...] We have already spoken out — we want to keep reliable landlines and do not want the inferior alternatives. Please do not give into AT&T's bullying — the CPUC has an obligation to fight this lawsuit to protect the public against industry or many people will lose access to communications.

Name of Filer: Phoebe Anne Thomas **Docket #** WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

[...] Landlines are VITAL in medical emergencies and natural disasters such as earthquakes and fires. It is life threatening for many elders and disabled people to be without a landline. We urge you to REJECT this disastrous bid by AT&T which poses a dire public health threat.

Name of Filer: Barbara Suess **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-209 WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

I rely on my copper landline for phone service. **I cannot use a cell phone because the radiation [from] them makes me very ill.** [Emphasis added] Please ensure

that landline phone service is always available through the phone companies.
Thank you.

Name of Filer: Sumitra Joy **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

I do not consider other services to be interchangeable with traditional landline POTS service. **My landline is the only reliable way for me to call for help in emergencies as I am home bound and disabled and depend completely on RELIABLE, DEPENDABLE, SAFE PHONE SERVICE.**

Other options (VoIP, wireless, etc.) do not work in prolonged power outages as evidenced just recently in Menlo Park CA. where many of the elderly, disabled as well as the entire City were not able to reach anyone with their wireless or VoIP connections. Even the City of Menlo Park was incapacitated because the City's VoIP and wireless connections were down as well. Only those people who retained copper POTS landlines where able to get through to various services and others. The outage went on for days. This happens often even the touted tech center of the world of Silicon Valley! [Emphasis added] A transition to bill-and-keep would increase the rates I pay for my (already expensive) landline, which is a necessity that I require, thus forcing me to absorb any price increases. Eliminating these regulations would make it easier for telcoms to further price gouge consumers. We can have the benefits of IP without being forced to give up reliable phone service. You must retain current regulations and compensation structures to protect access to reliable and quality phone service. This should be the priority, not the IP transition at all costs, which only stands to benefit industry which is already profiting handsomely.

Name of Filer: Constance Anderson, Ruth Anderson **Docket #** WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

[...] **Landlines are VITAL in medical emergencies and natural disasters such as earthquakes and wildfires.** [Emphasis added] **As people with Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity, it is life threatening for my mother and me to be without a landline.** REJECT this disastrous bid by AT&T which poses a dire public health threat.

Name of Filer: anonymous **Docket #** WC 25-208 WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

As consumers we DO value traditional voice POTS service for its unique benefits **We DO NOT consider any of the claimed "alternatives" to be functionally equivalent to or adequate substitutes for POTS We DO NOT want regulations**

eliminated and DO NOT want critical revenue support for rural phone companies eliminated Regardless of whether cell service, voice over IP service, cable telephone, satellite telephone or another alternative service is available, every location still needs to have the option for POTS regulated service available. [Emphasis added] [...]. VOIP IS NOT GUARANTEED BECAUSE BROADBAND SPEED VARIES IN DIFFERENT LOCATIONS AND DOES NOT HAVE GUARANTEED RELIABILITY. IT ALSO DOES NOT HAVE BATTERY BACKUP LIKE POTS DOES FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE IN THE PUBLIC SWITCHED TELEPHONE NETWORK. Cable service is not guaranteed. Cellular service may not work inside a home or business building, regardless of what coverages the carriers claim are available. Some elevators systems depend on POTS service only because many elevators do not have cellular service signal inside a building or elevator and has compatibility issues with services that are not POTS. We need regulation and POTS services to remain available so and keep service providers accountable and responsible to provide reliable service that people depend upon for 911 and reliable telecommunications. We also need service providers to be obligated to repair telephone service within a reasonable 24 hour time interval. [...] There will be public safety issues which will risk people's lives when many people are unable to make calls to receive help from police, fire and medical services if the carrier of last resort is reduced or eliminated. [...]

Name of Filer: Kathleen Sundmark **Docket #** WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

I do not consider other services to be interchangeable with traditional POTS service. **My landline is the only reliable way to call for help in emergencies. This is critical because I live in a wildfire-prone area. We have also had outages with high winds and heavy rains. I have a disabled family member whose power was shut off for a week during a fire. Only her POTS landline enabled her to access support and give reports.** [Emphasis added] Other options do not work in prolonged power outages. A transition to bill-and-keep would increase the rates I pay for my (already expensive) landline, which is a necessity that I require, thus forcing me to absorb any price increases. [...]

Name of Filer: Austin Martinetti **Docket #** WC 25-311WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

From a consumer perspective, there is a subtle, but very prominent and meaningful advantage to TDM networks. If you've ever accidentally interrupted someone in a Zoom meeting, you know VoIP latency is extremely high compared to the consistent, low latency of a circuit switched network. This combined with the fundamental absence of packet loss makes timeslots on the PSTN high enough quality to be used for any number of products where this is needed, such as fire alarm alerting systems and life support devices. VoIP inherently cripples this.

Because of poor architectural choices such as relying on DNS (any IT person will tell you DNS outages are semi-frequent in IP networks, and even the "premium" products marketed as POTS replacements have a DNS dependency) as a single point of failure and no regulation to tell providers to do otherwise, very few if any voip networks reach the level of reliability seen in current TDM networks. Furthermore, feature group D tandem routings contribute to a lack of single point of failure past a local network, and provide alternatives when bad (i.e., g.729 transcoded voip) routes are presented. Simply put, replacement networks are not being thought out sufficiently as any serious replacement service, and stand to cripple the network.

Name of Filer: STEPHEN SAWZIN **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 19, 2026

EVERY PHONE SERVICE THAT REQUIRES A MODEM AND ELECTRICAL POWER TO OPERATE DOES NOT HAVE 911 SERVICE WHEN THE POWER IS LOST.

[Emphasis added] THE OLD WIRE PHONE SERVICE USES BATTERIES AT THE PHONE COMPANY TO POWER THE PHONE AND ESPECIALLY WHEN ELECTRICAL POWER IS LOST AT THE HOME. **THEREFORE, THIS IS A CITIZEN SAFETY ISSUE.** [Emphasis added] TO CORRECT THIS, A BATTERY BACKUP NEEDS TO BE ADDED TO EVERY MODEM TO ASSURE 911 PHONE SERVICE IS AVAILABLE AT NO ADDED COST TO THE CUSTOMER. A FEDERAL LAW NEEDS TO BE MADE TO ASSURE A BATTERY IS ADDED TO EVERY PHONE MODEM. PLEASE INVESTIGATE THIS ISSUE, TEST BY PULLING THE PLUG ON YOUR MEDEM, HOW DOES YOUR 911 AGENCY RESPOND?

Name of Filer: Communications Workers of America Hooman Hedayati **Docket #** WC 25-209

WC 25-208 WC 25-304 WC 25-311 WC 04-36 **Date submitted:** May 14, 2026

...Marty Szeliga and Marcus Chambers . . . have collectively been inside thousands of homes over their decades-long careers as telecom technicians and have seen how, **for many customers, a phone is the only reliable connection to the outside world. It is a lifeline to healthcare, education, and employment. They explained that they have witnessed the disappearance of important protections and the deterioration of service quality for many customers, and that they worry about further deterioration if VoIP continues without meaningful oversight.** [Emphasis added] [...]

Name of Filer: Matthew Johnson **Docket #** WC 25-209 WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 08, 2026

Dear sir or madam; I am a resident of Riverside, CA. My phone which is the Nokia 105 4G and uses the Truconnect carrier is experiencing issues on the 4G network. When it is on 2G, the calling works perfectly. If 2G shuts down, much e-waste such as my perfectly working phone will be created. Thank you for reading this comment.

Name of Filer: Ira Marko **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Mar 26, 2026

[...]. **Additionally, for households with seniors or medical needs, providers should be required to offer battery backup solutions for voice services at no additional cost, along with affordable basic plans.** [Emphasis added] [...].

Name of Filer: Kathy Menezes **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Jan 16, 2026

Ending copper landlines will leave my family without any means of contacting emergency services. [Emphasis added] Our property cannot get reliable cell phone or internet. Please help us.

Name of Filer: Elizabeth and David Fox **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Dec 15, 2025

Century Link plans to eliminate copper line service and insists that residents in our area use cell, though **reception is largely nonexistent here.** [Emphasis added] There's no cable service and satellite internet reception is spotty and completely unreliable. Additionally, many residents have medical issues that necessitate access to emergency services at all times. Cell reception is not the answer for us, nor many folks in western Oregon, due to the following: 1. **Weather-Related Outages: These are the most common causes of localized cell service failure in the region. Heavy winter storms, ice events, and high winds often damage the power grid that feeds cell towers. For instance, during major ice storms, hundreds of thousands of customers across Oregon can lose power, which may lead to cell site failures if backup batteries or generators are exhausted. This happened just last year during our ice storms, and some folks lost power for more than a week.** 2. **Infrastructure & Geography: Western Oregon's rugged terrain, including the Coast Range and Cascades, naturally creates "dead zones" where signals are chronically poor or non-existent.** [Emphasis added] These are persistent coverage gaps rather than temporary outages. 3. **Planned Maintenance: Providers perform network upgrades that can cause temporary, localized service interruptions.** 4. **Large-Scale Events: While rare, nationwide technical glitches can impact the region. Major historical outages have affected tens of thousands of users across Oregon due to software bugs or system updates. Landline remains the only viable option for remote, forested, hilly communities like ours.** [Emphasis added] Unfortunately, Lumen Technologies has found that maintaining Century Link's landline service (our Carrier of Last Resort) isn't profitable and they are putting our lives at risk to save money.

Name of Filer: Andrew Blum **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Nov 13, 2025

This is a terrible idea to remove old fashion CORDED land lines with COPPER WIRES. not everyone has cable modems, they aren't as reliable as service often goes down, and they don't work (or don't work for long) in a power outage. Maintaining traditional copper wire phones so people can continue to use **CORDED LANDLINES provides the best quality connections, with the fewest outages. This is critical in emergencies and for keeping in close contact with local first responders, family members, doctors, etc etc.** [Emphasis added] PLEASE KEEP THE COPPER!! I am elderly and need to protect my health wherever I can. In addition, when someone else is talking on a cell phone, I often have a lot of difficulty understanding them, and it's much clearer if they switch to a landline.

Name of Filer: Nina Beety **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Oct 29, 2025

[...] **copperline landline telephone service is critical and essential infrastructure** [Emphasis added] that must be maintained, strengthened, and made affordable for everyone and for the security of the United States. There is no alternative for telephone service or 911 access. The systems being sold by the FCC and telecom companies as **“advanced communication” are inferior and unreliable.** [Emphasis added] AT&T publicly admits repeatedly in its fine print disclaimers that these new systems are now **dependent on electricity and batteries** [Emphasis added] provided by the customer, in stark contrast to POTS which is powered. Wireless systems are also **dependent on signals,** [Emphasis added] which are inherently temperamental and subject to interference and outages, pushing the abandonment and destruction of safe, secure, reliable communications...

Name of Filer: Christine Borje **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 30, 2025

[...] **Copperline landlines are essential infrastructure, providing reliable telephone service and 911 access through most disasters and in power outages.** [Emphasis added] Voice quality is high, and it provides exact location data for callers - essential in an emergency such as a heart attack, stroke, choking incident, or home invasion. In fires and for evacuation notices, **landlines are the difference between life and death.** [Emphasis added] Many Californians require 24/7 access to family and medical personnel due to health conditions, and no other service provides that dependability. **For those disabled by electromagnetic sensitivity -- as many as one million or more Californians, according to a state public health survey -- these landlines are the safest and only telephone service they can use.** [Emphasis added] Other systems are fragile and undependable. In a power outage, when the batteries die, there is no telephone service at all and no access to 911. Cell phones drop calls and often have difficult-to-understand voice quality. COLR means that everyone in AT&T's service territory gets telephone service without discrimination. There is no substitute. Without COLR, there will be a haves and have nots system, which is unacceptable and going backward in time to when only a few enjoyed telephone service. Vote NO on 25-208! This is yet another example of corporate greed and shortsightedness attempting to override public safety!

Name of Filer: Sara Sunstein **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 30, 2025

To the FCC: VOTE NO on 25-208. AT&T is once again attempting to leave its Carrier of Last Resort responsibilities and eliminate copper-line landlines in CA. Not everyone has cell phones, and many of those who do have cell phones have very poor or no reception at home, especially if they live rurally. My brother in NH and a friend in rural Bay Area are in that latter group. Even those in the city who are used to cell phones have frequent interruption of their cell lines. **Land lines and their reliability are essential to all of us! For some of us, it's our daily lives; others it's during emergencies and natural disasters,** [Emphasis added] which you may have noticed happen more and more frequently. **Last year AT&T made a similar request--and there were thousands of letters opposing such. It didn't happen.** [Emphasis added] Then they tried to get the CA legislation to help them opt out of maintaining landlines. Never got out of committee. Now they're up to the same request and the answer is the same: NO. AT&T has to maintain land-line telephone service. Protect public safety and communications. VOTE NO on 25-208. Thank you.

Name of Filer: Wendy Tico **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Oct 01, 2025

Please continue supporting landline use. I regularly use my landline line at home and work. The voice quality and reliability of land lines are significantly better than cellphones in rural areas. At work, we often have dropped calls from patients who call our medical office. Since the office has a landline, we are able to provide a reliable phone service for patients. The presumed degradation of customer service would negatively impact all sorts of businesses where customers expect reliable connections. [Emphasis added] At home my cell phone regularly drops calls as well. My landline is steady and reliable.

Name of Filer: Betty B Webster **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Oct 06, 2025

I am DEAF, [Emphasis added] so my Landline is a lifesaver for me. I can read what people are saying to me on my special hearing "machine". **Landline is crucial to my ability to communicate with the outside world!!** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Rachel Resnikoff Rachel Resnikoff **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 30, 2025

Landlines are essential in power outages, natural disasters, and to multi-line PBX's in businesses, government offices, hospitals, etc. [Emphasis added] AT&T is simply attempting to shirk its responsibility to us as a PUBLIC UTILITY that has been granted many advantages in exchange for landline coverage. At least they don't set the state on fire when they fail in their duty the way *another* public utility has done. I urge you to DENY this request by AT&T to withdraw from their DUTY to their customers and the public in general in California. Thank you for your attention.

Name of Filer: Alexandra Bisho **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 30, 2025

I am a 27 year old California native. I have concerns that policy that hinders, limits, disrupts, or shrinks in any way access to landlines will effectively **remove emergency communications systems and disrupt other necessary forms of communication.** [Emphasis added] I have listed those concerns below. Furthermore, I am concerned that these policy changes effectively give **favor to corporate interests over human and community needs.** [Emphasis added] Companies that operate under FCC regulations must be responsive to what people want, use, and need as much as, if not more than, they must be profitable. Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. This is crucial during fire season. **Cell phone networks didn't work in CA fire disasters but landlines did.** [Emphasis added] **AT&T claims people are abandoning landlines, but many AT&T service reps are telling customers AT&T no longer services copper and they won't install landlines anymore. This is forced obsolescence. People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines. We cannot cut off rural communities for whom emergencies are more dangerous.** Copper landlines work with DSL and medical alert systems. **Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines, and we want to keep the landlines!** [Emphasis added] (Not the fees, of course.)

Name of Filer: Fran Cherlow **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 30, 2025

I am 78 years old. I live at top of a hill. My mobile phone often does not work. **I will be alone in an emergency and lose contact without my landline.** [Emphasis added] Please...do not cut contact!

Name of Filer: Lindy Sinclair **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 30, 2025

Whenever there's a bad connection between me and someone else on our cell phones, I call back from my landline to get a good connection; in other words, landlines provide better connections, something that's particularly necessary for older adults like me with less than perfect hearing. [Emphasis added] Also, I believe landlines will work in emergencies when cell service is down. Please keep landlines. **Copperline landlines are essential infrastructure, providing reliable telephone service and 911 access through most disasters and in power outages.** Voice quality is high, and it provides **exact location data for callers** [Emphasis added] -- essential in an emergency such as a heart attack, stroke, choking incident, or home invasion. **In fires and for evacuation notices, landlines are the difference between life and death.** [Emphasis added] Many Californians require 24/7 access to family and medical personnel due to health conditions, and no other service provides that dependability. [...] landlines are the safest and only telephone service they can use. Other systems are fragile and undependable. In a power outage, when the batteries die, there is no telephone service at all and no access to 911. Cell phones drop calls and often have difficult-to-understand voice quality. COLR means that everyone in AT&T's service territory gets telephone service without discrimination. There is no substitute. Without COLR, there will be a haves and have nots system, which is unacceptable and going backward in time to when only a few enjoyed telephone service. Vote NO on 25-208!

Name of Filer: Brian Carleton, Marina Carleton, Bort Carleton **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 30, 2025

I am disabled. I depend on land line for medical appointments with an old fashion answering machine. There is nothing wrong with the technology, why get rid of it? **Many people in this area of Vermont are poor - well below poverty @ roughly 14,000 per year income. These families depend on Lifeline credit as a less expensive option to Cell phone plans. I love that my phone works no matter what. I would not want to give up my land line. Also there are legal ramifications - what about the fact that a warrant is needed to tap a land line but not to access a cell phone and its considerably more personal information.** [Emphasis added] Citizens should have the option. Not to mention the down side to only one choice a cell phone or nothing. **My brother lives in a remote enough area that a landline is the only reliable form of telephone communication** - the wifi - internet coverage by his home is patchy. He needs to drive a mile from his home to conduct a cell phone call, even then it drops out and is poor quality. There are so many reasons to keep landlines available.

Name of Filer: Summer Wood **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. In northern New Mexico, many of our small communities (like my own, and like the one my elderly parents live

in) experience frequent power outages. **People in remote or rural areas like ours rely on copper landlines. In particular, the elderly residents** [Emphasis added] of our community are not familiar or comfortable with cell phones or internet access. **Cell phone networks didn't work in CA fire disasters or Gulf Coast hurricanes, but landlines did.** [Emphasis added] AT&T claims people are abandoning landlines, but many AT&T service reps are telling customers AT&T no longer services copper and they won't install landlines anymore. **Copper landlines work with DSL and medical alert systems. I know this because my mother has a Medical Guardian alert system and it is critical to her safety and ability to maintain her independence. Besides, customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines.** [Emphasis added] Please do not allow the companies to abandon copper landlines!

Name of Filers: DEBRA E DUFFAUT, Peg Bogle , Christopher Lish, Becky Steinbruner, David Steinbruner, Becky Steinbruner, Karen Brandon, Danielle Gregorio, Barry Paul, Jennifer Laporta, Charlene Hopey, Alison S. McDonough, Alison S. McDonough, Kimrey Levy-Mickelson, Robin Lee, Joshua Hart, Krista B. Hessmills, Sharon VanderBoon, Taffy Williams, Arline F, Rick Hyman, Theresa and Casey McMaster, Rachel McKinnis, Annette Jewell Ceder, Victor Oddivak, Virginia Jaquez, Amy Harlib, Terri Keller, Carolyn Suttles, Josh Stottlemeyer, Christy White, Lynn D. Wellings **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 25- 30, 2025

Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. Cell phone networks didn't work in CA fire disasters but landlines did. [Emphasis added] Battery back-ups for modems and routers (needed for cable and fiber optic connections) are unreliable. **There are cyber security risks with cell phone connections.** [Emphasis added] AT&T claims people are abandoning landlines, but many AT&T service reps are telling customers AT&T no longer services copper and they won't install landlines anymore. **Many human bodies are not compatible with wireless technology.** [Emphasis added] People get headaches, ear ringing, vertigo, nerve disruptions, cancers, and more. People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines. **Copper landlines work with DSL and medical alert systems. Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: William McManus **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

We would disagree with any plan that would eliminate copper landline phones. **Aside from the security issues, copper landlines are much more reliable and safer. Anecdotally, during a thunderstorm when the power was disrupted, our then pre-teen daughter, was able to contact us via copper landline.** [Emphasis added] In addition, our rural communities rely on copper landlines. The only argument to eliminate copper is a slight increase in profits for the major telecom companies. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Name of Filer: Dorothy Lin **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

Please prevent any further dismantling of our networks of copper-wired telephones. Not only are such lines more secure from a privacy perspective, copper-wired phones that carry their own electricity can become the sole connection to help when regular electrical power lines go down for long periods. **Given the increasing frequency of**

weather emergencies in so many areas of the country in recent years, it would be foolish to dismantle what remains of the one communications system that provides critical redundancy when regular power lines go down. [Emphasis added] When power is out not for hours but days, the ability to call neighbors and check on their safety or to ask for help yourself is crucial. We should be maintaining such lifelines and rebuild them where already torn out. **When it comes to safety, you want "redundancy."** [Emphasis added] Weather disasters can be unpredictable and long term, and "backup" batteries are not always well maintained nor suited to the long haul. (My carrier, Verizon, forced me off of my copper land line a few years back. I've not been able to keep up with replacing the many D batteries required for the "backup" in my damp basement and must keep an array of power banks for cell coverage--which isn't that great to begin with--at any indication of bad weather. I now wonder whether they were telling the truth when they gave me no choice.)

Name of Filer: THOMAS LUEBBEN **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

I am very much opposed to any communications service changes in the name of "modernization" that would lead to the demise of copper landlines. I live in Santa Fe, NM. **Vast areas of the Western U.S. and Hawaii have no cell phone or internet service. Eliminating land lines will leave millions of Americans with no phone service at all, or very spotty cell phone service.** [Emphasis added] We do not even have continuous cell phone service between Santa Fe and Albuquerque, New Mexico's two largest population centers, a distance of 50 miles. Most of New Mexico lacks reliable cell phone service. **Eliminating land lines will endanger the lives of those tens of millions of Americans** [Emphasis added] who have no connection with the outside world other than landlines in the event of any emergency, especially natural disasters. **Copper landlines work in emergencies when the power is out. Not having reliable communication during emergencies is the difference between life and death. This will also force people to purchase cell phones and cell phone plans, if they are even able to do so, at much greater expense than their land line.** [Emphasis added] The proposal is simply the cell phone company enrichment plan Copper landlines have been reliable for a century. People may call them "antiquated," but they remain highly functional. Should we also get rid of all combustion engine cars because they, too, are antiquated, compared to electric cars? If the thing ain't broke, why get rid of it? Landline infrastructure that is already in place serves a valuable function for the safety and well-being of Americans. It is absolutely irresponsible of federal officials to propose to allow their elimination.

Name of Filer: Carol Ireland **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

Shortly after Hurricane Sandy blasted through NYC, residents were walking around my community – Stuyvesant Town – trying unsuccessfully to use their cell phones. Many people were also unable to use their landline phones. [...]

Name of Filer: Ronald R. Fenwick, Attorney **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

My wife and I each have been using landline service for about 70 years. We also have more recently been using mobile “Smart” phones. Each of these services have advantages and disadvantages and for that reason we don’t want to and shouldn’t have to give up either one. Our landline allows us to use our phone during power outages and it also allows us to be quickly and accurately located when we call 911. Our smart phones do not provide either of these very important features. I realize that from purely a business standpoint, maintaining the copper line infrastructure decreases the profits of ATT and the Telcoms. However, **these companies are still essentially monopolies and as such are performing an important public service and at the same time they are making huge profits.** [Emphasis added] Landlines have been in place for a long time and they continue to provide a very important service to our citizens, especially those in rural and remote areas and also for our senior citizens. Further, **the more frequent and more dangerous storms we’re now experiencing make it even more important that we have landlines.** [Emphasis added] At the very least, landlines are a critical and necessary “back up” resource when mobile and VOIP phones stop working, as they have done and will continue to do so in the future... ATT also continues to raise the monthly charge for this service as another way for them to do this. **The large reduction in landlines has been accomplished by the Telcoms having failed to properly inform customers of the advantages of landlines, while at the same time misrepresenting their VOIP services as being the same or even better and also less expensive. This continues to be wrong and illegal marketing.** [Emphasis added] Therefore, I am asking the FCC to enact rules allowing the Telcoms to continue improving their other products but to also require that they continue to offer and provide landline service and continue to maintain its infrastructure.

Name of Filer: Linda Harris **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

As a Senior who is dependent on my landline for safe & reliable communications—especially in Emergencies — I urge you to VOTE NO on 25-208 to ensure **that AT&T fulfills its obligations as “Carrier of Last Resort” (COLR)** [Emphasis added] and MAINTAINS ITS COPPER LANDLINES in California. - I was one of over 5,000 Californians who successfully advocated to the California PUC that AT&T fulfill their COLR obligations— for the peace of mind & well-being of the millions of Californians who rely on landlines - Maintaining landlines & ATT’s COLR obligation particularly helps Seniors and those living in rural area who have no other means of reliable communication - **Maintaining landlines & AT’T’ COLR obligation will be priceless**

for Security, Safety & Reliable Communication [Emphasis added] in the inevitable Emergency where landlines still function even when cell phones are rendered inoperable — for Residents & Safety Personnel - **Maintaining landlines & AT&T COLR obligation will ensure that 911 is able to function** [Emphasis added] — in personal & larger emergencies including the inevitable Big Earthquake in California - **Maintaining lands & AT&T COLR should remain because of AT&T's Contractual Obligation that AT&T committed to when AT&T willingly signed agreement to be COLR** [Emphasis added] in California.

Name of Filer: Martha Glaser **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

I am among the likely greater than 10% of the population worldwide who experiences great pain with proximity to and use of wireless tech. [Emphasis added] I experience dizziness, stabbing head pain and head pressure, exhaustion, and disorientation. **Having a reliable phone service such as one using copper wire landlines is a necessity when disasters can cause emergency power outages.** [Emphasis added] Please insist on maintaining copper wire landlines for those of us who have resisted AT&T's efforts to take them away. Please insist on allowing new copper wire landlines to be installed for new users, which is not the same as using "Voice Over IP lines."

Name of Filer: Thomase Swan **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

I am 70-years old and strongly urge the FCC to deny AT&T's request to abandon landline service/ maintenance & its COLR obligations per FCC 25-208. Accordingly, I strongly urge the FCC to VOTE NO on 25-208. PLEASE PRESERVE LANDLINES as they are SAFE & RELIABLE for Seniors, People Living in Remote Areas who are unable to access digital options and for VAST NETWORKS OF SAFETY PERSONNEL. **WE ARE AMONG THE MILLIONS WHO DEPEND ON LANDLINES for access to health care and our families on a daily basis.** [Emphasis added] LANDLINES GIVE US PEACE OF MIND THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO CONTACT 911 & SAFETY PERSONNEL IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES. WHEN THE POWER GOES OUT, LANDLINES WILL STILL FUNCTION. Furthermore, CITIES & COUNTIES. ALREADY. HAVE A SIZABLE INVESTMENT IN SAFETY MEASURES TIED TO LANDLINES & CAN. ILL AFFORD TO PAY FOR NEW NETWORKS that are LESS RELIABLE. LET AT&T INVEST IN New technologies when appropriate . . . And USE ITS PROFITS built over decades from landlines to also PRESERVE LANDLINES for the MILLIONS OF SENIORS, RURAL RESIDENTS & THOUSANDS of SAFETY PERSONNEL WHO USE LANDLINES for DAILY SAFETY, FUTURE SECURITY & PEACE OF MIND. LET'S BE GRATEFUL FOR LANDLINES & NOT RISK AN UNSAFE FUTURE when the inevitable Earthquake, Tornado, Super Flood, Etc. cause power outages & render cell phones, cell towers and other digital options inoperable. Again, PLEASE VOTE "NO ON 25-208" & **OBLIGATE AT&T to MAINTAIN ITS COLR RESPONSIBILITY to PROVIDE LANDLINE SERVICE for WELL-BEING OF MILLIONS OF SENIORS & OTHER RESIDENTS.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Carolyn McManus **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

Please, keep copper landlines in operation. Benefits of copper landlines vs. cellphones: **copper landlines can keep working during power blackouts; for businesses (medical, law, etc.) that rely on their equipment tied to landlines; cannot be lost/misplaced -- follow your cord; 911 operators can determine a landline phone's location more successfully and immediately; excellent, clearer reception (no "dropped calls" far less/no disruptions); greater security from hackers;** [Emphasis added] keeps rural communities connected; **much healthier,** [Emphasis added] especially for the young, in protection from electromagnetic frequencies; current news articles of parents wanting to return to landlines to keep their offspring from ongoing cellphone distractions (already linked to learning/behavior difficulties, bad eyesight/health problems from cellphone addiction). **We fully depend on landlines -- long-proven, trustworthy wired communication.** [Emphasis added] A robust, hearty "YES, KEEP COPPER LANDLINES ACTIVE AND MAKE IT COMMONPLACE AGAIN".

Name of Filer: Maya Dolena, James Smythe, Beverly Rumsey **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

I am a senior and rely on my landline because my cell gets very poor reception on this side of Hawaii Island. Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. **Cell phone networks didn't work in the Kilauea eruption, and I was left without any connection to the outside world.** [Emphasis added] Lava covered my home and I barely got out alive. Battery back-ups for modems and routers (needed for cable and fiber optic connections) are unreliable. Mine did not work. **People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines. Copper landlines work with DSL and medical alert systems. Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Ellen Marks **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

It is critical to maintain copper landline service. **Cellphones have been found to be unreliable in major disasters such as the fires in Los Angeles in January of 2025. There are also cybersecurity risks associated with cell phones that are not associated with wired landlines. There are negative health effects for many when using a cell phone** [Emphasis added] such as vertigo, headaches and tinnitus. Cancer is also a serious concern; there is significant independent science concluding this. Of course this is being war gamed by industry. My own husband was a victim of this and I know many others that are deceased due to cell phone exposure. Thank you.

Name of Filer: Marsha Henry **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 30, 2025

Please save the landline networks. I would be lost without my **land line connection. They are lifelines for millions of Americans.** [Emphasis added] The infrastructure that is in place is vast and far reaching. Many businesses and hospitals rely on this important service. More and more people will be turning their cell phones off indoors

and rely on land lines while at home. New customers will be added when people start connecting the dots that the wireless radiation from their cell phones could be impacting their health and well-being. Millions of Americans would be devastated – and this is not overstating the emotional harm associated with losing their landlines. It's very expensive to obtain alternate land line service - that would not work during a power outage. **Americans access to land line service must be preserved to support the health and well-being of millions of Americans.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Thomas Petschauer **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

... I am strongly opposed to eliminating or reducing access to reliable wired telephone service. In Connecticut, many people — including the elderly, disabled, and families with young children — depend on copper landlines and cable-based voice services during emergencies, when cell towers and DSL often fail. Providers like AT&T, Frontier, Xfinity/Comcast, Optimum/Altice, Spectrum/Charter, Cox, and Verizon for example must be required to maintain dependable, non-wireless voice options. **The FCC should ensure that all carriers offering phone service, whether traditional telcos or cable companies, provide resilient, affordable, and accessible wired connections so that no community is left without communication in disasters.**

[Emphasis added] Personal Experience: **In my own community, storms have repeatedly caused DSL VoIP and cell phone services to fail. These failures left me and my family without reliable communication exactly when it was needed most. The only option that has proven to work consistently is direct hardwire copper service** [Emphasis added]— not DSL modems, not cellular towers. **The FCC must recognize that so-called “modern replacements” often fail in real-world emergencies, while copper has historically remained the most resilient.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Pauline Bondonno **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

Do not end copper land lines. **They are an essential service we need in emergencies.** [Emphasis added] We used our copper land line and **relied on it during the SF earthquake of 1989 when other services were not available for many days including cell phone use.** In fire emergencies this is critical to have land lines.

Name of Filer: Peg Bogle **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

We need to protect and restore our copper head landlines. Here are some of the reasons why : Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. **Cell phone networks didn't work in CA fire disasters but landlines did. [...]. People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines. Copper landlines work with DSL and medical alert systems.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Deborah McBride **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

Hello FCC, I am **extremely sensitive to Electromagnetic Fields,** [Emphasis added] (radiation) and I must use my land line phone. Cell phones frequencies cause horrible

health effects on me. I must have a land line. Do not take this away from me and my husband.

Name of Filer: Mary Poirier Gilroy **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

First, every landline owner should have been made aware of this months ago. Living in a rural area, we have always appreciated **redundancy**, [Emphasis added] whether it's a wood stove for heating, or our landline for communication. **Our landline is critical when electricity is off** [Emphasis added] and when we can't charge our cell phones. In addition, our landline is our **preferred communication device** [Emphasis added] and has been for decades as it's easier to use and safer than being dependent on a cell phone. Plus, **we've been paying to maintain copper landlines for years**, [Emphasis added] so there is no excuse for eliminating them.

Name of Filer: Rosemarie Russell **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

... Keep our landlines. **We paid for them and I want a choice that is not wireless** [Emphasis added] ...

Name of Filer: Pam Scott **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

Dear FCC: "Accelerating Network Modernization" [25-208] and "Reducing Barriers to Network Improvements and Service Changes" [25-209] are absolutely misguided. They **squander energy, and try to "fix" things that aren't broken**. [Emphasis added] Copper land line service is far superior to any wireless technology in terms of sustainability, reliability, and quality.

Name of Filer: sc p **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

[...] It's **OUTRAGEOUS** that you would even consider putting yourself, your families, and everyone in California at great risk of death during emergencies like earthquakes, fires, and medical emergencies when the power is out. **Copperline landlines are essential infrastructure**, [Emphasis added] providing reliable telephone service and 911 access through most disasters and in power outages. Voice quality is high, and it provides exact location data for callers -- essential in an emergency such as a heart attack, stroke, choking incident, or home invasion. In fires and for evacuation notices, landlines are the difference between life and death. [...]

Name of Filer: Julie Stowell **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

I just became aware that the FCC is wanting to end copper landlines. This is **CRITICAL** infrastructure for many of us that live in rural areas. Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. In our area we deal with natural disasters such as storms, fires, high winds. When the electricity goes out we still have the ability to make phone calls on landlines to reach others, to find out what areas are affected and emergency management information. **Many of my friends only have landlines as cell phones do not work where they live. The only way we can communicate is through copper land lines**. [Emphasis added] Please, please, please do not end this

necessary service that is already in place. I know many elderly folks with health issues that only have landlines. They do not even have a possibility of having a cell phone. **With the increase in Solar storms that affect the power grid this impacts cellular technology as well.** [Emphasis added] I have had issues with cell phone due to this, but landlines still work. It is very important for our communities to be able to communicate when the grid is down.

Name of Filer: ESTHER MANDER **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

I am very much opposed to any communications service changes in the name of “modernization” that would lead to the demise of copper landlines. This shortsighted move would handicap many rural areas in the event of natural disasters. Copper landlines work in emergencies when the power is out. Not having reliable communication during emergencies is the difference between life and death. I live in an area of the Big Island of Hawaii where there is no cell service. **I rely 100 percent on my landline. If I wanted, i could receive cell service though my wi-fi. Well, that’s all well and good until a hurricane or storm hits, which are common in my area. The power goes out, and the cell service goes out. We need reliable communications during emergencies. Copper landlines have been reliable for a century.** [Emphasis added] People may call them “antiquated,” but they remain highly functional. Should we also get rid of all combustion engine cars because they, too, are antiquated, compared to electric cars? If the thing ain’t broke, why get rid of it? Landline infrastructure that is already in place serves a valuable function for the safety and well-being of Americans. **It is absolutely peanut-brained to let that infrastructure collapse.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Julee Mertz **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out! **Cell phone networks didn't work in CA fire disasters but landlines did! [...]** People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines. Copper landlines work with DSL and medical alert systems. **WE have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Jonathan Gibson **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

I am submitting this comment to express my strong opposition to the proposed action of allowing telecommunications companies to eliminate copper landlines throughout the United States. **In 2018, my community in Vermont experienced a 2-1/2 day power outage during which the fiber optic service that our local telecom, Vermont Telephone Company, had installed to replace the previous copper landline system ceased to function.** [Emphasis added] I became well acquainted with telecom issues by participating with other Vermont residents in attempting to address the **serious public safety danger presented by loss of emergency telecommunication capacity during an electric power outage due to total reliance on fiber optic systems** only through participation via comments on the Vermont 10-year Telecommunications Plan, in a Vermont Public Utility Commission

proceeding, and by testimony re enactment of legislation. [...]. [Emphasis added]
Telecoms must also be required to give consumers notice when their battery is nearing expiration and provide a replacement battery at no expense to the consumer, but as an essential cost to the utility of providing communication service. [Emphasis added] [...]

Name of Filer: Herb Sutherland **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

[...] **cell phones have spotty connections especially in times of emergency. This is even more the case in rural areas than where we live.** [Emphasis added] In my case, I use AT&T Unified Messaging on my POTS line to not only take messages from unrecognized callers but to receive FAX messages. Recently AT&T has been sending us letters encouraging us to switch to AT&T Phone-Advanced and right after it says "AT&T Phone-Advanced does everything your current phone line does" it refers to a footnote which says "voicemail not available." This is not acceptable! **If they are going to offer some kind of replacement service, it should include the functionality we have now including working during power outages, being a reliable connection not depending on radio waves or our internet connection and the ability to take voice and FAX messages.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Desiree Jaworski **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

I need my landline at my house because my cell phone doesn't have the connection with the cell tower for me to talk on it. Even if I leave my house and go outside I can't talk to people on it. My whole family is affected by this and we all use the landline. Also, copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. **The Hawaii and California fire disasters are an example of this - cell phones didn't work but landlines did.** [Emphasis added] Battery back-ups for modems and routers (needed for cable and fiber optic connections) are unreliable. **Many people I know like their landlines and use them but AT&T claims people are abandoning landlines when in reality AT&T service reps are telling customers AT&T no longer services copper and they won't install landlines anymore.** [Emphasis added]
Please keep our landlines functioning!!!!

Name of Filer: susan kopald **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

Copper landlines work during emergencies when power is out. **I rely on the landline for my calls as reception is 100%.** [Emphasis added] As a young child we could not wait to get a landline. It is unheard of to eliminate this reliable mode of communication which is safe, secure and necessary. This is short sighted and not in the public interest. [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Neal Kreitzer **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

I use a landline installed in my home in 1938. During storms the line sometimes gets static-y, but it never fails to work. The phone line has been reliable and is easier to use than my iPhone, which sometimes I do not remember to charge and also when our

electricity goes out, which happens during summer storms or winter blizzards. Then I can't charge my iPhone at all. **I find the landline reassuring, as it is always in the same place.** [Emphasis added] I don't "live" with my iPhone like many people do, so sometimes I can't find where I last left it. (In fact, right now I realize I left in my car last night.) Also, **I can find the landline phone even if there are no lights during an electrical outage.** [Emphasis added] For whatever reason, these outages seem to happen in our area more than even other parts of the small village where I live. I am 86 and somewhat vision impaired, so being able to rely on something that always works and never needs charging is a blessing. I understand that maintenance of the telephone lines is expensive for utility companies. However, **I pay extra every month for the landline service** [Emphasis added] --more than ever before--so I think I'm not taking advantage of anyone.

Name of Filer: Bradford J Harding and Margaret McMorro **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

Copper landline connections that are already in place, are essential for:

- **reliability during power outages and natural disasters,**
- **dedicated infrastructure for security,**
- **their role in analog fax machines used by businesses such as hospitals and medical practices.** [Emphasis added] Please preserve copper networks alongside fiber upgrades.

Name of Filer: Lori Vanderhider **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

Please do not decommission copper landlines. • Copper landlines work during power outages. • **Battery back-up for fiber optic provides very limited service. The one supplied by my carrier will give me a 10 minute phone call.** [Emphasis added] Due to being disabled by electro-magnetic radiation, I do not own a cell phone. My copper landline was taken away from me leaving me with no means of calling for help in an emergency. • There are cyber security risks with cell phone connections. • **Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Alex Garcia-Osuna **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

I strongly urge the FCC to preserve and protect copper POTS landline networks.

These systems are essential for public safety, rural communities, and for those of us who do not wish to use or rely on wireless devices. [Emphasis added] My family and I have been moving away from cell phones and other wireless technology for several reasons, including health concerns, privacy, and security. I no longer have a cell phone plan. Instead, I use two VOIP lines for calls. For internet access, we rely on a hardwired network. As we continue to transition further away from wireless, we want to reinstall our POTS line for reliable, secure, and independent voice service.

Copper landlines are far more secure than wireless and internet-based systems, which are vulnerable to hacking and cyberattacks. [Emphasis added] They also use very little energy, unlike fiber and wireless systems, making them dependable and sustainable. Most importantly, **copper landlines continue to work during power**

outages and natural disasters, when cell towers, cable, and fiber services often fail, leaving people without any way to call for help. [Emphasis added] Millions of Americans, including seniors, medically vulnerable individuals, and rural households, still depend on copper lines for basic communication and safety. These networks are also affordable and resilient, providing clear voice quality unmatched by wireless systems. Please do not allow carriers to abandon this critical infrastructure. **Copper and fiber can coexist. If large companies no longer wish to maintain copper lines, they should be required to sell them to providers who will.** [Emphasis added] **This decision is not just about modernization. It is about public safety, security, privacy, and consumer choice.** [Emphasis added] [...]

Name of Filer: Christopher Lish **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

[...] But the FCC is missing a critical point: **copper lines don't require electricity to work, so they are the essential service we need in emergencies when power is out. Cell phone networks haven't worked during some of California's fire disasters, but landlines did. Battery back-ups for modems and routers, which are needed for cable and fiber optic connections, have proven unreliable during many emergencies.** [Emphasis added] [...]

Name of Filer: Joe Myers **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 26, 2025

Please save copper landlines. I have at&t copper landline at my house in fair grove mo. It's a Rural area. Cell signal is spotty. I love having my landline and I don't want to lose it. I also have a landline at my office in springfield mo

Name of Filer: N. Albert **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 27, 2025

I strongly oppose the proposed changes in 25-208 and 25-209. Copper landlines remain vitally important for many people in many parts of the country. **“Network modernization” is not an excuse to dismantle critical infrastructure that is the most reliable forms of communications and 911 access for many people, particularly in disaster-prone areas or regions that frequently experience power outages. Copper landlines are unique amongst all forms of communications today in that the central office's common battery source can provide communications for an entire region; users do not need to provide their own backup power source, as they do with wireless and VoIP communications.** [Emphasis added] [...]. **Contrary to the commission's assertion in its proposed, the transition to all-IP networks does not protect public safety. Rather, as the action of incumbents has already shown, it reduces availability to 911 services by requiring the customer maintain and provider their own local power and backup battery sources, and the fiber and wireless alternatives to copper have already proven to be significantly less reliable. These rulemakings are anti-consumer and not in the public interest.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Willian Ingui **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 27, 2025

I have kept my landline phone all these years because it works after a hurricane. Living through many hurricanes in Florida, I can attest to this fact. I have also been paying over \$100 to AT & T to have this landline service which is very expensive because I know my phone will work when the power is out. The other reason to keep copper landlines is because they can't be hacked into and this is vital since there is no privacy with cell phones. **Copper landlines are vital for rural and remote areas. They also work with DSL and medical alert systems. You are taking away choices from us.** [Emphasis added] Our nation is all about having choices and competition. LET US KEEP OUR COPPER LANDLINES!!

Name of Filer: Joan Capozzoli **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 27, 2025

As a Florida resident I have lived through many hurricanes in Florida, and I can attest to the fact that the **landline phones work when the power is off. This is critical for seniors who will know their phone will work when the power is out.** [Emphasis added] The other reason to keep copper landlines is because they can't be hacked into and this is vital since there is no PRIVACY with cell phones. Copper landlines are vital for rural and remote areas. They also work with DSL and medical alert systems. You are taking away choices from us. Americans want choices and competition. LET US KEEP OUR COPPER LANDLINES!!

Name of Filer: Sierra Winberry **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

The push of big companies to "modernize" using cell, radio and other over the air methods and eliminating hardwired reliable standards is not in the publics' best interest. Please see the following report published by National Institute for Science, Law & Public Policy Washington, DC:

<https://gettingsmarteraboutthesmartgrid.org/pdf/Wires.pdf> Included in this report: Dr. Schoechele says, "We are seeing the present national emphasis on wireless technologies because **the "triopoly", of Verizon, AT&T, and Comcast that dominates our access to the Internet imposes artificial scarcity, planned obsolescence, and high prices to maintain their immense profits. It is in their interest to obscure the fact that advanced copper and optical fiber are far superior to wireless in both cost and performance.**" [Emphasis added] "Wireless Networks Are Not as Fast, Secure, Reliable or Energy-Efficient as Wired Systems, Says New Report" "The U.S. Should Instead Invest in Hard-Wired Telecommunications Infrastructure to Support Economic Growth, Bridge the Digital Divide and Diminish Risks to Security, Privacy, Public Health and the Environment"

Name of Filer: Judith Hendin **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

I urge the FCC to allow land line phones to remain active. Millions of us use them. **I use one because I am sensitive to other kinds of phones. They make me sick.** [Emphasis added] This is documented by my physician. I MUST USE A LAND LINE PHONE.

Name of Filer: Carolyn Brninski **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

As a person with significant sensitivities to wireless radiation, I urge you to preserve the safer option of copper landline networks. **For a significant number of sensitive people, wireless technology causes headaches, ear ringing, vertigo, nerve disruptions and more.** [Emphasis added] Studies have also proven that wireless radiation cause cancers. **I have also personally found that copper networks are superior in terms of quality, reliability and cybersecurity than wireless networks. Landlines can be used in emergencies whereas wireless networks are often unreliable or nonfunctional under these circumstances** [Emphasis added] (i.e. CA fire disasters). Additional reasons to preserve these networks are: Battery back-ups for modems and routers (needed for cable and fiber optic connections) are unreliable. **People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines.** [Emphasis added] Copper landlines work with DSL and medical alert systems. **Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Brian McLaughlin **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

I do not favor making it possible for communications providers to phase out landline phone service. **My wife and I are elderly and live in a place with frequent power outages. Our landline functions during those outages. Cell phones cannot be relied on to work during outages.** [Emphasis added] They rely solely on battery power which is only as reliable as one's remembering to recharge them and cell phones can easily break if dropped when fumbling in the dark. Landlines have proved reliable in those situations for decades upon decades. Phone service is correctly considered a necessity in the USA. **There are many hundreds of thousands of people in areas without cell service because the cell companies do not find it profitable to serve them, but who are well-served by the legacy landline network.** [Emphasis added] These reasons alone should be sufficient for the government to continue to require service providers to install and service landlines without regard to profit margin. **The US government was established "for the people". That means all of us, not just stock holders.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Deborah D Shisler **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Copper landlines are not antiquated. They are lifelines. They work in emergencies when the power goes out. It was proven during the CA fire disasters. Copper landlines worked and cell phone networks did not. AT&T claims people are dropping their landlines, however many AT&T service reps are informing their customers that AT&T no longer services copper and they will not install landlines any longer. I want and need my landline. **I live in a rural area and depend on my copper landline. My body is compromised by wireless technology. I have been paying additional fees to maintain my copper landline for decades.** [Emphasis added] Please allow customers to keep this vital form of communication.

Name of Filer: Helen Jones **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Copper landlines work when the power is out. We here in the mountains depend on that. Also, customers have been paying extra fees for years in their phone bills to maintain copper landlines. Please don't take them from us.

Name of Filer: Winifred Thomas **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Copper landlines are more reliable, work when the power is out, essential in California fires when cell phones failed, work with DSL and medical alert systems, best for rural areas, and do NOT cause the health problems of wireless technology. KEEP COPPER LANDLINES!

Name of Filer: Marcia C Hanford **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Please do not remove landlines. AT&T has held this monopoly for decades, and customer bills have consistently increased. We would be left without an important communication method if AT&T is allowed to pull out of its obligation. **Cellular service in foothill areas is spotty at best. Land lines are vital for emergencies as well as normal communications.** [Emphasis added] AT&T must not be allowed to dump us.

Name of Filer: Linda Ikeda **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Accelerating Network Modernization and Improvements should include repair and upkeep of copper landlines NOT its exclusion in favor of fiber and wireless. [Emphasis added] Modernization should include using the most advanced and best technology. **Copper landlines represent the most advanced and best technology for clarity, cost, reliability in emergencies, and safety, especially when compared to fiber and wireless. During the California fires, landlines still worked.** [Emphasis added] It provides excellent voice connectivity compared to wireless. It does not use electricity, helpful when the electric and cell towers go down. Battery back-up for modems and routers (needed for cable and fiber optic connectivity) are unreliable. The more frequent catastrophic events that have been occurring lately require a good, solid network like our copper landlines. Further, research blames numerous illnesses on wireless (see <https://manhattanneighbors.org/safety-of-wireless-technologies-the-scientific-view/>). Many health-minded people, aware of health risks from Electro-Magnetic Radiation (EMR), prefer landlines. **An increasing number of people suffer from EMR Syndrome. Right now it represents over a 1/3 of the population.** [Emphasis added] Twenty (20) years ago, it was 3% (three). These people get symptoms (like headaches, vertigo, cancer and other health issues) from wireless, internet and electrical frequencies. They need the option of a well-managed copper landline network. I am one (of 1/2 of 1% or 250,000 in California) disabled with EMR-Syndrome. I must limit my use of the computer, any telephone connected to electricity and wireless. I am fine if I severely limit my use. Therefore, for me, and others disabled from EMR - Syndrome, the safety of copper landlines are a necessity. Further, **the FCC should not overrule the desires of the states. In California, the CPUC, and the state legislature listened to the people in favor of copper landlines.** [Emphasis added] Over a quarter of the US population uses landlines.

Many more would use them except that AT&T has consistently refused to provide them. **For decades customers have paid for copper-landline upkeep. We deserve what we paid for.** [Emphasis added] Since AT&T does not want to continue the copper landline network, it should be sold for its continuation. Plain Old Telephone Service is the superior and most advanced technology to date. **I see the option the telecoms want to use as a money-grab with little care for people.** [Emphasis added] Please SAVE OUR COPPER LANDLINES!

Name of Filer: Stephanie K. Thomas **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

I am in my 80s & have had my landline at this address for 45 years & have DSL internet with it. I also have a mobile phone. **I live in a fire & earthquake zone & need the reliability of my copper landline as the cell networks have failed in areas of CA. Businesses I know rely on their copper landlines.** [Emphasis added] I know people who were told when they moved that they could no longer keep their landline which they wanted. **I have friends who are electrically sensitive and either can't use a cell phone or need to limit their use. I have friends who live in real areas where cell phones don't work. Many people can't afford cell phones. Over the many years I have paid extra fees in my phone bill to maintain my copper landline.** [Emphasis added] This cost effective & low energy use phone service is everywhere. I have heard that **1/4 of the US population rely on their copper network as either their primary or secondary phone service.** [Emphasis added] I ask you to listen to us legacy phone users and keep these landlines either w/ ATT or another entity who will preserve them.

Name of Filer: Susan Page **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 26, 2025

Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. I get very poor reception where I live and am planning to returning to a landline so in case of emergency, I can get through. **Landlines are needed for emergencies as they do not need electricity.** [Emphasis added] We know cell phone networks didn't work in CA fire disasters but landlines did. **There are cyber security risks with cell phone connections. Landlines and fiber optic are safer, faster, more secure, offer more privacy and provide better security than any wireless connections. Wireless technology is harmful to our health and the health of all living things.** [Emphasis added] Many people are extremely sensitive to this wireless technology causing untold health problems such as headaches, ear ringing, vertigo, nerve disruptions, cancers, and more. Americans have already paid for fiber optic but the wireless industry has paid the FCC to be favorable to them. **Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Erin M., RN **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Copper landlines are lifelines for many people throughout the US. **When the power goes out, copper landlines work. When battery backups for modems and routers fail, copper landlines work. For people who are disabled, who use medical alert systems, or DSL... copper landlines work. For people who live in rural and remote**

areas, copper landlines work. For people with metal implants, or electronic implants, who are susceptible to known and documented adverse biological effects from wireless radiation, who need to avoid wireless connections/exposure - copper landlines work. [Emphasis added] For people who suffer with EMR-S (Electromagnetic Radiation Syndrome, a.k.a. EMS Electromagnetic Sensitivity), all too familiar with the warning, “Distance is your friend” - whether from electric utility companies, or warnings on cell towers/antennas... copper landlines work. Physicians often prescribe reduction or elimination of as much EMR/EMFs (Electromagnetic Radiation, Electromagnetic Fields) as possible to treat patients with debilitating symptoms that range from insomnia, headaches, tinnitus, visual impairment, nose bleeds, brain fog, memory lapse, ADHD/behavioral problems, life-threatening conditions like Atrial Fibrillation, heart attacks, strokes, development or exacerbation of degenerative neurological conditions like autism, vertigo (loss of balance), Bell's Palsy, Guillain-Barré, MS (Multiple Sclerosis), early onset of Alzheimers, Parkinson's, brain tumors, acoustic neuromas, even other types of cancer... copper landlines, not pocket sized cell towers, provide a much safer connection! The National Toxicology Program Study (cell phone radiation) found clear evidence of cancer in animals. More and more alarming evidence is coming out about cell phone use and addiction, especially in children, teens, and young adults, (Surgeon General's Advisory Report, May 2023), prompting schools to take near immediate action ... copper landlines work! **Copper landlines are resilient, reliable, have historically withstood the test of time, and customers have been paying for its maintenance for years in their phone bills;** [Emphasis added] whereas cellular technology has built-in obsolescence sic] which disenfranchises many citizens throughout the country. **Copper landlines do not carry the notoriously inherent risks that cell phones do: surveillance and tracking, hack-ability - especially public wi-fi networks - phishing emails/texts, SIM swaps, and cyber security risks** [Emphasis added] such as the recent attack on senior government officials in NY. **The FCC must take its job seriously, as it was charged to do, to protect the safety of the public. All citizens must have options to safe, reliable and affordable communications,** [Emphasis added] especially in emergencies of electrical power failures, network disruptions. The FCC must investigate and stop any deceptive practices deployed by corporations intent on putting profits over people, including bullying citizens into surrendering copper landlines, forcing them to affix themselves to cell phone/blue tooth connections that emit radiation, carry cyber security, surveillance and tracking risks.

Name of Filer: Jessica Bernstein **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

The California Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act is one of the most powerful acts in California. If a dependent adult or elderly launches a suit for abuse and wins, they automatically are entitled to have all of their attorney fees paid and damages by the opposing side: The Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act, provides for the award of attorney's fees and costs to, and the recovery of damages by, a plaintiff when it is proven by clear and convincing evidence that the defendant is liable for physical abuse or neglect, and the defendant has also been found guilty of recklessness, oppression, fraud, or malice in the commission of

that abuse. I don't understand why this is even up for a vote after over 5,000 letters poured in from around that state last year objecting to the removal of landlines and they had to extend the hearings because there were so many objections. It's OUTRAGEOUS that you would even consider putting yourself, your families, and everyone in California at great risk of death during emergencies like earthquakes, fires, and medical emergencies when the power is out. Copperline landlines are essential infrastructure, providing reliable telephone service and 911 access through most disasters and in power outages. Voice quality is high, and it provides exact location data for callers -- essential in an emergency such as a heart attack, stroke, choking incident, or home invasion. In fires and for evacuation notices, **landlines are the difference between life and death**. Many Californians require 24/7 access to family and medical personnel due to health conditions, and no other service provides that dependability. For those disabled by electromagnetic sensitivity -- as many as one million or more Californians, according to a state public health survey -- these landlines are the safest and only telephone service they can use. Other systems are fragile and undependable. In a power outage, when the batteries die, there is no telephone service at all and no access to 911. Cell phones drop calls and often have difficult-to-understand voice quality. COLR means that everyone in AT&T's service territory gets telephone service without discrimination. There is no substitute. Without COLR, there will be a haves and have nots system, which is unacceptable and going backward in time to when only a few enjoyed telephone service. Vote NO on 25-208! This is yet another example of corporate greed and shortsightedness attempting to override public safety!

Name of Filer: Jeffrey miller **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

I do not think abandoning the copper landlines is the right thing to do **At&T has been paid for years by customers on their bills to maintain their lines and too many elderly customers rely on them** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Sarah Gross **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

I am strongly opposed to eliminating or reducing access to reliable wired telephone service. In Connecticut, **many people — including the elderly, disabled, and families with young children — depend on copper landlines and cable-based voice services during emergencies, when cell towers and DSL often fail.** [Emphasis added] Providers like AT&T, Frontier, Xfinity/Comcast, Optimum/Altice, Spectrum/Charter, Cox, and Verizon for example must be required to maintain dependable, non-wireless voice options. The FCC should ensure that all carriers offering phone service, whether traditional telcos or cable companies, provide resilient, affordable, and accessible wired connections so that no community is left without communication in disasters. **Personal Experience: I have asthma and need a landline to call local 911 to recognize my address. In my own community, storms have repeatedly caused DSL VoIP and cell phone services to fail. These failures left me and my family without reliable communication exactly when it was needed most. The only option that has proven to work consistently is direct hardwire copper service — not DSL modems, not cellular towers. The FCC must**

recognize that so-called “modern replacements” often fail in real-world emergencies, while copper has historically remained the most resilient.
[Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: jessica mcgovern **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

We must keep our landlines, they are our life connection when the electric power goes out.

Name of Filer: Linda Dance **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Landline communication is essential for me for the following reasons: **I can NOT have a cell phone for communication because the wireless technology adversely effects me. With storms, hurricanes, and other reasons for power outages - I have NO way to communicate and should an emergency arise at that time I can NOT call for help.** [Emphasis added] IF I could use a cell phone, during hurricanes the cell towers are often with outages and others lose their communication so they can NOT call for help in emergency.

Name of Filer: Judith Hendin **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Please retain land line telephones. **I am extremely sensitive to electromagnetic frequencies (EMFs)**, as documented by my physician. I MUST have a landline.

Name of Filer: Marshall Sanders **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 26, 2025

We want permanent access to landline services being turned into law. DO NOT EVER TRY TO eliminate our landlines again. The continual WAR ON HUMANITY by corporate America must stop NOW! - The constant funneling of Americans into ever smaller public services and products that essentially become monopoly enforcement policy on behalf of the demands of corporations and big business is corporate totalitarianism executed by a publicly elected government. - We have, and use, our landline everyday. My wife has a smartphone **but we still depend upon our landline for better sound quality, ease of use without power outages or emergency or capricious electronics failures [...]** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Daniel Borgstrom **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 27, 2025

Please respect my right to keep my landline.

Name of Filer: Steve Gilmartin **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 27, 2025

At a time when unpredictable and severe weather emergencies are increasing, it would be wrongheaded and carry potentially tragic consequences for the FCC to retire landline phone service. We have seen in California's recent spate of wildfires, for example, how cell phone service has failed people facing life-threatening situations even as landlines continued to function. [Emphasis added]
For this reason alone, it would be a big mistake to do away with landlines.

Name of Filer: Glen Kohler **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 27, 2025

"Modernization" is too often unwarranted cost-cutting in the name of corporate profits. **Over one million people in California rely on wired telephone connections.** [Emphasis added] As do communities when cell service is interrupted. Just as the federal government maintains emergency services and equipment and as states and cities maintain fire departments, utility providers should be required to maintain wired telephony infrastructure.

Name of Filer: Thomas Parnell **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

The California Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act is one of the most powerful acts in California. If a dependent adult or elderly launches a suit for abuse and wins, they automatically are entitled to have all of their attorney fees paid and damages by the opposing side: The Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act, provides for the award of attorney's fees and costs to, and the recovery of damages by, a plaintiff when it is proven by clear and convincing evidence that the defendant is liable for physical abuse or neglect, and the defendant has also been found guilty of recklessness, oppression, fraud, or malice in the commission of that abuse. Why is this even up for a vote after over 5,000 letters poured in from around the state last year objecting to the removal of landlines and they had to extend the hearings because there were so many objections. It's OUTRAGEOUS that you would even consider putting yourself, your families, and everyone in California at great risk of death during emergencies like earthquakes, fires, and medical emergencies when the power is out. Copperline landlines are essential infrastructure, providing reliable telephone service and 911 access through most disasters and in power outages. Voice quality is high, and it provides exact location data for callers -- essential in an emergency such as a heart attack, stroke, choking incident, or home invasion. In fires and for evacuation notices, landlines are the difference between life and death. Many Californians require 24/7 access to family and medical personnel due to health conditions, and no other service provides that dependability. For those disabled by electromagnetic sensitivity -- as many as one million or more Californians, according to a state public health survey -- these landlines are the safest and only telephone service they can use. Other systems are fragile and undependable. In a power outage, when the batteries die, there is no telephone service at all and no access to 911. Cell phones drop calls and often have difficult-to-understand voice quality. COLR means that everyone in AT&T's service territory gets telephone service without discrimination. There is no substitute. Without COLR, there will be a haves and have nots system, which is unacceptable and going backward in time to when only a few enjoyed telephone service. Vote NO on 25-208! This is yet another example of corporate greed and shortsightedness attempting to override public safety!

Name of Filer: Elizabeth Barris **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

25-209 titled, "Reducing Barriers to Network Improvements and Service Changes" is incredibly ironic being as we now have COURT EVIDENCE that the RF "safety" standards, which copper landline users could be forced to use should your

proceeding pass, protect neither health nor safety. Our lawsuit against the FCC 5 years ago proved this. Here is a link to refresh your memory...<https://thepeoplesinitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/FCC-Ruling-RF-Standards.pdf> And here is a link to 11,000 pages of evidence proving our point...<https://thepeoplesinitiative.org/lawsuits/fcc-lawsuit-2020-rf-standards/> just scroll down the page for evidence. **To truly reduce barriers to network improvements and service changes, the FCC should . . . mandate hard wired, copper line phones for every household if they wish to avoid neurological damage from wireless devices and infrastructure and other organ problems** [Emphasis added] such as diabetes and kidney failure, liver failure, glandular problems, headaches and cancer, as well as being connected to the loB via nano tech that was ingested by being in the food system, air, water and possibly all injectables in the past few years, at the industry's expense due to this court loss on health and safety from wireless devices and infrastructure against the FCC. Further, should you force us to sue you again to make sure you DON'T try and take away all copper lines, you should be forced to pay all legal expenses when you lose - and you will lose if even just based on our prior win, unlike when we sued the FCC and were NOT reimbursed our expenses despite our win. **It is highly irresponsible and in fact IMO criminal to try and pull all copper wire landlines in the face of this court confirmed evidence of harm to children and the environment from wireless radiation emitting devices and infrastructure.** [Emphasis added] And BTW, all people, adults included, are part of the environment. Harm from wireless radiation is by no means limited to just children. Also, this proceeding could be considered a violation of the ADA should anyone who is electromagnetically disabled rely on their copper landlines and you pull them. **Whoever is responsible for these efforts should be brought up on crimes against humanity charges** [Emphasis added] and you at the FCC really do know better than to even entertain this crap after your big loss.

Name of Filer: jacquelyn sauriol **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

I oppose the removal of any consumer protections such as landlines which offer a second line of communication during certain emergencies. Keep copper landlines and expand them to neighborhood checkpoints as well.

Name of Filer: Tais Howard **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Land line works, including and specially in emergency when the power is out. [Emphasis added] I use land line all the time. Wireless phones make me sick with headache, dizziness, nausea, palpitations, chest tightness, hand and fingers numbness.

Name of Filer: Loraine Uebele **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. [Emphasis added] Cell phone networks didn't work in CA fire disasters but landlines did.

Name of Filer: Jack Green **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

There are so many people with at home businesses that need a landline

[Emphasis added] plus having a spare phone during a power outage that won't lose its battery life is very important.

Name of Filer: Patricia Burke **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Previously, I worked in the office of a medical provider. Every morning the answering machine for the corded landline phone would have blank spaces from callers using a cellphone and believing that they were leaving a message. **The widescale adoption of cellphones is inefficient, not secure, not reliable, not safe, and necessitates unnecessary consumption of energy, and irresponsibly adds to the e-waste stream.** [Emphasis added] **During weather-related outages in MA with downed trees, once the batteries died on cellphones and VOIP systems, large swaths of the community had no connectivity. The FCC and the industry created these dangerous conditions.** [Emphasis added] The only justification for eliminating landlines is wide-scale surveillance. **Consumers want landlines because they are the more reasonable and responsible choice.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Deborah Moore **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Landlines are lifesavers; landlines are more reliable in many ways than wireless phones; landlines **MUST** stay available! I have a totally wired house and use a landline. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to get a copper-wire based landline and I wish I could have, as they are superior to what I have, but I'm relieved I don't have to rely on a wireless phone. **I have a lot of sensitivities and MUST live in a wireless house!** [Emphasis added] There are many, many people who are even more sensitive to electromagnetic fields than I am, and, because of the ubiquity now of stronger and stronger EMFs, so many more people are becoming highly sensitive to the point of not being able to be in the presence of EMFs, including from cell phones. It is becoming more and more difficult to find ANYWHERE for these people to live safely without the debilitating effects from EMF-emitting devices. PLEASE do not do away with land lines! In fact, **I would suggest bringing copper wire land lines back and doing away with cell towers, 5G, satellites, and all other EMF emitters that are literally making our world uninhabitable for all living things!** [Emphasis added] I have been paying for landlines for a long time, and I'm aware that the Telecoms used my money to develop and roll out all the wireless networks. This is criminal. Please right this wrong by allowing landlines to remain, and even strengthen their availability and affordability!

Name of Filer: Steve & Nancy Wasserman **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Please do not get rid of landlines. We are over 70 and use our landline on a regular basis and it is our **emergency connection, especially when the electricity is down.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Gloria Shen **Docket #** WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 27, 2025

Please keep copper landlines. They are still able to work even if electric power is lost. [Emphasis added] Battery back-ups for modems and routers (needed for cable and fiber optic connections) are unreliable. Copper landlines, however, are reliable. **Cell phone connections present cybersecurity risks.** [Emphasis added] **The claims that AT&T have made about the public not wanting landlines is without basis: it is AT&T that is informing people that the company no longer services copper and will not install landlines. Certain segments of the population can no longer tolerate wireless technology. For these individuals, there is no other option to communicate with the outside world except via a copper landline. Those living in rural or remote areas may rely on copper landlines. Americans have already paid for the upkeep of copper landlines in their phone bills so to remove the utility of these landlines would be ethically questionable.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Steve Gilmartin **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 27, 2025

At a time when unpredictable and severe weather emergencies are increasing, it would be wrongheaded and carry potentially tragic consequences for the FCC to retire landline phone service. We have seen in California's recent spate of wildfires, for example, how **cell phone service has failed people facing life-threatening situations even as landlines continued to function.** [Emphasis added] For this reason alone, it would be a big mistake to do away with landlines.

Name of Filer: Joe myers **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 26, 2025

Please save copper landline telephone service. I have at&t landline service. I live in a rural area where cell service is spotty. I love my copper landline service and want to keep it. I also have landline service in springfield mo at my office. Please save copper landlines.

Name of Filer: NANCY HUBERT **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Copperline landline service is essential infrastructure, providing the most reliable and resilient communication system lasting many days to weeks in a power outage. [Emphasis added] At a recent live CPUC meeting one of the Communications Workers of America said: "The landline communications system was seen as critical, so these systems were built with redundancy and backups in mind which is why the lines still work when the power goes out. It's not nearly as sensitive to failure as the power grid due to its DC current (essentially battery power) infrastructure. **They had incredible standards that they would hold themselves to (99.999% uptime) and backup systems that included floatable batteries as a backup.**" **There is nothing comparable to this premier system. It was built to withstand disasters. Rural areas rely on it. Without the copperline landline system, people have no telephone service and no 911 service in a power outage once cellphone and VoIP batteries die and cell towers lose power. There is no replacement for the reliability, quality, or reach of landline service;** [Emphasis added] VOIP and cellular service are by no means equivalent. Landlines have

dedicated power, and work during most power outages. Many people in rural areas of California like me have very spotty or absent cellphone service. During natural disasters, cellphone towers often go down. Also, I am one of the many people who cannot use cellphones at all due to the strong microwave radiation they emit which badly debilitates me. **During several fire seasons in Sonoma County, PG&E has shut the power off for several days at a time. In late 2019, when the county was evacuating nearly half of the residents (including me), I had no way to receive emergency information from the County regarding the progress of the fires, the evacuations or the power shutoffs, because my rented home has no landline.** A regular landline phone would have worked during these outages.

Name of Filer: Ed Friedman **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

1. **The copper landline infrastructure already exists and is robust.** 2. **Copper landlines are reliable, including when electrical power is lost as is common in many areas of the country including here in Maine.** 3. **Copper landlines are critical in emergencies.** 4. **Copper landlines use virtually no energy.** 5. **Copper landlines do not emit radiofrequency radiation,** [Emphasis added] a possible (WHO-IARC Class 2B) and more likely probable (Class 2A) or known human carcinogen (Class 1), either through the air or as conducted emissions onto wiring. 6. Copper landlines don't drop calls. 7. Copper landlines have excellent and unmatched audio quality, increasingly important in our aging population. 8. **When compared with wireless, fiber, cable or VOIP in general, copper landlines are the clear winners for cost, reliability, energy savings, health and audio quality.** [Emphasis added] WHY ARE WE EVEN HAVING THIS DEBATE???

Name of Filer: Carolyn R Whiting **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

I want to retain my landline because it is more secure, more reliable, safer (without electromagnetic fields), more economical and eco-friendly (low energy use), and higher quality than a wireless phone. [Emphasis added] I believe that it is not wise to share credit card and other sensitive information via wireless phones. As extremely low frequency direct current systems, copper landlines use almost no energy and put no 'noise' on other wires that can cause RF interference with radio reception and other voltage problems, unlike fiber and wireless networks/routers. Also, wireless voice has never been as clear as copper and never will be.

Name of Filer: Rebecca Lee Barry Lee **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Many Americans rely on copper landlines, as do **hospitals.** [Emphasis added] Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out.

Name of Filer: Richard Krivcher **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

I am a senior citizen and have no intention of purchasing a Smart Phone. **Landlines have much better sound quality than cell phones and are much more reliable**

during power outages or emergencies. [Emphasis added] It is critical that this country maintain its copper landline network. We should not even be discussing alternatives. AT&T charges me more than \$120 per month for the landline. I don't mind paying it if they can maintain the copper landline network.

Name of Filer: Deborah Kopald **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

In 2005 the UK Health Protection Agency told the British public not to abandon their landlines for health reasons (microwave radiation emissions from cell phones, cell towers, etc.) At that time 11% of young Britons had gotten rid of their land lines. In the U.S. it was then over 40% (of course much higher now). The Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape warns all its citizens about sources of electromagnetic radiation and plenty of other countries have various warnings-- Belgium tells people not to use a cell phone in an elevator or train. The Austrian and Vienna Medical Associations warn people about phone exposure and have detailed guidelines for diagnosing EMF syndrome as does the European Academy of Environmental Medicine. The American Academy of Environmental Medicine warns people with virtually any medical condition to reduce electromagnetic radiation exposure. **The weight of the evidence is that cell phones and cell towers cause brain cancer, neurological dysfunction and interfere with cognition due to the pulse modulated microwave radiation emitted by them.**

[Emphasis added] France and India tell people not to use a cell phone for more than 6 minutes a day. Russia tells people not to use cell phones before 18. But the way the FCC acts, who would know the rest of the world has long sounded the alarm on these very serious problems. (The FDA should be reviewing this radiation; it is within their purview; **the FCC is like the fox guarding the chicken coop since it promotes the technology,** [Emphasis added] so it is a conflict of interest to review it). However, of note, in 2023, the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals found that the FCC had not even done the bare minimum review to justify a finding of no-cancer effects in a prior docket 11-13 that was then 10 years old. The court told the FCC to do the review. But, FCC still has not over two years later. It therefore makes ZERO sense to get rid of landlines when the radiation from cell phones and cell towers is implicated in serious health effects. In fact, the record in that docket included a 2014 letter from DOI to the NTIA noting that the radiation limits were then 30 years out of date and not applicable to known criterion in 2014. The FCC must not abandon copper and phase out landlines; it must protect them and beef them up given not only the weight of the evidence but the fact that the FCC has not yet complied with a court order on radiation standards review. Getting rid of landlines would also pose an access barrier to those with electromagnetic hypersensitivity. They won't be able to do any telephony except through the computer if landlines are abandoned. The FCC would effectively be further marginalizing people sickened from this radiation and excluding them from communications when the internet is down. For everyone else not yet sickened by this radiation or not overtly sickened, this would create a further public health hazard. People should be encouraged to use landlines indoors where they should be reducing electromagnetic radiation exposure. **Landlines are a safe way to communicate**

without microwave radiation exposure and must be preserved for the public's health and to facilitate compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Fair Housing Act. [Emphasis added] I also refer the Commission to my prior comments in FCC Proceedings 14-177, 15-256, 10-112, and 97-95.

Name of Filer: Joy Wellington **Docket #** WC 25-209 & 208 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

I am from CA where over 1 million of us need to retain our copper landlines. Copper is superior to both wireless and fiber in its reliability, safety, economy and conductivity. Even Forbes stated how critical copper is to the telecom and tech industry: "Its (copper) combination of conductivity, longevity, ductility and corrosion resistance makes it an indispensable mineral." If all the big tech companies are now relying on copper to meet their data center needs, then it is just as important for the telecoms to maintain the copper for landline phone service. **Cell/wireless technology does not work when there are natural disasters/emergencies like fires, floods, and earthquakes and fiber would need expensive equipment and batteries for back up that no one could afford.** [Emphasis added] Copper lines use a common battery source which gives them a residency that no other communications system can match. Copper landline connectivity remains the best technology in homes, businesses, schools and government. Do not override what states like CA whose CPUC has heard from hundreds of thousands of their constituents as to the importance of copper landlines.

Name of Filer: Danielle Gregorio **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

I STRONGLY urge you to NOT disconnect or discontinue copper landlines!! **I rely on them in my rural home as cell phones don't work well here and I also don't want the radiation that a cell tower would produce if erected in my neighborhood to make the signal better.** [Emphasis added] Because we are rural and in the mountains, fiber is very difficult to facilitate. My landline had been very reliable, even working during storms and power outages. If we didn't have a landline, and there is a fire or medical emergency, how would we call for help? I don't see how a service that so many people rely on for health and safety reasons could be shut off!?!? **My husband and I both work at home and use the internet that is DSL based. If our landline is disconnected, our source of income just became much harder to procure. We would have to drive 30 minutes to town in order to use someone else's internet. Then my wheelchair bound, elderly mother with memory issues would be left home alone all day. Not safe or humane!!** [Emphasis added] [...]

Name of Filer: Pennsylvania for Safe Technology **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

[...] Those in poverty also do not always have access to other alternatives to their copper landlines. People report many power outages where they cannot communicate on their VOIP phone systems. **Copper landlines still work during power outages. Sixty people in California who received a reverse 911 call were able to escape a devastating wildfire, the people who relied on cell phones died.** [Emphasis added] People who are Amish are another example, they have landline service to their barns, in some cases at least. But again, what happens when the power is out? How will they call for help? Copper landlines are presently used and must be maintained for all these populations, especially during medical and weather emergencies. **Copper landlines should be the primary emergency phone service, with cell phones considered secondary. In a power outage, there is no phone service.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Jennifer Laporta **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 26, 2025
We need to preserve copper landlines! **Our landline is vital in case of emergencies, when the power goes out, when the cell phone towers go down, and/or a combination of both. We are electro-sensitive and prefer to use a wired phone. We deserve freedom of choice on this topic!!!** [Emphasis added] [...]

Name of Filer: Charlene Hopey **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 27, 2025
We have relied on Copper lines for years during earthquakes, fires and other emergencies. We were able to call the fire department if needed. They keep us safe and informed, and keep our families informed of any needs or problems related to what we are going through. We call people and hotels for evacuations when we need a place to evacuate to, not just for, us but our horses and other domestic animals. Having our landlines saved many hundreds of horses during such emergencies to coordinate with haulers to come and get the horses out. All other communication was down and now many battery back-ups for other systems fail. * During all fires over the years landlines woke up and saved many people who did not know they were in danger! * **Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out.** [...]

Name of Filer: Mary Jane Ingui **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 27, 2025
I have kept my landline phone all these years because it works after a hurricane. Living through many hurricanes in Florida, I can attest to this fact. I have also been paying over \$100 to AT & T to have this landline service which is very expensive because I know my phone will work when the power is out. The other reason to **keep copper landlines is because they can't be hacked into and this is vital since there is no privacy with cell phones. Copper landlines are vital for rural and remote areas. They also work with DSL and medical alert systems. You are taking away choices from us.** [Emphasis added] Our nation is all about having choices and competition. LET US KEEP OUR COPPER LANDLINES!!

Name of Filer: Martha Fenn King **Docket #** WC 25-209 & 20 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025
Please Save The Landlines! I have had my same number and landline for decades. Millions of Americans use them and we depend on them and they are a great addition

to cell phone usage for the following reasons: The copper landline infrastructure already exists and works great! **Copper landlines are reliable**, [Emphasis added] including when electrical power is out in Maine during wind, snow and ice storms. **Copper landlines are critical in emergencies such as when AT&T had major outages of their cell service this past year.** [Emphasis added] Much less energy used. **Copper landlines do not emit radiofrequency radiation, a possible (WHO-IARC Class 2B) and more likely probable (Class 2A) or known human carcinogen (Class 1), either through the air or as conducted emissions onto wiring.** [Emphasis added] Copper landlines don't drop calls and the landlines have excellent and unmatched audio quality and hard-of-hearing folks can use them. (DSL & Medical Alert Systems) As you can see landlines are cleaner, healthier, more reliable, critical during emergencies, etc. Please, SAVE OUR LANDLINES!

Name of Filer: Timothy Morell **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

While I support the FCC's goals to modernize communications, I would object to any policy that completely did away with people's access to land lines. In the age of climate change, where we seem to be confronted by more and more natural disasters, it seems foolish to do away with a communication source that will likely continue to function after earthquakes, floods, fires, hurricanes and tornadoes. Personally, I feel like the increasing disuse of landlines is more a question of economics and lifestyle. I resisted the cell phone craze for its years because I couldn't afford to pay for both a landline and Mobile phone. I only embraced them when my service provider switched from landline to digital service. Otherwise, I might still have it.

Name of Filer: Qatana Samanen **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

I have a landline and I don't want to lose it. **Copper land lines work in emergencies when the power is out.** [Emphasis added] Cellphones don't work where there's no cell-phone coverage or in 'black holes'. Battery backups of modems and routers are unreliable. **Cell phone connections entail security risks.** [Emphasis added] I've been paying extra fees for years to maintain my landline because I trust my landline and I don't trust cell phones to work in an emergency!

Name of Filer: Athanasios Koutsos **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Save the landlines in California, **they are vital in emergencies.**[Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Phoebe public Sorgen **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

We depend on our copper landline phone, as does a quarter of the US population. Landlines are more reliable, safer, and more affordable than mobile phones. Please do not betray elders, businesses, and rural residents who need our landlines. We have been paying for their maintenance for decades. Do not cave in to the mega for-profit corporation AT&T. We need our landlines!!!

Name of Filer: Marion Keating **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 26, 2025

Removing already-installed wired network installations will be a big step backwards for remote communities, and fiscally shortsighted considering the sunk costs of the initial installation.

Name of Filer: B. Blake Levitt **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 27, 2025

[...]While the number of landline-only households has gradually decreased over the last two decades, today there are still only 186+ million wireless-only households. Businesses in particular still rely primarily on landline networks, as do hospitals, nursing homes, and most rural areas. The old copper networks have been the most secure, safe, reliable, economical, low-energy, fire-resistant, resilient/reparable, and high-quality voice technology for over 100 years. As extremely low frequency direct current systems, copper landlines use almost no energy and put no 'noise' on other wires that can cause RF interference with radio reception and other voltage problems, unlike fiber and wireless networks/routers. Plus wireless voice has never been as clear as copper and never will be. Most homes built before about 2020 have internal copper landline connections throughout, often with multiple connection drops. **We have three copper landlines coming onto our property. It is our only voice communication. Cell phone coverage is spotty here due to topography and low population density. We need safe, secure, reliable domestic phone service for myriad reasons -- landlines are the only and best choice.** [Emphasis added]

Nothing compares to it, not even fiber. People in our rural area can get excellent broadband Internet connections via their cable providers, which also carry voice options but **when the power goes out, the only communication remains landlines -- literal lifesavers in catastrophic events which occur with frightening frequency now.** [Emphasis added] Wireless networks are notorious for failures in such events and more difficult to remedy when towers come down. Seniors and the home bound are particularly vulnerable as landlines are their only form of communication with medical providers for remote check-ins/device monitoring. Some doctors here still conduct telehealth consultations exclusively over landlines and cable zoom calls post covid. Landlines work with DSL too and are the sole option for some on fixed incomes. And there are whole segments of the population today trying to reduce exposures to wireless technology from both infrastructure and devices for health concerns, foregoing wifi for ethernet connections and intentionally reducing cell phone use in favor of landline voice calls, saving cell phones for mobile use only. Copper landlines are truly critical infrastructure and we've already got it everywhere! Fiber upgrades reflect a federally subsidized business model for the major telecoms that claim they cannot afford to maintain copper networks but for decades landline customers have been paying to maintain those lines via Universal Service and other fees. Where have those funds gone if not into repairs? Please listen to the vast majority of copper landline users who want this network to be maintained and upgraded instead. **To do otherwise is to force millions of people and vulnerable populations to migrate to far more expensive and less unreliable, unsecured, and unsafe communications.** [Emphasis added] Please do not allow major legacy players like AT&T to abandon this segment of their business. Let them sell it to another entity that will preserve it instead based on a smaller business model. Please preserve copper networks alongside fiber upgrades for more advanced applications.

Many people simply cannot afford more expensive services, and many more don't need or want them. This critical FCC decision is not just about business interests, it's about citizens too.

Name of Filer: JoAnn Fox **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 26, 2025

Living out in county I HAVE NO CELL SERVICE AND i DO not want cell phone!

Landline IS ONLY CHOICE other than smoke signals. [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Steve Hogel Family **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 26, 2025

To the FCC We depend on our copper landline service (POTS) daily for all of our communication. **This hard wired service connects us in emergency situations as we spotty to no reliable cell service where we live in rural Sonoma County.** [Emphasis added] Had we not had our wired landline service during the 2019 Kincadee wildfire we would not have known to evacuate the ravages of that fire. Should we need 911 emergency services, we would not be able to connect with them without our landline. VOIP and any other computer connected service will be and is completely unreliable as wildfire, earthquake and related disasters will be interrupted and we will be left without emergency services. DO NOT remove our safety landline services under any circumstances as this would leave our family in danger and potentially loss of life.

Name of Filer: Catherine Collaunt **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 26, 2025

Please don't get rid of copper landlines. We love our landlines – they really are important to us. **Copper lines don't require electricity to work, so they are the essential service we need in emergencies when power is out.** [Emphasis added] Cell phone networks didn't work in CA fire disasters but landlines did. Copper lines don't depend on a radiating wireless signal, and battery back-ups for modems and routers (needed for cable and fiber optic connections) are unreliable. **There are cyber security risks with cell phone connections.** [Emphasis added] AT&T service reps are telling customers AT&T no longer services copper and they won't install landlines anymore – which is why you are seeing people abandoning landlines. But when I talk to my neighbors we all wish we could have copper landlines! People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines. We want them in the suburbs and cities too. The elderly generations especially are used to and comfortable with copper landlines, and they work with DSL and medical alert systems. Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines, and we want them! Please, please do not allow telecom to end copper landlines in this country. Thank you.

Name of Filer: Richard North **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 26, 2025

Please do NOT end the use of land lines. In my neighborhood, the cell phone reception can be very unreliable. It doesn't matter what carrier you're using – Verizon, AT & T, etc. The majority of the time it works, but there are many times it begins to cut in and out and occasionally it cuts me off completely. **I use my phone a lot for both work and personal business and it's crucial for me to have a dependable land line with copper wire.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Dorothy Broadman **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 26, 2025

The summary you provide is misleading. Please rewrite to explain what would happen to landlines that work during emergencies when internet and electricity are down. We need to be able to communicate in such situations. **We also rely on our landline because we have poor cell reception in our neighborhood.** [Emphasis added] Thus cell-to-cell doesn't work well enough to communicate.

Name of Filer: Rick Aiello **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 26, 2025

This comment is intended for WC Docket Nos. 25-208 and 25-209 (FCC 25-37, Reducing Barriers to Network Improvements and Service Changes I strongly oppose to eliminating or reducing access to reliable wired telephone service. **I live in Connecticut, and am aware of many people, including those who are disabled or elderly (or both), as well as families with young children, all of whom rely on copper landlines and cable-based voice services for emergencies (when cell towers and DSL often fail).** [Emphasis added] Telephone providers such as AT&T, Xfinity/Comcast, Optimum/Altice, Frontier, Spectrum/Charter, Cox, and Verizon, to name a few carriers serving this and other states, must be required to maintain dependable, WIRED voice options. **The FCC should ensure that all carriers offering phone service, whether traditional telecom or cable companies, provide resilient, affordable, and accessible wired connections so that no community is left without communication in disasters that disrupt or take down communications apparatus. I have personally experienced the DSL VoIP as well as no cell phone coverage when there have been storms in my area, and I demand reliable services via direct hardwire copper -- NOT cellular or DSL modem.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Maria Garcia **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 26, 2025

What is your plan for those thousands and thousands of people who will no longer have the means of communication if you remove our landlines? We can't change our topography. [Emphasis added] Please don't eliminate our landlines they are crucial to those of us who have no cell service. Please don't eliminate our landlines.

Name of Filer: Greg Slayden **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

Copper landlines are an important part of the mix of telecommunications infrastructure and should not be eliminated. **They work when the power is out and when battery backups fail. In emergencies and natural disasters they are most resilient way to communicate and can be a real lifeline. They are also more secure from cyberattack and more private than cell communications.** [Emphasis added] Of course, we still need fiber and cellular services going forward. But copper still has its place in many applications. We didn't get rid of radio when TV was invented, or get rid of TV when the internet came online. The older technology very often remains relevant and this is clearly the case for copper phone lines.

Name of Filer: Susan Thwaites **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

Copper landlines are the most reliable phone service during and emergencies, as they do not require electricity to operate. Many people in remote areas do not have cell phone access and depend on their landlines. **I am EMF sensitive and can't use wireless cell phones or wireless internet service as they emit high levels of radio frequency radiation.**[Emphasis added] Do not allow telecom to abandon their copper land service.

Name of Filer: Joshua Hart **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

Our family relies solely on an AT&T landline when at home, to communicate and to warn us of wildfire and other lethal emergencies. Cell phones do not work in this rural area due to the inherent limitations of wireless technology which is less reliable and lower quality than landlines (progress?), and even if they did we could not use them as members of our household experience pain and discomfort when using wireless technology. We would be cut off if you allowed ATT to escape their legal COLR responsibilities [Emphasis added]. [...]. Don't kill landlines, and stop threatening free speech, it is UNamerican! Thank you for you attention to this matter.

Name of Filer: Charles Leady **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

As an electrical engineer, we need to keep landlines available throughout our country. [Emphasis added] They are a robust backup to cellular and voice over internet communications, especially in emergency and adverse conditions. **Recent history has shown that they have been invaluable in disaster areas where mobile service and even the power grid went down.**[Emphasis added] I realize that AT&T and other phone providers do not want to continue providing this service due to their claim of high cost, however **It is the primary responsibility of the FCC to rule in the**

best interest of the People. [Emphasis added] It is my strong belief that maintaining landline availability at an affordable cost is in the best interest of the People.

Name of Filer: Tracy Hendershott **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

My husband and I use landlines exclusively for communication. [Emphasis added] We do this because it is reliable and secure. We also feel the sound quality is better for landlines than wireless. It does not require electricity, so it works during power outages, which seem to be on the increase in the last couple of decades. People rely on copper lines in emergencies. It is secure, which is very important as our privacy has become more vulnerable with wireless technology. We feel it is critical to maintain copper landlines and worth sustaining the extra fees by customers. Thank you for reading my comments. I hope you will see the importance of the continuation of copper lines for communities all-across the nation.

Name of Filer: Kimrey Levy-Mickelson **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

The FCC asserts that this legacy means of communication is antiquated and we must modernize. But they are missing a critical point, which is that **copper lines don't require electricity to work, so they are the essential service we need in emergencies when power is out.** [Emphasis added] [...]

Name of Filer: Claire Stadtmueller **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

This comment is intended for WC Docket Nos. 25-208 and 25-209 (FCC 25-37, Reducing Barriers to Network Improvements and Service Changes Modernization? **Without electricity, a phone call cannot be made. Unless one uses a cell phone, which is dangerous to anyone because of the microwave radiation, and unusable at all by those who are protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act, those who have more sensitivity than others, although ALL life is damaged by microwave radiation.** [Emphasis added] And what if the cell phone loses power from an extended outage and can't be charged? I am strongly opposed to eliminating or reducing access to reliable wired telephone service. In Connecticut, many people — including the elderly, disabled, and families with young children — depend on copper landlines and cable-based voice services during emergencies, when cell towers and DSL often fail. Providers like AT&T, Frontier, Xfinity/Comcast, Optimum/Altice, Spectrum/Charter, Cox, and Verizon for example must be required to maintain dependable, non-wireless voice options. The FCC should ensure that all carriers offering phone service, whether traditional telcos or cable companies, provide resilient, affordable, and accessible wired connections so that no community

is left without communication in disasters. I have personally experienced the DSL VoIP as well as no cell phone coverage when there have been storms in my area and demand reliable services not cellular or DSL modem but direct hardwire copper.

Name of Filer: Nancy Binzen **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

My husband and I live in rural West Marin. We are both in our mid-70s. Cell service at our home is spotty at best and may not work at all in an emergency. **Our landline is our lifeline.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Jennifer Sylvia **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

I am strongly opposed to eliminating or reducing access to reliable wired telephone service. In Connecticut, many people — including the elderly, disabled, and families with young children — **depend on copper landlines and cable-based voice services during emergencies, when cell towers and DSL often fail.** The FCC should ensure that all carriers offering phone service, whether traditional telecom or cable companies, provide reliable, affordable, and accessible wired connections so that no community is left without communication in disasters. I personally was just discussing getting an old school landline for our home with my husband yesterday. **We have a VOIP system at work and it has been working intermittently for two weeks as Xfinity has been working on network enhancements. It is clearly not reliable.** [Emphasis added] We have the same system at home and I prefer to turn my WIFI off at night, which requires turning off our modem, so we have no landline at night. Further, a criminal investigation just resulted in the confiscation of equipment in Greenwich, CT that could have taken down cell signal for a large radius. Today's technology is simply not as reliable as the older telephone lines and we should think very carefully before eliminating the option for reliable communication. Without it, things can and will devolve into chaos quite quickly. In conclusion, I am strongly opposed to the removal of the old, reliable copper lines that worked for generations before the current technology took over. Thank you for your consideration and efforts on this matter.

Name of Filer: Arlys Ann Fettig **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

I request that you vote to keep copper lines. I still use my landline and would miss it if it was no longer available. I also have a cell phone and use both of them for different things. My neighbor recently found that her car would not start. She tried to call for service using her cell phone and for some reason she was not able to make a call. Please don't make all of us have to, as the old saying goes "put all of our eggs in one basket." Also we have to find a way to make the sellers and buyers of stolen copper pay for the damage.

Name of Filer: Heidi Hanson **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

Regarding WC Docket Nos. 25-208 and 25-209 (FCC 25-37, Reducing Barriers to Network Improvements and Service Changes. Please do not eliminate or reduce access to wired phone service. I live in Illinois, the state that has had the most tornados in recent years. Cell towers (and cell service) are at risk from tornado, fires and other natural disasters. Being able to reach emergency services and family members is critical in those situations. Maintaining reliable wired phone service is an important public safety option. **With a land line, I don't have to worry about my battery running down, losing cell service, dropped calls, attacks on infrastructure, radiation, or having to replace my phone because it uses an outdated technology (for example 3G). In addition, I can hear more clearly on my land line than I can on my cell phone.** [Emphasis added] Thank you for your consideration.

Name of Filer: Vira M. **Docket #** WC 25-208 (& 209) **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

This comment is intended for WC Docket Nos. 25-208 and 25-209 (FCC 25-37, Reducing Barriers to Network Improvements and Service Changes I am strongly opposed to eliminating or reducing access to reliable wired telephone service. In Connecticut, many people — including the elderly, disabled, and families with young children — depend on copper landlines and cable-based voice services during emergencies, when cell towers and DSL often fail. Providers like AT&T, Frontier, Xfinity/Comcast, Optimum/Altice, Spectrum/Charter, Cox, and Verizon for example must be required to maintain dependable, non-wireless voice options. **The FCC should ensure that all carriers offering phone service, whether traditional telcos or cable companies, provide resilient, affordable, and accessible wired connections so that no community is left without communication in disasters. I have personally experienced the DSL VoIP as well as no cell phone coverage when there have been storms in my area and demand reliable services not cellular or DSL modem but direct hardwire copper.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Sheila Resseger **Docket #** WC 25-208 (& 209) **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

[...] The FCC should ensure that all carriers offering phone service provide resilient, affordable, and accessible wired connections so that no community or community member is left without communication in disasters or other emergencies. In many communities, storms have repeatedly caused cell phone services to fail. These failures left families without reliable communication exactly when it was needed most. The only option that has proven to work consistently is direct hardwire copper service — not DSL modems, not cellular towers. The FCC must recognize that so-

called “modern replacements” often fail in real-world emergencies, while copper has historically remained the most resilient. **The Communications Act of 1934 was created in part “for the purpose of promoting safety of life and property through the use of wire and radio communication.”** [Emphasis added] It has tragically been demonstrated that families cannot rely on wireless communication in emergency situations such as wild fires. Everyone must have the option of wired landlines. Do not remove this option in the name of “Network Improvements.”

Name of Filer: Irene H. Terrill **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

Copper landlines must be protected and preserved, because they work in emergencies when there is no electric power. Cell phones with battery backups are unreliable. Cell phones have cybersecurity risks. Cell phones have health risks. Remote or rural areas need copper landlines. Landlines are less expensive than ISP service. **I was forced to give up my landline because Verizon refused to keep it in good working order. I could barely hear a voice. The sound of static was overwhelming.** [Emphasis added] The rep said to me that it was not worth it to fix it because the company made more money on cell phones. I wish I still had a landline with a reputable company, one that would be responsible to maintain it properly.

Name of Filer: Doug Loranger **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

I am a 30-year California AT&T landline customer. For the past nine years, I have been retired due to a disability. **When the power goes out at my home in Walnut Creek, my AT&T landline is the only utility that still works, because the copper utilized by landlines maintains a small electrical charge that is unavailable to wireless and fiber optic networks.** [Emphasis added] It is also difficult to overstate the importance of a viable landline infrastructure for police and firefighters to maintain public safety in the State of California during this time of ever-increasing natural disasters. Please do not allow providers of landline service such as AT&T to abandon their responsibility for maintaining this crucial infrastructure under the guise of network modernization. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Name of Filer: Lisa Henderson **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

Please do not accelerate "upgrade away" from old copper line telephone networks. In order to ensure optimal emergency preparedness across the USA, preserving our landline telephones is essential because copper landlines operate even when power is out. Copper landlines operate with DSL and medical alert systems. AT&T is pushing citizens to phase out landlines at a time when there is no comparable emergency communication service--cell phone networks failed in California fire disasters, while landlines continued to function. AT&T claims that people are

abandoning landlines, when what has actually been occurring is that people are being told that AT&T no longer services copper landlines, and won't install landlines any more. In power shutoffs (planned and unplanned) so-called landline "substitutes" are less likely to still be operational. Battery back-ups for modems and routers (required for cable and fiber optic systems) are unreliable. **Cell phone service where I live and in many areas across the USA is spotty to begin with, and in actual emergency situations, there is no better, more reliable communication system than landlines.** [Emphasis added] Cell phone calls get pinged through an interconnected chain, such that 911 has no automatic indicator of where the emergency call is coming from. For all these reasons and more, please act to preserve and retain America's landline telephone services across the USA.

Name of Filer: Theresa and Casey McMaster **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

We rely on our landline as our only source for making phone calls. We do not have cell phones because we choose not to. [Emphasis added] There is also spotty cell phone coverage in our area making cell phones useless wherever there is no service. No electricity is required to charge a landline and they can work in the event of power outages. "Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. [...]"

Name of Filer: Andrea Fisher **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

This compromises consumer protection immensely and isn't ok! Stop overriding the care of humans for corporate greed and control. **I do not consent to the FCC overriding the states regulatory actions that are designed to protect customer safety and well-being!** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Kenneth Salisbury **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

Please don't stop wired phone access. **Though I am a ham radio operator, I am concerned that, with limited cellular emergency backup power, many in my family will be without emergency phone access without wired access.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Lucia Thompson **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

Copper landlines are more reliable than cell communication. We need the copperline network for reliable emergency communication. **Copper landlines work when power goes out. People living in rural areas rely on copper landlines. United States citizens must maintain a reliable communication network through copper landlines.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Paska Nayden **Docket #** WC 25-208 (& 209) **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

[...]. As a woman with health issues and one who does not use cellular service and who has in the past experienced DSL VOIP problems when there is a disaster, I do not want to be placed at risk. The FCC should ensure that all carriers offering phone service, whether traditional telcos or cable companies, provide resilient, affordable, and accessible wired connections so that no community is left without communication in disasters. [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Alison Denning **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

Twelve years ago I became electromagnetically hypersensitive. I could no longer be around wireless devices such as cell phones and wi-fi. Besides becoming very ill it was extremely isolating. My landline became my social life line and emergency life line. Tragically last fall many homes were lost to fire where I live. The power was turned off as a precaution, but cell phones stopped working. My landline continued to be reliable. I was able to make calls and receive fire alerts and evacuated safely. The fire came up to my property. In other fires lives were lost because alert systems failed on cell phone systems. For decades I have been paying an extra fee on my phone bill to help maintain copper lines. **Where has that money gone?** I feel the proposed changes are just an excuse to eliminate land lines to the detriment to those who rely on them. [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Janet Tache **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

There are several crucial reasons to keep copper landlines. First and foremost: In emergencies, often there is no power. **I have lived through multiple emergencies when there was no power and only my landline worked.** [Emphasis added] Tornadoes, fire, earthquakes, landslides, heavy winds—all these common occurrences knock out power. 2. Members of my family get breast pain, vertigo, ringing in ears, heart palpitations and flu symptoms in the range of cell phones and anything wireless, so we cannot have it in the house. We have gone to great expense and trouble to live with wired technology off the grid. We must have copper landlines to be able to use a phone. 3. **We live in a remote area where cell service is poor—** if we were able to physically withstand having cell phones and wireless, which we are not. **We literally cannot have anything wireless without causing serious suffering.**[Emphasis added] 4. Copper landlines work with our dsl. 5. We have paid high prices for years to get and maintain landlines. It is wrong to try to remove them. We really need them. 6. AT&T says they don't service landlines and they have jacked up the prices. They say they no longer install them. But we customers have paid for them for years. We really need them.

Name of Filer: Cynthia Larson **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

Please do not accelerate "upgrade away" from old copper line telephone networks. **In order to ensure optimal emergency preparedness across the USA, preserving our landline telephones is essential because copper landlines operate even when power is out.** [Emphasis added] Copper landlines operate with DSL and medical alert systems. AT&T is pushing citizens to phase out landlines at a time when **there is no comparable emergency communication service--cell phone networks failed in California fire disasters, while landlines continued to function.** AT&T claims that people are abandoning landlines, when what has actually been occurring is that people are being told that AT&T no longer services copper landlines, and won't install landlines any more. In power shutoffs (planned and unplanned) so-called landline "substitutes" are less likely to still be operational. Battery back-ups for modems and routers (required for cable and fiber optic systems) are unreliable. Cell phone service where I live and in many areas across the USA is spotty to begin with, and in actual emergency situations, there is no better, more reliable communication system than landlines. Cell phone calls get pinged through an interconnected chain, such that 911 has no automatic indicator of where the emergency call is coming from. For all these reasons and more, please act to preserve and retain America's landline telephone services across the USA.

Name of Filer: Shiminege Ampha **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

Being a senior citizen, **the copper landline works in emergencies when the power is out. It works even when the cell phones are down,** [Emphasis added] they are dependable. Although AT&T claims that people are abandoning landlines I am not one of them and I know many more of my friends who have not abandoned their landlines either, we know that the landlines are good when everything else fails. We want to keep the landline just make it harder to get to the copper.

Name of Filer: Annette Jewell Ceder **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

[...] I urge the FCC to NOT allow copper landlines to be eliminated. 1. Reliability in Emergencies — **Traditional copper wire landlines are far more reliable during power outages. With a traditional landline phone, I have never had to worry about losing phone service during a power outage or when there are internet connectivity issues. However, with internet-based phone services, there's always a risk that the phone may not work when I need it the most.** * NOTE: Hospitals, emergency services (police, fire), and other critical infrastructure will continue to rely on the stable and reliable nature of the existing copper wire network for essential communications. Individual users should be able to maintain the same

stable and reliable copper wire network. 2. **Greater Data Security** — In addition to reliability, landline phones are more secure because communication travels through a closed, physical network. Copper wire phone lines are more difficult to intercept or hack into phone conversations. Conversely, wireless and broadband phone services pose the risk of someone hacking into calls or accessing personal information. Wireless and broadband connections, which operate over open airwaves, are more susceptible to interference, jamming, and unauthorized access or hacking. 3. **Human Health Impacts of Wireless/Broadband:** Many human bodies are not compatible with wireless technology. People get headaches, ear ringing, vertigo, nerve disruptions, cancers, and other health issues. My husband and I have both experienced various deleterious effects of long term exposure to wireless technology. 4. **Stable Rural & DSL Connections** — For individuals in rural areas, landline copper wires may be the only viable source for reliable internet service, especially when high-speed wireless or fiber options are not yet available or economically feasible to install. Additionally, people who rely on Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) internet service, which uses copper phone lines, need to maintain their copper wire connection. 5. **Increased Cost** — Transitioning from copper-based systems to new broadband services can involve significant costs for individuals and businesses to upgrade equipment. I urge you to retain copper landlines. It would be foolhardy and wrong to eliminate this stable and logical option for our communication functionality and physical well-being.

Name of Filer: Irene H. Terrill **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

Copper landlines work when electricity is out (power failures). I gave up my landline because Verizon would not maintain their copper landlines. I could barely hear a voice on the phone. I was paying for additional service that did not work (voice messages), and Verizon refused to fix it. The rep said they "make more money with their cell phone users." [...] Remote and rural areas need copper landlines. **Landlines work with DSL & medical alert systems.** (My mother used that.) The FCC should require telephone companies to keep their copper landline networks in good working order! When electricity bills keep rising, it makes no sense that mechanical systems are converted to systems that use electricity. Americans are steadily asked to conserve electricity at the same time that we are forced to adopt electronics in home appliances, autos, heat pumps, etc. Even doctor's offices have replaced their mechanical weight scales with electronic ones! We should preserve systems that do not require electricity! Copper landlines are best in emergencies.

Name of Filer: Rhonda Habisreiter **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

After Hurricane Katrina, the cell towers stopped working and I was unable to reach my parents until they found a land line and were able to call and let me know they were safe. At the same time, a friend of mine used her internet provider for their phone use, but their internet was out of service for weeks so they couldn't make calls until the cable lines were repaired. I am currently in the process of getting an old land line phone and having my land line reactivated because of these very reasons. Please keep copper land lines available and as an option to everyone in the country who wants or needs copper land lines. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Name of Filer: Abigail Nobel **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

The FCC should not allow telecom to end copper landlines in the US. **As a nurse and country person, I see such a measure as disastrous.** Too many people **rely on landlines for communication when the power goes out and in vast rural areas where wifi is unreliable.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Henry Kim **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

Copper landline must be saved! **When disaster happens like the fire in Los Angeles area early this year, only reliable phone lines were copper landline phone service.** [Emphasis added] Cellphone services were sparse and completely not available some areas. Cellphone and Wi-Fi signals are unreliable because cell towers burned down. For many years people with landlines were paying extra to keep the phone service.

Name of Filer: Austin Erwin-Martinetti **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

With all due respect to the Commission, this proposal seems ill-advised and infringing on the well-established authority of state public utility commissions should they choose to no longer require their approval in a discontinuance process. Anecdotally, my experience with many of the IP-based services that some carriers seek to replace POTS service with is lacking at best and alarming at worst. There are typically no less than several reports in local media per year whenever local wireless/voip services go down. This frequently results in annoyances such as credit card readers at restaurants going down, and perhaps more disconcertingly, the promise of no help in emergencies. While some internet-based voip providers have been subject to DDoS (distributed denial of service) attacks, the would-be replacement services provided by companies such as AT&T have been hacked outright: <https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2021/12/thousands-of-att-customers-in-the-us-infected-by-new-data-stealing-malware/> . The questionable

reliability, call quality (ask them about latency and packet loss statistics) and security of their so-called next generation networks not only necessitates the need for further oversight as a utility, it strongly suggests they are not up to the task of replacing networks they deem as legacy. Throughout all of this, POTS service has retained the quality and reliability it has always been known for - something that should be verifiable by the commission, since as a utility service, there is a requirement to report outages. Looking at the FCC's IP transition framework from the decade prior, many of the replacement services were not able to fulfill the criteria for the three-prong test, and still are not able to do so. This does not represent a failure on the part of regulatory bodies, but a failure on the part of service providers to produce replacement services of sufficient quality. While claiming low demand, some LECs such as AT&T have done what's in practice malicious compliance at best: claiming to offer service, refusing to offer it when a prospective customer calls to order, or pricing it to the point where it's out of the range of affordability for the average person. In many midwestern and east coast states, the price of a POTS line with unlimited long distance in AT&T territories now exceeds \$150. I implore the commission to take the few minutes needed to see this for themselves: call customer service for various ILECs in different regions and simply ask about getting POTS service. Even if it is offered, many customer service representatives will outright claim otherwise. These two factors make any arguments about lack of demand for the service misleading and in bad faith. For these reasons, I respectfully ask that the FCC reject any proposals to further streamline the retirement process for traditional telecommunications services.

Name of Filer: Kathleen Carter **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

Seriously, **why would the elimination of landlines be considered an improvement?! I have depended on a landline for my entire life**, as I lived half of it before the widespread implementation of wireless technology and, in addition, I have resided in rural areas for more than 50 years, where dependable phone service is crucial. Even if I currently had access to a strong wireless signal, I CHOOSE not to use a cell phone except for emergencies when I am away from home or in the rare instance that my landline isn't working. I am very concerned with the lack of studies into the safety of wireless radiation since its lightning-speed expansion into our lives. Nor do I believe they provide much in the way of secure communications considering all the cybersecurity problems. Essentially, I don't need or want to be forced into bringing your cellular services further into my life just because you say so. This smacks of the vaxx mandates "for our good." Get out of my business and my life!! Stop making decisions for me--I am not a moron, unlike many of the people warming seats in congress and in government agencies. Landlines have performed admirably for a

very long time; why discontinue them now? Is the "noise" from the cellular industry becoming increasingly deafening there in DC? Do the serfs need an example of your increasingly intrusive control?!

Name of Filer: Hollace Ellen Gustafson **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

I hope you keep landlines until there is an equal or better alternative. If anything, we should go back to landlines everywhere, perhaps made of better materials to last longer and thus cost less ! A.T. & T. told me over and over that they could not install a long distance landline for me even though I was already hardwired and a monthly patron. I live in a canyon area where everyone should have "copper" service; we have unreliable cell service at best. And even if you go to the Public Utilities Commission as I finally did, A.T. & T. is expensive; paying for cell service and a landline is hard for many. If more people had "copper", the costs would go down, profits up !

Name of Filer: Jamilah Vittor **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

I am writing to express my serious concern regarding the proposed elimination of landline service. I urge you to take action to ensure that traditional, reliable landline service remains available. I ask you to consider the following points: Emergency Reliability: **During power outages and natural disasters like severe storms or wildfires, landlines often remain operational when cellular networks and internet-based services fail.** [Emphasis added] The copper network used by landlines is resilient and provides a crucial communication lifeline. **Enhanced 911 Service:** [Emphasis added] A landline automatically provides first responders with the caller's exact physical address. Cell phone location data is less precise and can result in critical delays. Accessibility for Seniors and Vulnerable Individuals: **Many seniors and individuals with disabilities rely on the simplicity and familiarity of a landline.** [Emphasis added] They may have limited mobility or dexterity, visual impairments, or a preference for technology they have used for decades. Landlines are also required for some affordable medical alert systems. **Affordability:** [Emphasis added] Landline service, particularly through government assistance programs like Lifeline, can be a more affordable and predictable option than cellular plans for those on a fixed or low income. **Superior Call Quality:** [Emphasis added] For many, landlines still offer clearer, more consistent call quality than mobile phones, which can be susceptible to network interference and dropped calls. Rural areas: Wireless connectivity is not always available or reliable in rural areas. Families depend on landlines for communication needs. Having a landline can make all the difference during an emergency, especially for those in rural areas. I urge you to consider the critical

importance of maintaining this infrastructure. Thank you for your attention to this issue.

Name of Filer: Scott Gordon **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

The most important and crucial reason to preserve copper landlines is that they work in emergencies when power is out. [Emphasis added] Battery back-ups for modems and routers (needed for cable and fiber optic connections) are unreliable. There are cyber security risks with cell phone connections. AT&T claims people are abandoning landlines, but many AT&T service reps are telling customers AT&T no longer services copper and they won't install landlines anymore. (And we have long paid maintenance fees for just such services!) Many people do not do well with wireless technology. People get headaches, ear ringing, vertigo, nerve disruptions, cancers, and other health issues. **People in remote or rural areas often rely on copper landlines.** [Emphasis added] PLEASE DO NOT UNDO THE WORK OF GENERATIONS BUILDING THIS VITAL INFRASTRUCTURE.

Name of Filer: Josh Stottlemeyer **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 22, 2025

I rely on copper land lines every day for phone and internet. We live where there is no wireless service (nor do we want wireless service).[Emphasis added] Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. Cell phone networks didn't work in CA fire disasters but landlines did. [...] Wireless is not an option for all Americans. Thank you.

Name of Filer: Annemarie Weibel **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 22, 2025

I live in an area where many people have no cell **phones and coverage is spotty.** **People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines.** [Emphasis added] Many people have no computers. Many of our roads are badly maintained. Many are curvy and narrow. We have narrow roads and narrow bridges that connect local communities to each other. These are mostly 2 lane roads that are located along the California Coast. We have volunteer firemen. We live close to the San Andreas Fault. There is a risk for ocean rising, storm surges, tsunamis, as well as wildfires. [...]

Name of Filer: David W. Rongey **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 22, 2025

Keep copper landlines.

Name of Filer: David Rongey **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 22, 2025

Keep the copper land lines for Telcom.

Name of Filer: Andrea Plamondon **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 22, 2025

Just like all electric houses, which don't sell as fast (or not at all) as non electric, due to rising costs; doing away with copper wires will eliminate land lines which are indispensable in emergencies. Personally I use my wired computer for everything (not my cell phone). I work online and prefer wired as more reliable, and not dependent on electricity. **I would not be able to do business if the power went down***, [Emphasis added] as cell phone and I pads are just not adequate for certain professions. [...].

Name of Filer: Lynn D. Wellings **Docket #** WC 25-209 & 208 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

As a resident of Florida, and having experienced the recent hurricane devastation on Longboat Key, I write to add my name to those opposed with disbanding the copper landline infrastructure for communication. **Had it not been for the ability to use landlines, our communication after last year's (2024) hurricanes would have been impossible.** [Emphasis added] [...].

Name of Filer: Annemarie Weibel **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 22, 2025

I live in an area where many people have no cell phones and coverage is spotty. People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines. [Emphasis added] Many people have no computers. Many of our roads are badly maintained. Many are curvy and narrow. We have narrow roads and narrow bridges that connect local communities to each other. These are mostly 2 lane roads that are located along the California Coast. We have volunteer firemen. We live close to the San Andreas Fault. There is a risk for ocean rising, storm surges, tsunamis, as well as wildfires. [...]

Name of Filer: Yvonne Aileen **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 22, 2025

Please do not discontinue copper wiring. Landlines are important backups to technology that frequently fails, particularly in emergency situations.

Name of Filer: John S Smolowe, m.d **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 22, 2025

Please keep copper land lines. cell phones don't work during electrical blackouts. **i have patients who get sick with the high electromagnetic fields of cell phones** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: William James Croft **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 22, 2025

Copper land lines and DSL lines are essential in wildfire emergencies for rural communities such as Mount Shasta. Our local emergency notification services such as Genesys Protect and county agencies depend on working phone numbers. **In multiple recent preemptive power outages (Pacific Power), the cellular service went out. This is unacceptable in a high fire risk area such as ours.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Sidnee Cox **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 22, 2025

I support continued use of copper landlines. They work in power outages and in natural disasters such as the fire storms. **Wireless networks have failed in emergencies. During the fires in Sonoma County in 2017 and 2019, we were without wireless connection for several days. We had no way to communicate!** [Emphasis added] Millions of Californians depend on their copper landlines for emergency communication. Cable and fiber networks rely on modems and routers that require electrical power to work. Battery back-ups are not reliable. We need the redundancy of our copper connections. • From July 2024 to Sept. 2025, over 600 public comments were submitted to the CPUC (California Public Utility Commission) docket in support of retaining copper landlines. Here is a link to 600+ submissions from the CPUC docket for their rulemaking proceeding titled "Order Instituting Rulemaking Proceeding to Consider Changes to the Commission's Carrier of Last Resort Rules." CPUC docket: apps.cpuc.ca.gov/p/R2406012 (click on "Public Comments") • Human bodies are not "technology neutral." An increasing number of people are experiencing disabling reactions to wireless technology and must greatly limit their exposure, especially in the home. They cannot rely on cell phone communication. • Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines. • AT&T claims customers are abandoning copper in favor of wireless. However, I have heard complaints from friends about AT&T customer service where they have been told that AT&T no longer services copper lines. Therefore, people cannot get a new copper line installed and if an existing line needs repair, they are told it may be weeks before it can be serviced. • As pointed out by many advocacy groups, provider coverage maps can be inaccurate and inconsistent. Many customers who live in remote locations rely on copper landlines for basic service and emergency calls. • Copper landlines are superior because they are immune to cyber threats since each call is connected via a dedicated circuit. • I am concerned about the consolidation of telecom providers. How can we depend on regulations to keep costs down for customers? • We must extend the same accommodations to people who are disabled due to wireless radiation as we do to people with other disabilities. Everyone deserves fair and equal access to safe, accessible, and reliable phone service. • Legacy copper landlines (POTs- Plain Old

Telephone Service-) still remain the most dependable and reliable means of communication for a significant portion of our population. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Name of Filer: Patricia Jauch **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 6, 2025

This is in regards to copper landlines it is important to keep these lines especially in California due to the fact are carrier ATT is not trusted to expand fiber service in my area. Sinors relay on landlines for banking and many life savings services, at this time cooper is the most reliable for that purpose it works during fire and power outages, **during the 1986 earthquake in California it was the only way to communicate cell towers where down copper landlines was the only communication. During the LA fires last year fiberlines weren't working and once again landlines copper lines saved lives.** [Emphasis added] Can't rely on cell or fiber, for 911 just doesn't work in California when mintues count to save lives. Thank you for your time.

APPENDIX C

NO ALTERNATIVES DUE TO BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS

Name of Filer: Lyndsay Holt **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Jun 01, 2026

Please keep the copper analog landlines. My aunt depends on them tremendously and has **EMR syndrome and is greatly affected by wireless & radiations**. [Emphasis added] Please do not get rid of copper analog landlines.

Name of Filer: Lisa Miller **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Jun 01, 2026

I suffer from electromagnetic hypersensitivity and cannot use a cell phone or have electronic devices on in my house for any length of time. The copper land line (POTS) is my only option for communications and my only method to call for help in an emergency. [Emphasis added] Any alternative proposed by AT&T or the FCC would make me very ill resulting in a violation of AT&T's responsibility to provide telephone communications to everyone (COLR). AT&T as well as other telecommunications companies want to not support the copper landlines in order to make more profits. FCC as a regulatory body should protect citizens, not cave to corporate pressure/influence. Please fulfill your agency's responsibility and work for the citizens, not the telecommunications companies.

Name of Filer: Robyn Gilbert **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 28, 2026

URGENT: PLEASE SAVE PLAIN OLD TELEPHONE SERVICE (POTS) Landlines are essential for many people! Please do not get rid of them! **Landlines - reliability, work when there is no electricity Landlines - no EMR exposure Landlines - essential for people disabled by EMR Syndrome** [Emphasis added] Thank you!

Name of Filer: Sheella Mierson **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

I urge the FCC to stop AT&T's bid to discontinue landline phone service by June 2027 in California. This is a direct threat to the health and safety of millions of residents. [...] I only use a cell phone in case of emergency, in order to protect my **health (from the EMF - there is lots of data about this). I am elderly and need to protect my health wherever I can. In addition, when someone else is talking on a cell phone, I often have a lot of difficulty understanding them, and it's much clearer if they switch to a landline.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: EMR Syndrome Alliance **Docket #** WC 25-311 25-208 and 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

We would like to note that some of our members has contacted us to report that the docket numbers do not work, making it difficult or impossible for them to file a comment. The filing system here is dropping 2 of the 3 Docket numbers. Additional time is needed for people, including our members, to file comments, especially those who have severe disabilities and rely exclusively on landline telephones for communication. **Landlines are Lifelines.** [Emphasis added] Traditional copper wire landlines or POTS must be preserved for many reasons, most importantly because **people who are disabled by EMR Syndrome lack other means of communicating with others, especially in an emergency.** [Emphasis added] EMR Syndrome (www.EMRSyndrome.org) is a disability recognized by The condition, which impacts all ages, is recognized as a disability by the US Access Board,^{1,2} the National Council on Disability,³ Housing and Urban Development,⁴ Department of Defense,⁵ the Social Security Administration,⁶ Job Accommodations Network (JAN) funded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy,⁷ National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health,⁸ and the Centers for Disease Control.⁹ See Disability & Accommodations Section on our website, <https://www.emrsyndrome.org/disability-accommodations>

- POTS have unique benefits that are not matched by other forms of phone service
- POTS are more reliable than wireless, VoIP or other alternatives (henceforth referred to as "digital phone services"), especially during power outages and emergencies
- **They are the only reasonable option for many people with EMR Syndrome who have been injured or disabled by exposure to man-made EMR.** [Emphasis added]
- Many alternative means of phone connection rely directly or indirectly on wireless communications. This poses an access barrier to individuals with EMR Syndrome, who may be left, as a result, with no reasonable option for communication
- **Landlines are more secure.**
- **Phone connections that rely on Internet connection and/or wireless communications are far more prone to hacking and can compromise personal information** [Emphasis added]

Because POTS are so critical for people who are already vulnerable, at risk, and marginalized (namely, those who have been injured or disabled by exposure to EMR), the cost of keeping POTS cannot be transferred to the consumer. POTS are already expensive and people with EMR Syndrome may already be in a precarious economic situation due to widespread lack of access to reasonable accommodation at work and throughout society at large, in spite of what is required by law. Access to economically accessible POTS must be protected and guaranteed, especially for individuals with disabilities such as EMR Syndrome, whose lives depend on this services. The various statements about the supposed superiority of digital phone services or the apparent preference by consumers are incorrect and misguided for several reasons including:

- **There is no clear disclosure of the risks and trade-offs of digital services. The public**

has never been informed of the lower reliability of these services in critical times. Nor have they been informed of the electromagnetic pollution associated to mobile phones, modems or other devices that are used for digital phone communication [Emphasis added] ..Just to reiterate and emphasize: To what extent do consumers view mobile, VoIP, and other IP-based voice services as substitutes for TDM-based service? Are there any remaining distinctions between voice service types that are meaningful from a consumer perspective? Whether consumers view these services as substitutes is irrelevant, given that they are kept in the dark about the differences. For consumers with EMR Syndrome the distinction is not only meaningful and fundamental but critical. Landlines are generally much better tolerated than other systems, especially those that rely on wireless emissions. Traditional switched access voice service has a significantly narrower functional scope than broadband, mobile, or satellite services, and lacks the capability to replicate the broader data transmission offerings those services provide. For example, while one may place a mobile wireless call from the same location as a fixed landline, one cannot place a call on a landline while roaming.....Are there any access services that would continue to offer utility in an all-IP network? If so, what are they, and why? Finally, when proposing such fundamental changes in communications, services, and/or technologies that profoundly affect individuals with disabilities, much greater care must be exercised to ensure that those who are most affected by such changes are properly informed and given enough notice to react and comment. The fact that individuals with disabilities, especially those with EMR Syndrome, have much greater challenges and access barriers to participate in We urge you to preserve landlines and to reopen this comment period to better allow for the participation of people who are disabled by EMR Syndrome and other disabilities.

Name of Filer: Deborah Kopald **Docket #** WC 25-311WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Landlines provide safe phone access. Cell phones do not. **People with electromagnetic hypersensitivity syndrome a/k/a microwave sickness cannot talk on cell phones. They need wired phones.** [Emphasis added] The manuals of cell phones also warn about neuroepitheliomas tumors. Other countries recommend not using a cell phone more than 6 minutes a day. In 2005, the UK Health Protection Agency told people not to abandon their landlines for health reasons. At that point, only 11% of Britons had ditched their landlines; whereas 40% of Americans had done so. Now it's most people. Facts do not cease to exist just because they are ignored. **Getting rid of landlines would violate peoples' disability access rights and accelerate an extant public health problem.** [Emphasis added] Also, landlines still work in power outages 99% of the time; cell

phones do not work when the power grid goes down. Landline infrastructure must be upgraded and preserved. Note: Internet phones are not landlines; they still require use of a computer which is an issue for many electrosensitive individuals and the line quality is not as good. (Same issues exist with power going down as with cell phones).

Name of Filer: Susan Thwait's **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

I need my copper landline telephone because **I am EMF disabled**. [Emphasis added] The other alternatives you suggest do not work for me, because they emit high levels a radio frequency radiation. **The other services do not work during prolonged power outages** [Emphasis added] which we have experienced in California from natural disasters. If AT&T is allowed to discontinue Carrier of Last Result (COLR), we will be left with an unregulated telecom industry. Unfortunately, the industry does not have the consumers best interest at heart. Retain current regulations and compensation structures to protect access to reliable phone service.

Name of Filer: Susan Casement **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Landlines are essential to me with EMR Syndrome. Today's cell phones are hazardous; see the 2018 NHS study which found that cell phone radiation causes cancer in lab rats [Emphasis added]

(<https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/research/topics/cellphones>). Cell phone radiation makes me physically sick. If cell phones are the only phone available economically, you will make me, an elderly woman, living alone, phoneless. I strongly object to the proposals. The global electricity use of our cell phone system is not sustainable. Especially in urban areas where phone lines make good economic sense, the world needs us to utilize electricity-free phones.

Name of Filer: Linda Ikeda **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

I value traditional voice service because it works when the electric power and/or cell services are down. [Emphasis added] This happens here and many people were endangered as they did not receive evacuation notices. Voice quality is excellent and it's easier to use than a cell phone. It's healthy. There's a looming health crisis because of wireless and alternative communications considered "modern." One-third of the population is sick from wireless and electric applications. Many, many people want copper landline service but are repeatedly denied access. Modernization should include robust copper landline service as they are superior to the alternatives. People long for reliable, affordable, healthy phone service. They have tried the alternatives and want their copper landlines

back. In my case, I was injured and thereafter found the least amount of discomfort using my copper landline. **I cannot regularly use cell phones or phones that plug into the house electric including VOIP. The alternatives are unacceptable. I do not want regulations eliminated and I do not want critical revenue support for rural phone companies eliminated.** [Emphasis added] I do not want a transition to bill and keep, which would increase the rates I pay for my (already expensive) landline. The copper landline is a necessity for me and many many other Californians. We have electric power outages and fires. We need affordable copper landlines. Please do not eliminate these regulations thereby making it easier for telecommunications companies to price gauge us even more. Please retain current regulations and compensation structures to protect access to affordable, reliable and quality phone service.

Name of Filer: Paska Nayden **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

I respectfully request that the FCC protect and preserve access to traditional POTS (Plain Old Telephone Service) copper landline systems for the American people. For over a century, copper telephone lines have provided one of the most secure, stable, and reliable forms of communication in the United States. **Unlike wireless technologies, traditional copper landlines do not emit radiofrequency (RF) radiation into homes and living spaces and have historically remained functional during emergencies, severe weather events, and electrical outages.** [Emphasis added] Many Americans, including individuals reporting electromagnetic sensitivity or electromagnetic radiation-related illness, are increasingly concerned about the rapid expansion of wireless infrastructure, including 4G, 5G, Wi-Fi, smart devices, wireless appliances, and dense antenna deployment. Eliminating copper-based phone systems would effectively force many citizens to rely exclusively on wireless technologies that they may not tolerate physically, medically, or personally. Beyond health concerns, reliable wired communication remains essential for: **• Emergency access to 911 services • Seniors and vulnerable populations • Rural communities • Power outage resilience • Cybersecurity and infrastructure stability • Public safety during disasters and network congestion** [Emphasis added] Wireless and cellular systems have repeatedly demonstrated vulnerabilities during storms, power failures, overload conditions, and emergencies. Copper landlines continue to serve as a dependable backup communications system and critical public utility. I respectfully urge the FCC to preserve and protect Americans' continued right to access reliable wired telephone service and not allow the complete removal of POTS infrastructure in favor of mandatory wireless-only communications. Thank

you for your consideration and for protecting reliable communications access for all Americans.

Name of Filer: Michele Hertz **Docket #** WC 25-208 WC 25-209 WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

Dear Madam/Sir, My husband and I are senior citizens. We completely rely on our landline phone. **We do not use any wireless equipment in our home because I have [a] chronic injury caused by faulty wireless equipment. Our alarm system is connected to the landline. If we did not have our copper landline we would have to purchase an entirely new alarm system, at tremendous expense, if we were forced to have a new electronic phone service.** [Emphasis added] Copper landlines are safe, secure and the only available phones during power failures. We live in New York. During Hurricane Sandy, friends came to our house to use our copper landline phone because it continued to work throughout the entire long power outage. During that power outage, the only reason I was able to be in touch with my elderly mother-in-law in NJ was because she, her neighbors and we had copper landlines. My husband was away. I had to go pick up my mother-in-law but the bridges from NY to NJ were only open for emergency vehicles. She was not safe at home alone with no power and she was confused. I arranged, on my copper landline, with her neighbors, on their copper landline, to take care of my mother-in-law until I was able to cross the bridge to pick her up. I was able to keep in touch with her for two days until I got there and picked her up. When we saw each other we cried. It was so frightening that she was alone. The copper land lines may have saved her life and most likely others other lives also. New technology is not great just because it is new. **Copper landlines are long time reliable lifelines.** [Emphasis added] They need to be protected. We need to keep them. Phone companies should not be allowed to bully people into having wireless equipment, especially if that equipment makes some people very sick. Thank you for considering my submission. Michele Hertz

Name of Filer: Judith Hendin **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

I need to keep my landline. **I have been diagnosed by my physician with electromagnetic hypersensitivity, and must use a landline to avoid cell phone use.** [Emphasis added] PLEASE allow us to keep our landlines. It is crucial for our health.

Name of Filer: Pennsylvanians for Safe Technology **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Landlines are Lifelines: Critical infrastructure for People Disabled by EMR Syndrome
Landlines are essential for people disabled by EMR Syndrome

[Emphasis added] (www.EMRSyndrome.org). This is a disability recognized by The condition, which impacts all ages, is recognized as a disability by the US Access Board,^{1,2} the National Council on Disability,³ Housing and Urban Development,⁴ Department of Defense,⁵ the Social Security Administration,⁶ Job Accommodations Network (JAN) funded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy,⁷ National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health,⁸ and the Centers for Disease Control.⁹ See Disability & Accommodations Section on our website, <https://www.emrsyndrome.org/disability-accommodations>. Most people who have EMR Syndrome or who are disabled by it cannot use cell phones, or voice over internet-based phones. Without copper landlines, they will have no way to call for help in an emergency. Some are physically disabled as well and cannot walk to a neighbor's home. Copper landline corded phones are the only means of communication for most of these people because landlines do utilize electromagnetic radiation to operate. We have many members who are dependent on landlines. Further, several are under great stress knowing their landlines, their only means of communication, may be taken away, leaving them with no way to communicate with the outside world, especially in an emergency. Landlines are important for all people, not just those disabled by EMR Syndrome. They are dependable and work when there is no electricity. Some of the people who survived during the California wildfires survived because they received a reverse 911 call on their landlines, which worked despite a power outage. Others in their area perished when their cellphones did not work. Today, parents, teachers and others are trying to reduce the amount of time children spend on cellphones and are instead relying more on landlines. The removal of landlines will result in children again spending more time on cell phones. Adults also need to reduce their screen time, and landlines are the perfect solution. Please do not take them away. Please work to ensure that everyone can afford a landline, for health and safety reasons. Please preserve the only communication means left for people disabled by EMR Syndrome, and those who wish to have. People disabled by EMR Syndrome should not be left alone with no means of communication with the outside world. They need to be able to contact their family, friends, and help in an emergency especially in the absence of electrical power...

Name of Filer: Donna Ott **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

I am disabled by EMR Syndrome and rely on my landline phone as my primary means of communication. [Emphasis added] I am unable to use the newer fiber optic based services. If copper landlines are discontinued I will soon not have any

way to make a phone call to family, friends or even in an emergency. I regularly speak with others who are in the same situation, disabled by EMR Syndrome and facing the loss of landline phones and cable internet. I have difficulty using even a very old cell phone for short periods of time, I cannot use a newer cell phone at all. When I am near newer cell phones for longer periods of time, I my disability is exacerbated and I have difficulty walking, and experience other disabling symptoms. I had a stroke working in a school with WiFi, fortunately I recovered but it was a lesson in the risk for me. Please preserve landlines, I have nothing else that I can use. Thank you.

Name of Filer: Susan Casement **Docket #** WC 25-209 WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Landlines are essential to me with EMR Syndrome. [Emphasis added] Today's cell phones are hazardous; see the 2018 NHS study which found that cell phone radiation causes cancer in lab rats (<https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/research/topics/cellphones>). Cell phone radiation makes me physically sick. If cell phones are the only phone available economically, you will make me, an elderly woman, living alone, phoneless. I strongly object to the proposals. The global electricity use of our cell phone system is not sustainable. Especially in urban areas where phone lines make good economic sense, the world needs us to utilize electricity-free phones.

Name of Filer: Ruth Rin **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

I urge the FCC not to eliminate landlines! **A significant portion of the population cannot tolerate wireless radiation and suffer from EMR Syndrome (electromagnetic radiation syndrome).** [Emphasis added] Landlines - reliability, even when there is no electricity Landlines - no EMR exposure Landlines - essential for people disabled by EMR Syndrome Cellphone calls transferred to a landline - no EMR exposure Based on comments by EMF Safety Network To California Public Utilities Commission.

<https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M606/K281/606281538.PDF>

More documents at "documents" tab:

<https://apps.cpuc.ca.gov/apex/f?p=401:57:::> In particular see CENTER FOR ACCESSIBLE TECHNOLOGY, Media Alliance, California Alliance for Digital Equity (CADE), and especially The Utility Reform Network filed May 1, 2026. Also there are EMF Safety Network submissions discussing EMR-S. Also important are the rulings by Judge Glegola.

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Name of Filer: Janine McNamara **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

I have been disabled by wireless radiation, and I cannot use a cell phone or VOIP. I am writing to save traditional copper landlines. This is a disability rights issue. I rely on an old traditional corded telephone like we had in the 1980s connected to a copper landline which allows me to communicate with friends, family, and conduct business. In addition, **landlines are considered lifelines, for alternatives to copper landlines are not reliable in disasters. Individuals like me with EMR Syndrome must avoid exposure to any wireless sources, which includes cell phones and wireless routers/modems.** [Emphasis added] For those like us, copper landlines (also known as POTs- Plain Old Telephone Service) are the only safe option for voice communication. Furthermore, human bodies are NOT technology neutral: an increasing number of people are experiencing negative reactions to wireless technology and some like me have become sick and disabled.

Name of Filer: Gabriela Munoz **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-209 WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

...as is assumes different services are interchangeable when they most definitely are not. Someone who needs a POTS and cannot use any other alternative digital phone service does not have options. Thus regulation is still needed. In 2016, the Commission examined the voice services marketplace and observed that "[t]here has been an indisputable 'societal and technological shift' away from switched

telephone service as a fixture of American life." The Commission's conclusion is even more true today, given the proliferation of non-switched access voice service alternatives in the marketplace. As carriers transition to all IP-network services in an increasingly competitive marketplace, voice service will become one of many applications on that network....The "indisputable societal and technological shift" cannot be taken at face value, given that consumers do not understand the technologies they are being offered and incentivized to adopt. They are falling for promises of convenience and modernity without a proper understanding of the pros and cons. Consumers are not making these decisions with all the necessary information at their disposal. It cannot be assumed that this societal trend is positive or justified. In addition, this statement reveals that the transition to all IP-network services is a pre-established goal, regardless of what consumers need or want...**Once again, the needs of individuals with disabilities, particularly those with EMR Syndrome are blatantly ignored. Wireless and satellite are NOT competitive alternatives for those who have been severely injured and disabled by exposure to EMR.** [Emphasis added] These types of services diminish their quality of life, deteriorate their health, and put their very lives at risks. Many individuals with EMR Syndrome seek rural locations to find areas with low EMR exposure. **Expanding wireless and satellite to replace POTS in rural areas (or anywhere really) is leaving these individuals with nowhere to live. This is a humanitarian crisis and a disaster of incalculable proportions.** In addition, this increases EMR exposure for all animals, plants and insects, whose health and numbers are in precipitous decline. Meanwhile, the FCC continues to ignore the 2021 court order to revise their outdated and inadequate, thermal-only exposure standards.....

CONCLUSION

I urge the Commission to ensure the needs of individuals with EMR Syndrome are fully taken into consideration and provided for. Many organizations and individuals are active in advocating for their rights. Clear and straightforward mechanisms should be established to engage this community early on in all decisions that directly affect these individuals. There are numerous advocacy and safe tech organizations that can be tapped, which you should be familiar with, as they have been submitting comments for years. The Commission must remove its blinders and stop pretending this is not an issue. Finally, when proposing such fundamental changes in communications, services, and/or technologies that profoundly affect individuals with disabilities, a much better job must be done to make sure that those who are most affected by such changes are properly informed and given enough notice to react and comment. **The fact that individuals with disabilities, especially those with EMR Syndrome, have much greater**

challenges to participate in public comment processes must be taken into account. [Emphasis added] And deadlines should not be established around holidays, whether religious or other. This one has been around Memorial Day. Previous ones have been around Christmas, New Year, Easter and Passover. This is poor form.

Name of Filer: Olemara Peters **Docket #** WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

Please DENY AT&T's proposal to end landline service. 1) I have experienced, for decades, that digital communications services quit, during any prolonged power outages, while copper phone lines are the only connections that continue to work - essential during emergencies! 2) **I (for one) am electrosensitive**, [Emphasis added] can't keep a wireless device at all (due to the bioimpacts), must keep house landlined. I'm thankful that local service provider's fiber line (at least while electricity's available) keeps me in Internet. THIS IS AN ACCESSIBILITY ISSUE. 3). If you grant AT&T's proposed discontinuance of landline services, in the areas affected by Dockets 25-311, 25-208, and WC 26-98 (affecting Arkansas where I also spend time), these will be used as precedents nationwide -- destroying health for all electrosensitive persons, and destroying telecomm-reliability for everyone anywhere there's a prolonged power outage. 4). Please leave state and local regulations in place, and leave critical revenue support for rural phone companies in place. If you eliminate these -- as, also, if you allow AT&T (or any other provider) to discontinue landline services anywhere --you are grossly misusing my tax dollars.

Name of Filer: Floris Freshman **Docket #** WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

landlines should be separate from the powerline. Our laws state our right to an emergency telecommunications network. Recently my landline was electrified by fiber optics which makes the digital signals painful sonar and without any safety regulations, testing, concerns or inclusion. needing an analog converter especially when my old computer has no Wi-Fi capability. **wireless fields have made me very ill** [Emphasis added] as it made many people ill because that's what its patented for. find the secrecy fees they pay to hide the intentional genocide tributary of 1946 operation paperclip to the 1942 letter to FDR that was unearthed calling for deploy and development of fake medicine, food dyes, electronics...not to mention spraying poisons in the skies, which Florida law disallows. thank you.

Name of Filer: Anonymous **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-209 WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

RETAIN COPPER LINES **Millions of disabled Americans cannot use wireless.** [Emphasis added] The FCC may not so compel businesses and states to so

fundamentally alter life and society as to make it inaccessible and uninhabitable by disabled Americans. To do so violates every right of Americans secured by the Constitution, including the right to live, and to petition the Court and Congress for grievance redress. You may not, by your rules, violate the right to life and access, including to basic services, of the millions of disabled Americans that cannot use wireless as the most basic provision of their medical treatment. Compelling everyone to use a wireless telephones violates the ADA provision against fundamental alteration. Disabled persons cannot request a fundamental alteration to programs and services to enable access – neither can a business or agency so fundamentally alter their programs and services as to make them inaccessible.²⁸ CFR 35.130(b)(7)(i) Businesses and government agencies must retain the ability for disabled people to access their services that have been in place since the passage of the law in 1990. The FCC may not compel them to do otherwise

Name of Filer: Cecelia Doucette **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Dear FCC Regulators, Please ensure the right to access landlines. As you know from the EHT vs. FCC court case, **wireless technology is unsafe. It is causing a growing number of those with EMR Syndrome and they cannot tolerate wireless transmissions. A landline is critical to daily life activities, to call for help in emergencies, and during power outages.** [Emphasis added]

Massachusetts for Safe Technology supports maintenance of the copper landlines and science-based distance from wireless infrastructure. Thank you.

Name of Filer: Sheila Resseger **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Landlines are reliable, even when there is no electricity, as in an extreme emergency such as a snowstorm, hurricane, or fire. With copper landlines there is no electromagnetic radiation (EMR) exposure. [Emphasis added] EMR exposure is biologically disruptive to all cellular organisms, including humans. People who are already disabled with EMR Syndrome cannot tolerate exposure to this radiation. They must be able to maintain a copper landline, which by its nature emits no EMR.

Name of Filer: Sheila Resseger **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

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this radiation. They must be able to maintain a copper landline, which by its nature emits no EMR.

Name of Filer: Dorene Dougherty **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** May 27, 2026

Dorene is severely disabled by EMR Syndrome [Emphasis added] (www.emrsyndrome.org) living at the poverty level. Her case has been well established medically for years. She lived in a community in Arizona for people with this disability for years until returning home to her family house in Pennsylvania. Dorene cannot use the internet so we are submitting a comment for her. The possibility of losing her landline has caused great anxiety for her over the past few months. Her phone carrier is switching to fiber and she cannot use fiber, she can barely use more simple electronic items. There is no way she can tolerate a modern internet connection in her house for a fiber optic connected telephone. She has trouble walking and is not able to walk across grass to a neighbor's house to use the phone. Please have mercy on people like Dorene and allow them to keep their landlines. They will have no way to call family, friends or for help in an emergency. Dorene must keep her copper landline - it is her lifeline!

Name of Filer: Alison McDonough **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

I am one of a million plus Americans whose nervous system has been compromised by over exposure to incompetent electrical engineering. I cannot tolerate close proximity to any wireless devices. [Emphasis added] I cannot go to grocery stores, UPS stores, movie theaters, restaurants, healthcare facilities, a dentist, the list goes on. Verizon would not give me POTS service when I moved recently. I will have to move again, most likely out of state. I am now stuck with an IP phone that literally compromises my ability to speak or even think straight when I am forced to use it. Furthermore, when there are power outages, I am without any means to contact , or be contacted by, the outside world. Last, but certainly not least, THE BANKING SYSTEM DOES NOT CONSIDER IP PHONES SECURE – so I am unable to do any on-line banking and must rely on USPS to receive and pay my bills. USPS, as you no doubt know, is also undergoing assault from the Usual Suspects. It is now alarmingly slow and mail is getting lost. This is a matter of National Security. We had a system that was working well. It is of the utmost importance that we DO NOT deregulate the telecom industry or allow carriers to eliminate POTS and TDM networks nationwide.

Name of Filer: Rose Werner **Docket #** WC 25-311 WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

While some consumers may believe other services as interchangeable with traditional switched access service, I absolutely do not. For one, I am disabled by multiple disabilities, which precludes me entirely from using cell phones or any other wireless gadgets. My landline is my ONLY reliable way to call for help in an emergency. I cannot use a cell phone due to my disability (and visitors here have also informed me service is not reliable here anyway), and VoIP and satellite do not work in prolonged power outages, which are common where I live. Landlines are true lifelines here and having one or not can mean life or death. Therefore, I do not view these other inferior services as genuine "alternatives". I prefer technologies that consistently work well and are high-quality, not whatever is flashy today and stops working when you need it most. Additionally, because of my disability, I rely on SSI and Lifeline in order to be able to pay for my basic phone service. I do not have long-distance service and cannot afford to pay for it. I do not want to be forced to pay for an all-distance calling "bundle" plan. Additionally, bill-and-keep would harm low-income users like me by raising the effective price we pay for service; currently, the caller pays to reach me, and with bill-and-keep, I would be forced to pay more in order to receive incoming calls, something that landline users have NEVER had to do before. There is no true alternative to my ILEC for the kind of service I receive - if they raise their rates, I will have to choose between paying the phone bill and putting food on the table (something I already have to do, due to the the meager \$6 Lifeline discount, which has not kept up with the rampant price increases for POTS service). Please retain current regulations and compensation structures in order to protect consumers who need access to reliable and quality phone service. The FCC's proposed forbearance and "IP transition" do not benefit consumers like me in any way, they only benefit the already highly profitable telecom industry who stands to pocket more profits by cutting off people's service. Yes, access to digital technology is also important and I welcome technological advances that do not infringe upon access to reliable POTS landlines. **We do not want an "IP transition", we want digital technology deployed IN ADDITION TO AND ALONGSIDE the existing reliable copper network. And if I have to choose, then I prioritize my access to traditional landline service for being able to communicate in emergencies and my own personal safety.** It is simply more important. [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: HARVEY L BERNSTEIN **Docket #** WC 25-311 **Date submitted:** May 26, 2026

I've had cancer for 20 years; I have badder stones that add to the problem; I've had at least 3 strokes and advised of probably having more! **My landline is a sense of security as the back-up of last resort. My security system has depended on landline service.** [Emphasis added] My daughter is nearly 100% disabled and only uses landline service not far from us. ATT has had my landline service off and on and off for more than a year until I contacted the Calif. Commission. And just when they had settled reasonably and finally solved the problem which I learned was

from quite nearby, I received notice that they intended to disconnect permanently -
- discontinuing the landline service so important to me. It seems that they've
possibly intentionally dragged their feet to pressure me into this position. I'm
sympathetic that ATT wants to save money but they've profited for years with our
permission. And once these valuable lines are down--they are down forever. No
one would restore. Leave them in place. They will continue to save lives in
emergency unforeseen

Name of Filer: Jeff Austin Stephanie Austin **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Nov 17, 2025

We respectfully request that the FCC and/or any Federal body or entity never bypass local government in the citing of wireless infrastructure. **Until the FCC honors the court's ruling where they were ordered to study and update the known and detrimental human exposure limits, this agenda must be scrapped. The biological load of unchecked non-thermal radiation has now surpassed the point of a healthy lifestyle in most communities.** [Emphasis added] The National Toxicology Program has already shown clear evidence of harm. The World Health Organization's Class 2B carcinogen designation should be enough. The FCC and the wireless industry is taking advantage of an unsuspecting public for the sake of profit. It is time to give voice to those with an **electrical hypersensitivity** [Emphasis added] and to those who have now or may soon feel the cumulative health repercussions of a cell tower in the front yard. The peer reviewed science is already in! **The job of the FCC should be to educate and protect, not to deploy and saturate communities.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Susan Grant **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Oct 02, 2025

Please do NOT get rid of landlines! **Many human bodies are not compatible with wireless technology.** [Emphasis added] People get headaches, ear ringing, vertigo, nerve disruptions, cancers, and more. People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines. **Please do NOT override state regulatory or state legislative action** [Emphasis added] that is designed to protect customer safety and well-being.

Name of Filer: Nancy Van Dover **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209, WC 25-37 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

Proposed Rulemaking in WC Docket Nos. 25-208, 25-209; FCC 25-37 I am absolutely opposed to any attempt to remove copper landlines, especially by the FCC. **Corded landline phones are the only safe phones I can use. I have not been able to tolerate being close to a cell phone for many years due to the electromagnetic sensitivity (EMS)** [Emphasis added] I suffer now. There is a large disabled class with EMS in this country who depend upon corded landlines. The FCC has ignored this disabled class in their 30-year-old "safety" guidelines that have been deemed "arbitrary and capricious" and continues to not update them as court ordered August 13, 2021. **The FCC needs to immediately respond to the court order decided in Environmental Health Trust, et al. v FCC, No. 20-1025 (D.C. Circuit. 2021) to**

update its guidelines through an independent body. [Emphasis added] The FCC should not override work that states have done to protect the public health and safety of their citizens. We need to continue Carrier of Last Resort Obligations. Besides providing the necessary accommodation for those disabled with EMS, other important reasons why our country should protect copper landlines include: •

Landlines are the most reliable in disasters such as fires or when electricity is out. • Landlines work with medical alert systems and DSL. • Landlines don't have the cybersecurity risks of cell phones. • For many regions of the country, this is the only option for phone service. [Emphasis added] I've had to find a remote area

to live in order to be safe from the ubiquitous cellular emissions. A Century Link landline is the only phone service available there. This is the case in much of rural America. We also depend upon this copper landline service for hardwired internet.

People have been paying for maintenance of these copper landlines in their customer fees for many years. We want and need to continue using them.

[Emphasis added] As more people learn about the bio-harm of cell phones, they, too, may be using them less and landlines more. The International Commission on the Biological Effects of Electromagnetic Field ICBE-EMF press release is online at <https://icbe-emf.org/who-funded-study-reports-high-certainty-of-the-evidence-linking-cell-phone-radiation-to-cancer-in-animals/> "New WHO-Funded Study Reports High Certainty of the Evidence Linking Cell Phone Radiation to Cancer in Animals Scientific Experts Urge the FCC to Establish Science-Based Exposure Limits to Address Wireless Health Risks A new systematic review of 52 animal studies, "Effects of Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Field Exposure on Cancer in Laboratory Animal Studies" by Mevissen et al. (2025), concluded there is high certainty of the evidence linking RF radiation exposure to two types of tumors: gliomas in the brain and malignant schwannomas in the heart. Notably, the same types of tumors have also been observed in human studies, adding significant confidence that the associations observed in human studies are real." I respectfully request the FCC protect landlines and update the thermally-based guidelines to include biological effects. Until proper guidelines are in place, we need to use the Precautionary Principle instead of streamlining for more wireless deployment. **Taking away safe phone communication from an entire disabled class is antithetical to 47 USC 332(a)(1) where Congress stated the FCC's first duty is "to promote the safety of life and property".** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Carl McBride **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

Some of us have health issues which WIFI makes worse. [Emphasis added] We cannot have any wireless in our home. Everything in our house is straight wired using ethernet cables. If you do away with our landlines, we won't be able to call 911. We won't be able to send or receive any emails. **We'll be cut off from everything & everybody. We won't be able to order food or clothing online. We won't be able to pay our water bill, electric bill or have credit cards. In short, in cases like ours, which there are many, we will die!** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Virginia Farver **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

Why are we still having discussions on this issue? **Wireless is a health hazard and will be a Class 1 carcinogen** [Emphasis added] because there is now enough evidence. I was a plaintiff against the FCC and won a landmark case on August 13, 2021. **Copper landlines are a must! They are robust, reliable, critical in an emergency, do not drop calls, have unmatched audio quality.** [Emphasis added] Fiber and cable or VOIP are cost savers. Wireless is a energy hog, has health consequences, and have poor quality audio. I got rid of my cellphone in 2008 and will never have a cell phone. We have to start dealing with the obvious on health effects. Please, do not get rid of landline phones!

Name of Filer: Helen W Hess **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

I have had a landline since I bought my house in 1983, and have relied on it ever since. I rarely use a cell phone, since I am very sensitive to RF radiation and **consider exposure to be a health risk.** [Emphasis added] When the power went out for several days because of the Marshall fire in South Boulder, I felt safe knowing I still had a way to communicate with friends and family. **I understand that I have been paying extra fees for years to maintain the copper landline system,** [Emphasis added] and I ask that you continue to make this service available to the American people.

Name of Filer: Floris Freshman **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

I have some disabling injuries and have always been using a corded landline. **I am highly allergic to wireless fields** [Emphasis added] and looking at screens. Sometimes i work at home illustrating books or learning music for a job. I can always count on my landline not to electrocute me in the way that cellphones do. I actually had such an allergic reaction to the metal crowns in my mouth that they all had to be replaced with porcelain. The seizures subsided but my jobs that are in wifi take me a long time to recover from. I would never be able to work on a cellphone the screen makes me dizzy and my eyes burn. as it is the 5g robocars here have burned and temporarily blinded me. Bioweapons aren't welcome here.

Name of Filer: Jeannine Jacobs **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

The safety testing for EMF standards was taken in the 1970s, and a LOT has changed since then. Now, we're at 6G wireless. You must know the studies done last year or so on the cancer syndrome risks observed from wireless use. There is new data that claims the pineal gland gets calcified from constant electrical radiation, thus harming the functions of all systems of the body. Many people, concerned with their health, their alertness, their energy, their vision, all have noticed the impacts from cell phone and computer use. Cell towers and emitters are even worse, causing Leukemia. **The**

option for grounded landlines needs to be available, and at a reasonable price, as no data complicates the function of device. Also, many parents do not want their children to be exposed to these free-radical producing functions, as wireless--- for physical, hormonal, neurological (mental/emotional) health reasons.

[Emphasis added] Please reinstate the measures needed for the development, the use of and the repairs needed to continue Landline Usage. Thank you for your efforts in doing so, in advance!

Name of Filer: Liz Tatola **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

We need to keep **landline phones an option to reduce exposure to hazardous rf from cell towers and antennae.** [Emphasis added] Isn't health in this country the worst it's ever been? Too much Rf is not safe. Do NOT get rid of landlines.

Name of Filer: Kim Schroeder **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

My dear friend Mary Dahl in Santa Rosa CA and **millions of others are 100% reliable on their landlines as their bodies aren't compatible with wireless technology.**

[Emphasis added] Mary was diagnosed by an MD as electromagnetic sensitive (ADA diagnosis) in 2023. Her landline is her only way to communicate with family, her doctors, and in emergencies. In 2017, cell phone networks didn't work during the major fire in our city of Santa Rosa, it was my landline call from the city that alerted me so my family knew to leave my home in the middle of the night. **Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. There are cyber security risks with cell phone connections. Wired technology is much more private and secure. Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines. The FCC should not attempt to override work undertaken by states, which have authority under federal statutes to act to protect the public health and safety of their residents.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Victoria Sievers **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

[...] Why is the FCC seeking comment on rulemaking measures that clearly favor industry rather than service to and protection of the public? [...] So-called "streamlining" or "removing obstacles" are euphemisms for eliminating, undermining or diluting regulation that is needed to serve the public. With respect to voice connectivity, carriers claim that they can/will provide service equivalent to wired legacy service in quality and reliability, but they cannot and will not. AT&T is fond of repeating that copperwire service is antiquated—using the term in a pejorative manner. Telephoning must be modernized they insist. Really? **Wired copper telephony remains the superior technology for accomplishing the critical, requisite task of providing safe, reliable voice communication under all conditions.** [Emphasis added] No other system/device can boast of such. **No other system is entirely free of electromagnetic radiation and therefore safe for the increasing numbers of EMR-sensitive citizens in our country who must rely on a well-managed fully-wired service. No other system provides the voice clarity often needed by seniors and disabled** [Emphasis added] ... Accelerating Network

Modernization and Improvements should include repair and upkeep of copper landlines NOT exclusion in favor of fiber and wireless. Modernization should include using the most effective technology—copper landlines. Further, **the FCC should not seek to overrule the rights of the states.** [Emphasis added] In California, the CPUC and the state legislature have been listening to the people's need for copper landlines. A significant number of households, government offices and businesses retain wired telephones in addition to their mobile devices. Customers have publicly testified that they have sought landlines but that AT&T has been refusing to provide them. AT&T has also been refusing to maintain them properly. Where's the regulation here? **For decades customers have paid for copper-landline upkeep and deserve what they've paid for.** [Emphasis added] Please do your regulatory job for American citizens instead of assisting carriers like AT&T to enhance profits while they dis-serve and underserve your public.

Name of Filer: Mary Vedovi **Docket #** WC 25-208, WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 27, 2025

I support keeping landlines across the United States. As a person whose physician has recommended no use of wireless, microwaves or portable phones, landlines are the safest phone service for me. There are over one million like me in my state alone (California). My reaction to wireless at home is severe pain and heart flutters. Please require all existing landline service to continue offering service. **My life, comfort & health depend upon it. Additionally, many cell carriers are unreliable in rural areas, areas that experience high fire danger in warm months.** [Emphasis added] So, landlines could save lives during fire season or any natural disaster. Please consider the multitude of people whose lives will be at risk without landline service...

Name of Filer: Barry Paul **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 27, 2025

As a sufferer of EMF sensitivity, I can testify to the fact that wireless technology causes myself and probably 13 percent of the US population serious health issues. Personally I get very bad pain, muscle tremors, loss of concentration, and other symptoms from wireless technology. [Emphasis added] The loss of landlines would mean disaster to thousands of people who would suffer greatly without them.

Name of Filer: Esther Le Sieur **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 29, 2025

I am totally disabled and a shut-in. I'm electrosensitive and cannot tolerate using a cell phone. Without landline phone service access I would be completely cut off from the outside world. [Emphasis added] including being able to get help with problems with my ethernet-connected computer. Please do not allow copper landlines to be discontinued. Many millions of people are still reliant on them.

Name of Filer: Pennsylvania for Safe Technology **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Copper landlines are essential and lifesaving for vulnerable populations, and though currently underused, they are lifesaving for everyone. There is a large and growing population of people, including children, who cannot tolerate wireless radiation from cordless phones, cell phones, and do not or cannot adopt these technologies. [Emphasis added] We have many individuals with physician documented cases of severe disability due to electromagnetic radiation syndrome. One member in particular highlights the critical need to maintain these copper landlines. She has very severe electromagnetic radiation syndrome and multiple chemical sensitivity. She was a Pennsylvania resident and moved to Snowflake AZ to live in a community for people with these disabilities. **She is unable to use a cell phone or voice over internet hardwired phone because it exacerbates her headaches and problems walking.** [Emphasis added] She wanted to return to her family home in NE Pennsylvania and is now facing the removal of her landline due to her carrier “retiring” the copper landline. **If this happens, she will have no way to call if she needs emergency medical care or in the event of a fire or intruder in her home. It is unjust to remove the only form of communication that one has and will need in the event of an emergency. She has limited ability to walk and does not have neighbors who can check in with her. She is living at the poverty level and cannot move.** [Emphasis added] A second case is a senior citizen who was offered “fiber” but was not told she would be giving up her copper landline by accepting the fiber. Her power went out and she went to call the power company, and her phone did not work. She also cannot use a cell phone. She, fortunately, could walk to a neighbor to use their phone. **If this woman has a medical emergency and cannot walk when her power is out – how will she call for help?** [Emphasis added] This is especially important in rural areas where houses are far apart. **Any person disabled by EMR Syndrome, especially senior citizens who have limited ability to walk and who cannot use a cell phone is at risk for being unable to call for medical, fire or police help in an emergency if copper landlines are retired.** [Emphasis added] Other examples of the critical need to maintain and continue to use copper landlines include: Young families, eager to limit screen time are returning to the classic corded landline phones. Many people do not rely on cell phones or even use them. In bad storms, the cell towers can and do fall. An emergency copper landline is much more dependable. The elderly and disabled are not capable of troubleshooting digital phone systems and cell phones in emergencies. They default to the copper landline that always works. Those in poverty also do not always have access to other alternatives to their copper landlines. People report many power outages where they cannot communicate on their VOIP phone systems. **Copper**

landlines still work during power outages. Sixty people in California who received a reverse 911 call were able to escape a devastating wildfire, the people who relied on cell phones died. [Emphasis added] People who are Amish are another example, they have landline service to their barns, in some cases at least. But again, what happens when the power is out? How will they call for help? Copper landlines are presently used and must be maintained for all these populations, especially during medical and weather emergencies. **Copper landlines should be the primary emergency phone service, with cell phones considered secondary. In a power outage, there is no phone service.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Mary Dahl **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 26, 2025

I am an 81 year old woman who has lived in the same house in Santa Rosa, California for 55 years. I don't have a computer or internet, so a friend is typing this letter for me. I live by myself and am frugal, living on a very limited income. I am partially disabled and don't drive. **I have become extremely sensitive to wifi and anything that emits radiofrequency radiation. In 2018, Verizon installed a small cell on a utility pole only 42 feet from my house. This constant RFR has taken a toll on my health and I suffer from frequent nausea, weakness, exhaustion, and headaches. Because of my condition, my only means of communication with friends and neighbors is my copper AT&T landline. It is also the only way I can call for emergency help.**

[Emphasis added] During the Sonoma County fires of 2017 and 2020 and the multiple power outages through that period, my AT&T landline was a lifeline for many, and the only way my neighbors or I could communicate with others. In 2022, I was diagnosed by a medical doctor with EHS (Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity), a recognized condition with ADA accommodation requirements. I recently learned that the FCC has opened a new rulemaking that will allow AT&T to discontinue servicing and providing landline service. What is a person in my situation to do? This is very distressing as **I rely completely on my copper landline. I can't afford a cell phone, nor can I even use one due to my disabling RFR condition. I'm told that I could use a cable service or a fiber optic service, but they use modems and routers that rely on electricity, and if the power goes out, I'll lose my service.** [Emphasis added] I also rely on the landline phones in my other rooms that plug into the wall, including the upstairs bedroom. How will they work? I know nothing about this technology. **What will I do if I'm made sick by wireless and my wired connection is no longer available?** [Emphasis added] It's very important that I keep my AT&T landline. Thank you for your time and attention to this critical matter.

Name of Filer: Tanja Katarina Rebel **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Our copper analogue landlines are literally Lifelines. They provide a reliable, high quality, secure and affordable voice service, which is essential for the Electrohypersensitive, the elderly, businesses and many others who have chosen not to use Wireless Technology and who do not want an Internet connection. Dismantling landlines will cost us safety, health as well as jobs and cut off critical emergency communications access to millions of people. Re-investing in our copper telephone landline network will be beneficial for Public Health, Security and Ecology. Copper landlines serve as a necessary, reliable and safe alternative to power-grid dependent, energy-hungry communications systems like VOIP. During a Power cut, Cyber attack or fire, VOIP will not be available which will be a direct danger to life. It will also require the modem to be kept on 24/7 for round the clock access, which will be an energy usurper and hence environmentally detrimental. Mobile back-up systems in their turn are not as secure and they would be harmful to health. Battery back-ups are short-term and unreliable plus they are not an option for those suffering from Electrohypersensitivity (EHS). People with EHS (now also called EMR-Syndrome) are the Canaries in the Coalmine: All Humans are Electrosensitive and there is no longer any question whether wireless Radio Frequency (RF) radiation – used in mobile phone communications and wireless devices – is harmful to Humans and Wildlife. Commonly identified health consequences of short and longer term exposures include insomnia, headaches and fatigue, as well as other serious and life changing ailments. Tens of thousands of scientific papers (linked herein) have cited connections to the role of EMFs in a multitude of adverse health effects, including depression, infertility, cancer, damage to DNA/gene expression, oxidative stress, pregnancy complications, Melatonin production, neurological disorders, immune dysfunction, Alzheimers/dementia, leukaemia, and many, many more. Over 1,600 scientific papers can be found here:

<https://www.powerwatch.org.uk/science/studies.aspx> darren Another 4000+ studies can be found here: <http://www.bioinitiative.org> And another 23,840 studies are linked here: www.EMF-portal.org Finally, here is a recent compilation of the vast number of **known biological effects from wireless radiation:** <https://www.5gfrequencyfreefairbanks.org>. [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Susan Thwaites **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 27, 2025

Copper landlines are the most reliable phone service during and emergencies, [Emphasis added] as they do not require electricity to operate. Many people in remote areas do not have cell phone access and depend on their landlines. **I am EMF sensitive and can't use wireless cell phones or wireless internet service as they emit high levels of radio frequency radiation.** [Emphasis added] Do not allow telecom to abandon their copper land service.

Name of Filer: Kathleen Sundmark **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

I am writing to insist that you permit those of us who have, want, and/or need copper telephone landlines to continue to have them. Over the years, my telephone has been reliable during many emergencies in my state. **A disabled family member was trapped for a week without power during a fire, but her copper landline telephone worked and was a lifeline.** [Emphasis added] All my family members have copper landlines. The voice quality of copper landlines is vastly superior to that of fiber or wireless. Anyone who listens to broadcast interviews, call-in public comments at hearings, etc., can appreciate the difference in sound clarity with copper. **And I am sensitive to wireless technologies and need to minimize my exposure.** [Emphasis added] There are more reasons to keep and maintain a copper infrastructure, but no reason to remove it.

Name of Filer: Margaret Baird **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

A personal landline story: **As a person diagnosed with Electromagnetic Radiation Syndrome (EMR-Syndrome), following a later-stage cancer diagnosis I had to go totally wired, including use of a landline instead of a cell phone, in order to heal, and not have pain or a recurrence of my cancer.** [Emphasis added] My radiation oncologist told me that electromagnetic frequency (EMF) radiation is what caused the cancer and I was not a good candidate for radiation therapy, as well as my oncologist telling me I wasn't a good candidate for chemotherapy either due to co-occurring multiple chemical sensitivities (MCS). So going back to wired technology, including landlines, was truly the existential way "back to the future" for me. The analog copper lines were great, reliable even during emergencies. But the AT&T informed me that they were discontinuing them, claiming they were: a) too expensive to maintain b) wireless was the wave of the future, and c) the quality of the analog landlines were so terrible that they dropped calls, static, etc. I told the customer support representative that his statement was the opposite of the truth in my experience. It was on my digital line (VOIP), using a wired-only router, that I was having these problems. I literally have had to pray before I answer the call with my digital line that I will be able to get through it without the call dropping, static, breaking up, or the other party being unable to hear me though I can still hear them. My past experience with a copper analog landline was excellent and reliable. This has happened with emergency calls, business calls, cross-country calls as well as routine calls. It is not acceptable. In addition, **I have to pay nearly \$100 a month to Cox for my wired ethernet and digital landline service, instead of the much cheaper Wi-Fi specials, which I cannot use.** [Emphasis added] I have no access offered where I live to fiber optic alternatives. In my personal experience, **I and others with this EMR-Syndrome**

disability are being denied their civil rights of equal access to communication, including a working analog landline. It is a violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended as well as other civil rights and disability rights.
[Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Christina Bertia **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Please reject ATT's attempt to stop providing copper landline service. Copper landlines ARE NOT ANTIQUATED! **THEY ARE ESSENTIAL TO OUR HEALTH AND WELL-BEING.** [Emphasis added] Saving our landlines is a safety issue as they are our only reliable form of communication in emergencies and power outages. Saving our landlines is a public health issue—forcing people to turn to cell phones puts more people at risk for biological harms caused by electromagnetic radiation. Saving our landlines is a disability issue because people who are **disabled by electromagnetic sensitivities can only use landline telephones that don't emit radiation. Denying landlines to these people is a form of discrimination. For the hearing impaired like myself I can only hear well on my copper landline. To hear on a cell phone at all I would have to hold it very close to my brain and I am not willing to risk getting a glioblastoma cancer in my brain..I am not willing to have a cell phone anywhere near me at night as I have enough trouble sleeping anyway. But, I absolutely need a landline next to my bed in case of emergency so I can be notified of fire or whatever, or can call 911 in case of a stroke or heartattack. Saving our landlines is an environmental issue. Cell phones and the proliferation of cell phone towers is harmful to other life in the environment—including animals, birds, insects, plant life. Also landlines are the most energy efficient form of telephone communication. Wireless technologies have a much higher carbon footprint. These are compelling reasons protect copper landline service.** [Emphasis added] Please do not allow ATT to manipulate you into allowing them to abandon providing copper landline service.

Name of Filer: Anne Wilder **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 27, 2025

Included a WIREIDAHO pamphlet addressing radiation sickness and stated: PLEASE leave us our land lines. I live in a remote area of Idaho and I DO NOT WANT wireless phone service at my home, or cell towers anywhere near me. **If you eliminate land lines, I will be forced to live without a phone. There have been hundreds of studies that prove that wireless communication services are a danger to human health. You have even been required by the DC Circuit Court of Appeals to update your safety standards because they are inadequate. (Aug 13, 2021, EHT/CHD v FCC, Case 20-1025 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TRUST, ET AL., Consolidated with 20-1138 CHILDREN'S HEALTH DEFENSE, ET AL).** But instead of doing so, you are

now seeking to eliminate our right to private conversations with no wireless exposure, via land line telephone service. Additionally, the public was charged a \$5.00 fee every month to provide fiber optics to our homes, not to take away our landlines and force us into wireless communication. [Emphasis added]

(<https://scientists4wiredtech.com/?s=Irregulators+v+FCC>) I feel the FCC has done nothing but double cross the public in favor of the telecommunications companies that lobby it and desire to track our every move and make money off of us while they do so. [Emphasis added] I have attached a flyer from Wire Idaho, a non-profit educational organization of which I am the chairman. This flyer contains links to back up the comments that I have made above. Thank you for giving us an opportunity to comment on this proposed travesty, and please leave us our land lines.

Name of Filer: Shirley Anderson **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 28, 2025

Don't take away our landlines!!!! **Bad for health and safety.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Carol J Seibert **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 26, 2025

Maintaining copper landlines for communication, as opposed to relying on internet/modem-based landlines or even cell phones, is essential for several **undeniable reasons**. First, **there is a sizable segment of the population, including seniors, that either do *not* have a cell phone or do *not* want a cell phone. Plus, there is a rapidly-growing number of people, including myself (also a senior), who have a specific condition called EMR-S (electromagnetic radiation syndrome) who cannot use a cell phone because we are adversely affected by wireless radiation.** [Emphasis added] Without a cell phone, our ***lives***, literally, depend on internet-based communication which is then dependent on three things: 1) electrical power, 2) cable power AND 3) internet modems, all of which are unstable and unreliable. **I live in an area of Wisconsin where the electrical power goes out frequently, which also takes down the cable power, so I am left stranded without communications even though I have a generator for power! My lights can go back on but I have NO communications.** [Emphasis added] Weather patterns are becoming more violent, taking out power and disrupting cable connections for longer periods of time. This leaves aging, vulnerable people with NO WAY to contact help in case of an emergency. What if someone has a life-threatening event such as a heart attack or stroke? What if there's a fire? How do we call for help? Second, even without power outages disrupting telephone lines, the modem-based internet for telephone communications is ***not reliable***. Not AT ALL! Not being able to make or receive calls at critical times has happened to me several times. The most tragic

missed call was in June 2021 when the hospital caring for my sick father tried to contact me in the middle of the night to let me know my father was struggling. But we could not establish a connection after several attempts because my *internet-based* landline was having unexplained “glitches” that night. So, **I was tragically denied being at my father's bedside when he died because I could not be reached due to an unreliable internet/modem-based landline!** [Emphasis added] That was a horrible travesty I will not soon forget!! How many other tragic stories are out there like mine? Last but surely not least, there is always the threat of attacks on our fragile power and communication grids by unknown terror agents. (See thwarted telecom attack in NY during UNGA 9/2025). **An attack on either energy or cell communications could immobilize our country causing unthinkable harm to many.** [Emphasis added] **Copper landlines** do not have the inherent weaknesses of wireless or internet / modem communications system. Therefore, **Copper Landlines must be restored and maintained for the health and safety of the people in our country... if not for the life of our country itself. A reliable national communications system is *not optional*.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Melinda Stone & Marshall Sanders **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

I'm reaching out to implore you all to support the continuation of landlines in the United States. My husband is almost 75 years old and he refuses to have a cell phone. We use our landline when we are at home. I use my cell phone mostly when I'm traveling. I've been spending five to six months last year and now this year visiting my father in the mountains of Georgia. He has a landline telephone. **As an aging senior citizen, he needs his landline phone due to the fact that where he lives the cell service is very sketchy and my cell phone service is extremely challenging** [Emphasis added] (I use Consumer Cellular and it is more widely used out in the western US states. My former employer, an electrician, developed a cancerous tumor behind his left ear (he was left-handed) when he was in his early 40's. He was on his Motorola cell phone all day long (using radio and telephone options) every day at work and seeing him after hours with his family, even when he was in social situations. My former boss, Russell J. Mantz died from cancer Dec. 1st, 2022. I am 100 percent certain his cell phone killed him. **I eat right, don't smoke, don't drink and make my health a priority as I want to enter my 60's in good health. I want to keep my landline phone. I want every American to have the ability to have or keep their landline phone because it does not cause cancer.** [Emphasis added] Thank you for your time and attention.

Name of Filer: Krista B. Hessmills **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

Please realize that landlines are the best and safest way to call. **I feel horrible from using devices that put out the amount of electro magnetic radiation that cell phones do.** [Emphasis added] Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. Cell phone networks didn't work in CA fire disasters but landlines did. Battery back-ups for modems and routers (needed for cable and fiber optic connections) are unreliable. There are cyber security risks with cell phone connections. AT&T claims people are abandoning landlines, but many AT&T service reps are telling customers AT&T no longer services copper and they won't install landlines anymore. Many human bodies are not compatible with wireless technology. People get headaches, ear ringing, vertigo, nerve disruptions, cancers, and other health issues. People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines. Copper landlines work with DSL and medical alert systems. Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines.

Name of Filer: Sharon VanderBoon **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 25, 2025

I strongly urge you not to do away with landlines. They are the best! **I do not want the radiation that comes from Cell phones, it is cancer causing, as well causing headaches and other symptoms. landlines work in emergencies when power is out. My landline always works, but my cell phone sometimes does not.** [Emphasis added] CopperCell phone networks didn't work in CA fire disasters but landlines did. Battery back-ups for modems and routers (needed for cable and fiber optic connections) are unreliable. There are cyber security risks with cell phone connections. AT&T claims people are abandoning landlines, but many AT&T service reps are telling customers AT&T no longer services copper and they won't install landlines anymore. Many human bodies are not compatible with wireless technology. People get headaches, ear ringing, vertigo, nerve disruptions, cancers, and other health issues. People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines. Copper landlines work with DSL and medical alert systems. Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines. I realize that AT&T and other phone providers do not want to continue providing this service due to their claim of high cost, however **It is the primary responsibility of the FCC to rule in the best interest of the People. It is my strong belief that maintaining landline availability at an affordable cost is in the best interest of the People.**

[Emphasis added **Name of Filer:** Jack Reed **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

I absolutely need to have a land line. **I am extremely EMF sensitive and both therefore cannot use a cell phone and can also not be near another person using a cell phone. If landlines are eliminated it would mean that I, as a 79 year old**

retired senior citizen would have no phone for emergencies as well as all the other things in life that require a phone access. [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Deborah A. Salisbury & Rudolph O. Barrios **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209

Date submitted: Sep 24, 2025

The Avoidable Health Disaster of Dis-investing in Landlines Due to potential loss of landlines and conversion to wireless technology in years to come countless numbers of citizens will suffer serious health consequences due to the cumulative effects of non-ionizing electromagnetic field (EMF). Research has shown its disruptive effects on the genetics of living organisms. The resulting impact on health issues including brain function, mental well-being, potential effects on sleep, focus, anxiety levels, and neurological health as well as cancers has the potential to bankrupt an already challenged health system. We will look back with disgust and sorrow that decision makers prioritized financial gain over clear-eyed assessment of EMF's known impact on health. Such shortsightedness is reminiscent of the forces that propelled and allowed the demise of the American rail & transit system, and the resulting irreparable damage to our environment. **Citizens are increasingly aware of the health risks of wireless technologies and therefore should have the right to make their own health decisions, thus opting for safer communication technology: Landline service.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Lynne Campbell **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

Having a landline has become more and more expensive, for me now, a retiree with limited income, it is over \$100/month. Yet, I have chosen to keep my landline because of the medically-documented adverse health effects caused by exposure to electromagnetic radiation from cell phones (and towers). I am extremely disappointed that, despite the FCC's loss in the lawsuit Environmental Health Trust et al. v. FCC, no changes have been made to protect human and environmental health; instead wifi and cell coverage just keep expanding. The FCC's current outdated guidelines (1996) serve corporations while harming people and the natural world. Although we are all being affected to some degree, I personally know people who are hypersensitive to electromagnetic frequencies and experience serious adverse effects. I've read case studies by physician Paul Dart—someone I knew while growing up—of patients who've been harmed, studies submitted as evidence in the lawsuit discussed below. I've read the suicide note of a woman who constantly felt ill but had no place to hide, so she took her life. These people need the option of having a landline. But, **because of the medical implications, we ALL need and deserve a choice.** [Emphasis added] I URGE you to preserve the availability of landlines. This

morning, I asked AI: “In the lawsuit Environmental Health Trust, et al. v. Federal Communications Commission, plaintiffs provided 11,000 pages of evidence of harm from electromagnetic radiation. What evidence was provided?” Here is AI’s answer to my question: In the lawsuit Environmental Health Trust, et al. v. Federal Communications Commission, the plaintiffs presented a substantial body of evidence, including 11,000 pages of scientific studies, expert testimonies, and reports detailing harm from electromagnetic radiation (EMR). This evidence was submitted to challenge the FCC’s 1996 guidelines for wireless radiation exposure, which the plaintiffs argued were outdated and insufficient to protect public health and the environment.[1] The core of their argument centered on the assertion that the FCC failed to adequately review the scientific literature concerning the biological effects of radiofrequency (RF) radiation, particularly from 5G technology and other wireless devices, beyond thermal effects.[2] The evidence provided by the plaintiffs encompassed a wide range of concerns, including:

- **Biological Effects and Health Impacts** The plaintiffs submitted numerous studies indicating various biological effects and potential health impacts from RF radiation exposure. These included:
 - **Oxidative stress and DNA damage:** Several studies highlighted the potential for RF radiation to induce oxidative stress, leading to DNA strand breaks and other genotoxic effects, even at levels below the FCC’s thermal limits.[3]
 - **Neurological effects:** Evidence was presented regarding neurological impacts such as headaches, dizziness, sleep disturbances, and cognitive impairments, particularly in individuals with electromagnetic hypersensitivity (EHS).[4]
 - **Carcinogenicity:** The plaintiffs cited research, including studies from the National Toxicology Program (NTP) and the Ramazzini Institute, which found evidence of carcinogenicity, specifically heart and brain tumors, in rats exposed to RF radiation similar to that emitted by cell phones.[5]
 - **Reproductive health impacts:** Concerns were raised about the potential for RF radiation to negatively affect male and female fertility, including sperm damage and adverse pregnancy outcomes.[6]
 - **Impacts on children:** The evidence emphasized the particular vulnerability of children to RF radiation due to their thinner skulls and developing nervous systems, leading to higher absorption rates.[8]
 - **Effects on flora and fauna:** The lawsuit also included evidence of harm to wildlife, such as birds, insects (e.g., bees), and plants, from increasing levels of RF radiation in the environment. [9]
- **Lack of FCC Review and Outdated Guidelines** A significant portion of the evidence focused on the FCC’s alleged failure to conduct a thorough and up-to-date review of the scientific literature. The plaintiffs argued that the FCC’s 1996 guidelines were based solely on thermal effects (tissue heating) and did not account for non-thermal biological effects that have been increasingly documented in scientific research since then.[10] They presented expert testimonies and reports criticizing the FCC’s reliance on outdated standards and its dismissal of a vast body of peer-reviewed science indicating harm at levels below the current limits.[11] Expert

Testimonies and Scientific Consensus The 11,000 pages of evidence included testimonies from numerous scientists and medical professionals who are experts in the field of electromagnetic fields and public health. These experts provided detailed analyses of the scientific literature, explaining the mechanisms of harm and the inadequacy of the current FCC guidelines.[12] The plaintiffs also referenced international appeals and resolutions from scientific bodies calling for stronger regulations on wireless radiation exposure.[13] Specific Studies and Reports While the exact 11,000 pages are not publicly itemized in a single document, the court's decision and related filings indicate the types of evidence presented. Key examples of the kind of research cited would include:

- National Toxicology Program (NTP) studies: These multi-year, large-scale studies on rats and mice exposed to cell phone radiation found "clear evidence" of tumors in male rats and "some evidence" in female rats and male mice.[5]
- Ramazzini Institute studies: Similar to the NTP, these studies also found an increased risk of certain tumors in rats exposed to RF radiation.[6]
- BioInitiative Report: This comprehensive report, regularly updated by an international group of scientists, reviews thousands of studies on the biological effects of electromagnetic fields and radiofrequency radiation, concluding that current public exposure limits are inadequate.[14]
- Various peer-reviewed scientific articles: The plaintiffs submitted a multitude of individual studies published in scientific journals detailing specific biological effects, such as oxidative stress, DNA damage, neurological impacts, and reproductive effects, from RF radiation exposure.[3] [4] [7]

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit ultimately ruled in favor of the petitioners, stating that the FCC "failed to provide a reasoned explanation for its determination that its 1996 guidelines adequately protect against harmful effects of exposure to radiofrequency radiation." The court remanded the case to the FCC to review the evidence and provide a more thorough justification for its guidelines.[1] Authoritative Sources

1. Environmental Health Trust, et al. v. Federal Communications Commission, No. 20-1025 (D.C. Cir. 2021). [U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit]
2. Court Rules FCC Failed to Adequately Review Wireless Health Risks. [Environmental Health trust]
3. Oxidative Stress and DNA Damage from Radiofrequency Radiation. [Environmental Health Trust]
4. Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity (EHS). [Environmental Health Trust]
5. National Toxicology Program (NTP) Cell Phone Radiation Studies. [National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences]
6. Ramazzini Institute Study on Cell Phone Radiation. [Ramazzini Institute]
7. Wireless Radiation and Reproductive Health. [Environmental Health Trust]
8. Children and Wireless Radiation. [Environmental Health Trust]

9. Effects of Wireless Radiation on Wildlife. [Environmental Health Trust]
- 10.FCC's Outdated Wireless Radiation Exposure Limits. [Environmental Health Trust]
- 11.Expert Testimony in Environmental Health Trust v. FCC. [Environmental Health Trust]
- 12.Scientists and Doctors Call for Stronger Wireless Radiation Regulations. [Environmental Health Trust]
- 13.International Appeals and Resolutions. [Environmental Health Trust]
- 14.BioInitiative Report. [BioInitiative Report]

Name of Filer: Rachel McKinnis **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

I am EMF sensitive and increased exposure to Wi-Fi, cell phones, smart meters, etc. causes numbness, tingling, sleep issues, and difficulty breathing. [Emphasis added] Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. Cell phone networks did not work in California fire disasters but landlines did. Battery back-ups for modems and routers (needed for cable and fiber optic connections) are unreliable. There are Cyber security risks with cell phone connections. They can easily be broken for example with Kali Linux. AT&T claims people are abandoning landlines, but many AT&T service reps are telling customers AT&T no longer services copper and they won't install landlines anymore. Many human bodies are not compatible with wireless technology. People get headaches, ear ringing, vertigo, nerve disruptions, cancers, anxiety, depression, along with a myriad of other adverse health effects. People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines. Copper landlines work with DSL and medical alert systems. Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines. We need to keep Copper land lines for Emergencies when power is out and for those of us who are EMF sensitive. Thank you for listening.

Name of Filer: Kathleen Carlisle **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

I rely on my landline telephone for all communication - telephone and dsl internet - and learned from experience that I cannot tolerate the new fiber optic connections. I have the health condition known as electro hypersensitivity. [Emphasis added] Fiber optic phone/internet is installed with a Wi-fi router which spreads radiation throughout a home. When a technician for the local telecom set up a fiber optic connection in my home and turned on the Wi-fi, I had to leave the house immediately. **I was unable to walk without stumbling due to dizziness and vertigo, had an instant headache, pounding heart, pressure in my chest, blurred vision.** [Emphasis added] After this experience I went to great expense to hire a building

biologist to hard wire the house with shielded Cat7 cables and connect a special low EMF router from The Netherlands to the fiber optic line. This was a logical plan but created dirty electricity throughout the house which again was intolerable. **Without my copper landline I will be disconnected from the world except through print media as I cannot use a cell phone. The copper landline is my life line.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Victor Odilvak **Docket #** WC 25-209 **Date submitted:** Sep 24, 2025

I am EMF (electro motive force) sensitive and get not be around WI-fi, cell phones, microwave appliances or anything not hardwired. [Emphasis added] Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. Cell phone networks didn't work in California fire disasters but landlines did. Battery back-ups for modems and routers (needed for cable and fiber optic connections) are unreliable. There are Cyber security risks with cell phone connections. They can easily be broken for example with Kali Linux. AT&T claims people are abandoning landlines, but many AT&T service reps are telling customers AT&T no longer services copper and they won't install landlines anymore. Many human bodies are not compatible with wireless technology. People get **headaches, ear ringing, vertigo, nerve disruptions, cancers, and other health issues. I have all of these. I had to build a Faraday Cage around my house so I could live in it.** [Emphasis added] I am surrounded by 5G, Cell phone towers and heavy wireless. Over 85,000 Microwatt/Meter squared. People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines. Copper landlines work with DSL and medical alert systems. Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines. We need to keep Copper land lines for Emergencies when power is out and for those of us who are EMF sensitive. Thank you for listening

Name of Filer: Irene H. Terrill **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

Copper landlines work when electricity is out (power failures). I gave up my landline because Verizon would not maintain their copper landlines. I could barely hear a voice on the phone. I was paying for additional service that did not work (voice messages), and Verizon refused to fix it. The rep said they "make more money with their cell phone users." After that, **I had an ISP using a modem. I had chronic migraines. The doctor ordered an MRI. No brain tumor, but the migraines continued. I accidentally discovered that wireless signals were causing migraines!** [Emphasis added] My daughter persuaded me to get a smartphone. I still get bad headaches unless I'm careful to keep the phone away from my head. I still have ringing in my ears though. I know that EMF signals cause cancers. This concerns me. I would love to have a landline again! They are less expensive than ISPs. They are dependable! Battery backups are unreliable, and cell phones have cyber security

risks. Remote and rural areas need copper landlines. Landlines work with DSL & medical alert systems. (My mother used that.) The FCC should require telephone companies to keep their copper landline networks in good working order! When electricity bills keep rising, it makes no sense that mechanical systems are converted to systems that use electricity. Americans are steadily asked to conserve electricity at the same time that we are forced to adopt electronics in home appliances, autos, heat pumps, etc. Even doctor's offices have replaced their mechanical weight scales with electronic ones! We should preserve systems that do not require electricity! Copper landlines are best in emergencies.

Name of Filer: Celine Makaryk, Kevin Makaryk, Kim Black and Angelina Laubsch **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

We have family members with EMF sensitivity and health issues arising from exposure to wireless technologies. We also want to minimize exposure in our homes to protect our young children who are the most vulnerable. Also for safety reasons, and reliability, copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. [Emphasis added] Cell phone networks didn't work in CA fire disasters but landlines did. AT&T claims people are abandoning landlines, but many AT&T service reps are telling customers AT&T no longer services copper and they won't install landlines anymore. Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines.

Name of Filer: Beloved Heartong **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

I use landline phones in my home because of sensitivity and severe and long lasting headaches from the use of cellphones. [Emphasis added] I have many friends and family members who also use landlines for the same reason. **It is very important to our health and well-being and basic day to day handling of our affairs to have a form of non-toxic communication.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Diane M. Testa **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

I am writing to urge you to *not* retire the reliable and safe copper landlines of our U.S. telephone networks. Millions of citizens rely solely on their landline phones for telephone communication. When power is out in an emergency, these landline networks are the only extensive communication network that works reliably. With a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering from Vanderbilt University, I have studied widely the risks associated with wireless technology. I have worked as an engineering faculty member at Western New England University for over 18 years, and have discussed this wireless technology issue with dozens of colleagues. The independent science on

the health effects of wireless technology, particularly from cell towers and cell phones, demonstrates that low-level microwave signals emitted from cell phones cause harmful metabolic imbalances in all biological organisms. **In 2018, the U.S. National Toxicology Program's 10-year cell phone study concluded that there is "clear evidence" that cell phone signals cause cancerous heart tumors, DNA damage in the brain, and brain cancer.** [Emphasis added] The world's expert scientists and medical doctors have come together many times over the past three decades to warn governments and officials that significant steps need to be taken to halt the rollout of more wireless technology, but rather invest in hardwired solutions. The EMF Scientists Appeal to the United Nations was written in 2015 and signed by 252 of the world's experts in electromagnetic fields and health; this document speaks of a large pool of scientific evidence that points to the vast, damaging effects that wireless technology is having on not only humans but also plant and animal life. Thus, scientists and engineers like myself know that our existing landline telephone networks provide safe and secure communications at speeds unattainable with wireless technology. Therefore, I advise you to invest in and **maintain these landlines for the health and security of all Americans.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Paul Vonharnesh **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

Unregulated deployment of wireless communications devices have increased public exposures to radio broadcast frequencies that are now seriously impairing the health and wellbeing of large segments of the population. Young developing children and the elderly or debilitated are at particular risk of injury. There are now over 7000 peer reviewed studies proving beyond any reasonable debate, that wireless broadcast exposures are indeed harmful to human health and environment. Most persons employed in areas of public governance, have not been apprised of these health concerns, and it is doubtful they are trained in technical fields such as electronics technology, broadcast theory, or the biological sciences. People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines as their only source of good connectivity. If there is wireless service, it's weak. Copper landlines work with DSL and medical alert systems. Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines. In fact in most states an extra fee was paid for years to fund fiber optics. The wireless companies illegally used this money to fund wireless networks. You must insure people still have access to copper and/or fiber optic connections. **Wireless is not an option for all Americans.** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Terri Keller **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 23, 2025

I need copper landlines to be maintained. I **have electromagnetic hypersensitivity, EHS, and I get headaches and flu-like symptoms from the radiofrequency**

radiation (RF) emitted by cell phones. I use my landline every day, and would suffer quite a bit without it. [Emphasis added] Here are more reasons to keep landlines available to everyone: Copper landlines work in emergencies when power is out. Cell phone networks didn't work in CA fire disasters but landlines did. Battery back-ups for modems and routers (needed for cable and fiber optic connections) are unreliable. There are cyber security risks with cell phone connections. AT&T claims people are abandoning landlines, but many AT&T service reps are telling customers AT&T no longer services copper and they won't install landlines anymore. Many human bodies are not compatible with wireless technology. People get headaches, ear ringing, vertigo, nerve disruptions, cancers, and other health issues. People in remote or rural areas rely on copper landlines. Copper landlines work with DSL and medical alert systems. Customers have been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines. Thank you for your kind attention to this very important matter.

Name of Filer: Morgana Sidhom **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 22, 2025

All biological life is electromagnetic-sensitive. **Prolonged exposure to non-native, or man-made electromagnetic frequencies (EMFs), is considered carcinogenic and proven to wreak biological chaos and disease, most pronouncedly in children, as demonstrated in published peer-reviewed articles, including numerous epidemiological studies. Acute exposure can cause headaches, tinnitus, modified blood glucose levels, dehydration, among other detrimental physiological reactions. The American people need to be given the option of utilizing less invasive and safer alternatives.** [Emphasis added] Customers have also been paying extra fees in their phone bill for years to maintain copper landlines. Allow the copper landlines to remain. It is a fundamental right for the people.

Name of Filer: Laurie Gerber **Docket #** WC 25-208 **Date submitted:** Sep 22, 2025

I understand you are favoring telecom to end copper landlines in the entire country of USA. This is a really bad idea. First it cuts off communication access to a population of disabled people who suffer from microwave sickness and are unable to use any devices that work with wireless technology. I would imagine the ADA would be very interested to hear about this basic right for communication access that are slated for termination. **I have a well documented diagnosis of exposure to non ionizing radiation that has left me with chronic health problems and inability to use wireless technology.** [Emphasis added] So I am testifying to you this is a real issue which I'm sure you are aware. So please do not cut off my only access to life saving communication & health care by eliminating copper landlines. If I have to move

from here I will need to have access where ever I go. This is a serious situation. Put yourself or one of your family members in my place. This is not the only reason it is negligent and incompetent oversight on telecommunications to discontinue landlines. There are many but I won't go into them all here. **If you cannot accommodate a disabled population than nothing else I say will make a difference.** [Emphasis added] PLEASE KEEP ASSESS TO LANDLINES AVAILABLE. IT IS A LIFE SAVING NECESSITY.

Name of Filer: Donna Descoteaux **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 22, 2025

I am writing to ask that you please continue to maintain copper Landlines in the US. I live in a rural area where cell service is unreliable at best. Also, according to the world health organization, wireless signals are a possible human carcinogen. **As a three time cancer survivor, this is not a risk I choose to take. Please protect my freedom of choice to have a landline!** [Emphasis added]

Name of Filer: Terry Tobey **Docket #** WC 25-208 & 209 **Date submitted:** Sep 22, 2025

I am highly against ending copper landlines. **As one who suffers from Electro Magnetic Hyper Sensitivity, I cannot use a cell phone and would be left without a phone linking me to the outside world in case of an emergency and/or power outage. I would also not be able to access my computer which works with DSL via the copper landline.** [Emphasis added] I have been paying higher fees for years to keep my copper landline and feel very strongly that we need to keep copper landlines available to those of us who want or need them.