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October 22, 2000

Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Proceeding 00-30

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am very concerned about the proposed merger between AOL and Time Warner. This merger would create a monopoly in many areas of the country. It will create a company with extreme power to control the Internet marketplace. These two companies have already shown their disregard for the rights of their subscribers in many ways such as the lack of safeguarding user information by AOL and limits on free speech by Time Warner cable users. By allowing them to merge you will create an entity with even more power and ability to restrict rights of Internet users and limit free speech and free access to all information on the Internet.

I believe you should require all high-speed Internet access providers, both Cable and DSL to provide the following:

- Open Access – allow use of the service providers wire to access any ISP
- Privacy – maintain users privacy, control access to sensitive information such as credit card numbers, not track web sites visited or sell a users internet usage patterns to advertisers
- Free Speech – the high speed internet access provider should not have the right to censor the speech of users
- Require high speed internet access providers to live up to their advertised speed and bandwidth numbers

If you allow the AOL Time Warner merger, these items will be even more important. Before the proposed merger, AOL was crying for “Open Access.” Now they have forgotten what it means. Congress has already recognized the importance of growth of the Internet by limiting taxes applied to it. This decision you are making is equally important to allow continued growth of this new medium. To allow extreme concentration of powers in one company will inhibit that growth.

Sincerely,

Tom Graham

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