It is a scary prospect that the corporate parties which control the actual physical phone line also become the only ones to provide DSL Internet service. I know that as a consumer I have been much happier since switching from SBC as DSL provider to better and smaller provider; the service is much better from the independent ISP (since they HAVE to be better than the local telco, or nobody would use them). The potential for the local telco to become the ONLY provider of DSL service is something that should be avoided. It would not be in the interest of the consumer.