Verizon and an assortment of cable companies are working on an agreement to stop competing with each other. The complicated set of deals to divide the market between wireless and wired could impact the way you watch video, access the internet, and use your phone.

After failing to successfully enter the wireless market, the cable companies want to sell Verizon their spectrum. But that's just the start; the companies are also proposing to exclusively market each other's products and develop new technologies to lock out the competition.

Public Knowledge and others have sounded the alarm on their plan to jointly develop new technologies, bringing the patent wars to online video. The companies have started to make significant concessions, but the fight isn't over.

With less competition, consumers like me will pay the price.