

From: Karen Valenzuela
To: [UTC DL Records Center](#)
Subject: Comments on Dockets UE-200780, UG-200782, UE-200407, UG-200408, UE-200234, UG-200479, UG-200264
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Dear UTC records UTC,

Commissioners:

As the COVID crisis continues to worsen, I urge you to reject the utilities' deferred accounting petitions and issue a statement calling attention to the fact that, while profits for utilities may not be what they were two years ago, we're in the middle of a PANDEMIC, for godssakes, so stop being greedy at a time when shared sacrifice is the only thing that will see us through these difficult times. Utilities are not guaranteed profit and show few signs of financial trouble from the pandemic. Indeed, quite the opposite is actually the case. Utilities continue to expand their residential customer base, from which higher profits are reaped than from commercial customers. Yet these deferred accounting petitions will virtually guarantee hundreds of millions in profit for shareholders and executives without asking for anything in return. This is the wrong time for utilities to burden residential customers for anything more than we are already weighed down by.

It's critical that the UTC does everything it can to protect people suffering from illness, un- and under-employment. I am asking the UTC to not force customers to pay for these extraordinary COVID costs -- the fees, mounting debt, interest payments that most deeply impact low-income communities and communities of color. Businesses and families across the state have already suffered enough. Massive corporate utility profits should be used to pay for COVID costs for the families most in need.

Please reject the utilities' deferred accounting petitions. They are too broad, include reimbursement for discriminatory fees that the utilities have been prohibited from collecting by Governor Inslee. I urge you to put people before profits at this very difficult time. Thank you.

Regards,
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