COMMISSIO

From: <u>Hillary Haden</u>

To: Danner, Dave (UTC); Rendahl, Ann (UTC); Balasbas, Jay (UTC); UTC DL Records Center

Subject: Utility Shut Off Moratorium

Date: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 1:07:51 PM

Dear Commissioners,

This is a comment regarding Docket # U-200281

Washington Fair Trade Coalition is a Washington State based non profit with 65 member organizations. We all work together for a more just and equitable trading system. Many times this brings us to fight for protections for folks domestically, which is why I'm writing today.

One of our goals throughout the pandemic -- and the economic shock and disruption that will continue in its wake -- is for every Washington resident to be able to count on uninterrupted, stable, and debt-free utility service.

At this moment, it is clearer than ever that *access* to utilities is itself threatened for large numbers of people in this state. Utilities are more essential than ever to keep our communities healthy and safe. Together, we must make sure that Washingtonians can count on essential utilities.)

I am calling on the Utilities and Transportation Commission to do everything in its power to ensure that people have access to stable, debt-free utility service during this pandemic and beyond. This includes:

- Extend the moratorium on utility shut-offs to at least April 30, or whenever all the counties in a utility's service territory have been in Phase 4 of Washington's Safe Start Plan for at least 60 days.
- No debt for poor and working class families
- Just payment plans for all utilities
- No late fees, disconnection fees, or reporting to credit agencies
- Ratepayers should not have to pay for all COVID costs during this global crisis -- utilities must consider cutting executive and/or shareholder pay to ensure people's basic health and safety.

Thank you, Hillary Haden|Washington Fair Trade Coalition 206.227.3079|www.Washingtonfairtrade.org She, Her pronouns

