

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION STAFF  
RESPONSE TO DATA REQUEST

DATE PREPARED: January 5, 2018  
DOCKET: UE-170485/UG-170486  
REQUESTER: The Energy Project

WITNESS: Jennifer E. Snyder  
RESPONDER: Jennifer E. Snyder  
TELEPHONE: (360) 664-1311

**REQUEST NO. 1:**

**Re: Testimony of Christopher S. Hancock, Exh. CSH-1T at 23:11-13.**

Please explain the rationale for Staff's decision to recommend that "the Commission extend the LIRAP plan one additional year, through 2020, with the same percentage increases established in 2014."

**RESPONSE:**

Staff recommends that the Commission extend the LIRAP plan one additional year to provide additional relief to low income households from the rate increases called for in the third year of the rate plan proposal. The Commission ordered in UE-150204/UG-150205 that LIRAP funding shall increase by seven percent or twice the percentage increase in the residential electric and natural gas base rates.<sup>1</sup> Since Staff proposed in this GRC a rate increase in Year 2 and Year 3 less than 3.5%, Staff envisions that LIRAP funding would increase by 7% in Year 2 and Year 3.

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<sup>1</sup> Order 05, Dockets UE-150204 and UG-150205, page 80, ¶232.