

From: elinde <elinde@uw.edu>
Sent: Sunday, September 13, 2020 8:49 AM
To: Rendahl, Ann (UTC) <ann.rendahl@utc.wa.gov>
Subject: docket # U-200281

Dear Commissioners,

This is a comment regarding docket # U-200281

I am a medical student at the University of Washington. I entered medical school in large part to advocate for health equity in my community. Now more than ever, access to basic human rights is treated by our extractive system. Health professionals across our state are standing up to ensure that Washington can be a state where everyone -- no matter their race, income, or where they live -- has access to electricity and clean water.

Our goal 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**

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- **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,

Emma J. Linde

Pronouns: she/her

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