



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

621 Woodland Square Loop S.E. • Lacey, Washington 98503

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(360) 664-1160 • TTY 1-800-833-6384 or 711

June 25, 2021

NOTICE OF PROPOSED TERM SHEET

and

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENT
(By July 7, 2021)**

RE: Docket U-200281, July 8, 2021, Open Meeting Agenda Item

TO REGULATED WATER COMPANIES:

On April 17, 2020, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-23.2, which prohibits all energy, water, and telecommunications providers from (1) disconnecting residential service due to nonpayment, (2) refusing to reconnect residential customers who were disconnected due to nonpayment, and (3) charging late fees or reconnection fees. The prohibition was set to expire on May 4, 2020, but subsequent proclamations have extended that date through July 31, 2021. Proclamation 20-23.4, issued on May 29, 2020, also required utilities to develop COVID-19 Customer Support Programs consistent with state guidance from the Governor's office to address payment plan options for residential customers who are in arrears due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Commission formed a COVID-19 response workgroup of energy stakeholders to facilitate development of a term sheet with guidelines for ensuring that customers experiencing economic hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic maintain access to essential services after Proclamation 20-23 expires and the moratorium on disconnections and late fees is no longer in effect.

On May 18, 2021, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission entered Order 03 in Docket U-200281, which adopted the Third Revised Term Sheet as Appendix A. Appendix A focused on regulated electric and gas companies.

Recognizing a need for similar guidance for regulated water companies, staff developed the *UTC Staff Water Utility Options COVID-19 Recovery*, attached hereto and referred to as Appendix B. This proposed term sheet will come before the commission at the next scheduled open meeting on July 8, 2021. Regulated water companies will have the opportunity to provide feedback regarding Appendix B at the open meeting or file written comments by **5 p.m., July 7, 2021**.

OPEN MEETING PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS

This regularly scheduled open meeting will be conducted virtually through Microsoft Teams. Although parties may participate by telephone, participation by computer will make it easier to facilitate the discussion. In an effort to organize the meeting, those interested in addressing the Commission should contact the Commission's Records Center **by 5 p.m. on July 6, 2021**, by phone at (360) 664-1234. The Commission will use this digital "sign-in sheet" to call on those individuals during the Stakeholder and Public Comment sections of the meeting. Please be prepared to provide the Records Center with your name, who you are representing, the docket number you will be commenting, and your contact information. Written comments will also be accepted until **5 p.m. on July 7, 2021**.

Microsoft Teams meeting - Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 253-372-2181,581008258#](#) United States, Tacoma

+1 564-999-2000 United States, Olympia

Phone Conference ID: 581 008 258#

WRITTEN COMMENTS

The Commission welcomes comments on the proposed term sheet (Appendix B), specifically,

- Do regulated water companies support staff's recommendations outlined in Appendix B?
- Is there any part of Appendix B you do not support, and why?

Written comments may be submitted via the Commission's web portal at www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing. If you are unable to submit documents via the portal, you may submit your comment by email to the Commission's Records Center at records@utc.wa.gov. Comment submissions should include:

- The docket number for this open meeting item (Docket U-200281)
- The commenting party's name
- The title and date of the comment or comments.

The Commission will post on its web site all comments that are provided in electronic format. The web site is located at www.utc.wa.gov.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Commission is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to participants with disabilities during its proceedings. If you need a reasonable accommodation for this meeting, please contact the Commission at least one business day prior to the meeting by calling 1-360-664-1132 or by sending an email to human_resources@utc.wa.gov. For TTY service, please call the Washington Relay Service at 7-1-1 or 1-800-833-6384.

If you wish to participate and need an interpreter, one will be appointed at no cost. If you need an interpreter, please contact the Commission at least one business day prior to the meeting by calling 1-360-664-1140 or by sending an email to paige.doyle@utc.wa.gov.

If you have questions regarding the open meeting you may contact Lisa Wyse, Records Center Manager, at 360-664-1259 or lisa.wyse@utc.wa.gov.

MARK L. JOHNSON
Executive Director and Secretary