



## IBEW Local 125

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

July 31, 2013

Mr. David Danner, Chairman  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
P.O. Box 47250  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

**RE: U-131087**

Dear Chairman Danner,

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 125 represents approximately 3,500 members who work in the Pacific Northwest's electric utility industry. Nearly 1,100 of our members work in Washington. IBEW Local 125 supports Pacific Power's efforts to stop accepting payments in the field.

During the economic downturn, the utility industry has faced a variety of challenges, including more late and non-payments from customers. As such, the pressure on field employees to manage volatile situations with angry or often desperate customers has increased dramatically. Many of Pacific Power's employees work in remote areas where assistance is not readily available. The potential for violence exists because the public knows that they are carrying cash and work for a utility.

IBEW Local 125 always advocates for its members' safety. Customers regularly confront our members about their bills, service, and numerous other issues which often are well beyond their control. They are already targets as utility employees; money—often cash—increases their exposure. While we are sensitive to challenges that may present themselves to some people, we must not lose sight of our priority which is always safety.

Please recognize the company's desire to be proactive and avoid the possibility of telling an employee's family "sorry." Help us ensure that we don't deal with the aftermath of injury or death. IBEW Local +125 respectfully requests your support to end payments in the field. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcy Graff".

Marcy Graff, PHR  
Assistant Business Manager  
IBEW Local 125

CC: Jeffrey Goltz  
Philip Jones