

From: [Marsha Williams \(mjwms@centurytel.net\)](mailto:mjwms@centurytel.net) Sent You a Personal Message
To: [UTC DL Records Center](#)
Subject: No more utility profits over people (Dockets UE-200780, UG-200782, UE-200407, UG-200408, UE-200234, UG-200479, UG-200264)
Date: Friday, November 20, 2020 1:06:00 PM

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Dear Washington Utilities Commission,

During this covid-19 time when so many people are out of work and soon to run out of unemployment benefits, it would be tragic for utilities to raise their rates. Please see to it that that does not happen. Also, please forbid utilities from turning off services to households when non payment can be attributed to hardship due to the above factors. People need compassion now, not to be left out in the cold, literally. Utilities use public resources to provide services to people and as such, those public resources need to be used for the greatest good right now rather than for any excessive utility executive salaries or to pay more to stock/bond holders. Thank you for giving this some thought.

As the COVID-19 crisis enters its worst month yet, we urge you to reject the utilities' deferred accounting petitions and issue a statement calling for shared sacrifice from the utilities during this unprecedented time. Utilities are not guaranteed profit and are not exhibiting any signs of financial trouble from the pandemic. Yet these deferred accounting petitions will virtually guarantee hundreds of millions in profit for shareholders and executives without asking for anything in return.

It's critical that the UTC does everything it can to protect people suffering from illness, unemployment, and underemployment. I am asking commissioners to not force customers to pay for these extraordinary COVID costs -- the fees, mounting debt, interest payments that most deeply impact low-income communities and communities of color. Businesses and families across the state have already suffered enough. Massive corporate utility profits should be used to pay for COVID costs for the families most in need. Everyone needs to share in the sacrifice.

Please reject the utilities' deferred accounting petitions. They are too broad, include reimbursement for discriminatory fees that the utilities have been prohibited from collecting by Governor Inslee, and don't require the utilities to track savings as closely as they track costs. We urge you to put people before utility profit, and require utilities to share in the sacrifice demanded of us all.

Sincerely,

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This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at core.help@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5500.