From:	Aedan McCall
To:	UTC DL Records Center
Subject:	Docket # U-200281
Date:	Thursday, September 17, 2020 11:38:54 AM

Dear Utilities and Transportation Commission Washington State,

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.

Having engaged with the UTC during previous discussions around energy rates in hearings for the Puget Sound rate increase dispute, I know that the commission has the capacity to listen to the public and recognize that while utility companies may suffer from the pandemic, individual ratepayers stand to lose a great deal more than profit margins. I fear that if we go back to business as usual post-pandemic, we will see many working-class families lose access to utilities when a just transition back to safe in-person engagement depends on everyone having their fundamental needs met.

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.
- 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.

Regards,
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