

From: Paul.Empson@pge.com on behalf of Paul E. Empson
To: Paul.Empson@pge.com
Subject: Comments on Electric Power Fuel Fuel Energy of 2017-18 & 2018-19, Analysis of 2018-19 & 2019-20, Pacific Power of 2018-19, Cascade Natural Gas 2018-19, NW Natural 2018-2019
Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2015 12:17 PM

This message has originated from an External Source. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email. Contact your desktop support or IT security staff for assistance and to report suspicious messages.

Dear ETC Commissioners,

We urge you to reject the utilities' deferred accounting positions and issue a statement calling for shared sacrifice from the utilities.

The utilities are not generating profits and are not exhibiting any signs of financial trouble from the pandemic. These deferred accounting positions are the utilities' attempt at guaranteeing hundreds of millions in profits for shareholders and executives without making an offer of shared sacrifice to Washington residents during a historic public health and economic crisis. The deferred accounting positions are too broad, don't require the utilities to track savings just as closely as they track costs, and include discriminatory fees that the utilities have been prohibited from collecting by Governance Bodies.

Your other year, Puget Sound Energy, Avista, PacifiCorp, Northwest Natural, and Cascade Natural Gas made hundreds of millions in profits. They collectively paid \$460 million in their shareholders and top executives in 2019 alone (1). Meanwhile, Latinos, Indigenous, Pacific Islander and Black households are suffering from COVID-19 at disproportionately high rates (2) and nearly a million Washingtonians are receiving food assistance, up 17% from February (3).

It's where it may concern.

The power utility that off-load electric customers and I find that property values seem to go ahead of utility profits. I find the power that off-load customers has affected businesses and households disproportionately in the many municipalities have enhanced existing bandwidth to pay for utilities if meters are unable and forward the costs to be paid by meters as a last date. If the metering were discontinued, utility costs would be a limited responsibility or removal of the meter which seems to conflict with occupancy taxes. And the many counties greatly to loss of annual occupancy rates while increasing homelessness. Homeowners who are not required to have utilities such as power stay contribute to decreased property values due to lack of electricity, and further contribute. Loss of small businesses that are burdened by the pandemic and employee losses, as well as paying the higher rates for utilities.

The power companies should be using excess profits to help our communities grow, not shrink in the future due to their desire to increase annual profits. Loss of customers will only further increase the loss of profits to the utilities, and further decrease the means for maintenance as this cost is mostly paid by consumers and not commercial or industrial users.

We urge you to pass people before utility profits. Help Washington to equitably power through the pandemic, and require utilities to share in the sacrifice demanded of us all.

(1) According to 2019 filings to the Securities and Exchange Commission on dividends and executive compensation.

(2) <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/diseases/covid19/>

(3) <https://www.irs.gov/charity-philanthropy/publications/charitable-deductions-for-covid-19-relief-efforts>

(4) <https://www.irs.gov/charity-philanthropy/publications/charitable-deductions-for-covid-19-relief-efforts>

(5) <https://www.irs.gov/charity-philanthropy/publications/charitable-deductions-for-covid-19-relief-efforts>

Sincerely,
Paul Empson
Yakima, WA 98902
pempson@gmail.com