From:	George Hartman
To:	UTC DL Records Center
Subject:	Docket # U-200281
Date:	Thursday, September 17, 2020 10:09:33 PM

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.

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 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.

As a pharmacist in a community health center, albeit not in Washington, I still have first hand knowledge of the toll this pandemic is taking on our most vulnerable citizens.

Thank you for the opportunity to add my voice to the millions of our Americans for whom this issue is fundamentally important. I appreciate your consideration of my comments.

Regards,
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