From: <u>enxwest@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>E.N.West</u>

To: <u>UTC DL Records Center</u>
Subject: Comments on Docket U-200281

**Date:** Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:32:25 AM

## Dear UTC Commissioners,

Keeping households connected to power is important to me because I know SO many people in Seattle who have been without work due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. These are hardworking people who were laid off because the businesses they work for rely on foot traffic that was brought to a halt under the mandatory closures implemented (and rightfully so!) by Governor Inslee. For many of these people, paying rent was impossible, never mind paying utilities on top of that. Some of them have returned to work or found alternative sources of income, but many of these income sources were impossible several months ago at the height of the pandemic in Washington.

People should not be forced to pay or suffer for events that happened completely outside of their control. People should also not be forced to suffer because of a pandemic that could have ended months ago if we had an even slightly competent federal government.

In line with that, I urge you to:

- Keep Washington families connected to power for the duration of the pandemic and through economic recovery.
- Erase the utility debt of low-income households.
- Require utilities to pay their fair share. Prohibit utilities from charging customers for lost customer load and fees they are legally prohibited from collecting.

Sincerely, E.N. West 4527 Rainier Ave S Seattle, WA 98118-1649 enxwest@gmail.com