

**From:** Paul Fellows  
**To:** [UTC DL Records Center](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on Dockets UE-200780, UG-200782, UE-200407, UG-200408, UE-200234, UG-200479, UG-200264  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 9, 2020 10:37:24 AM

---

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 UTC records UTC,

Dear Commissioners,

As a ratepayer, it seems to me that the UTC always sides for the utilities. When they ask for an increase it is usually given with little resistance (any consideration appears to be window dressing). When the cost of gas goes down - even precipitously - the entire savings is never, ever passed on to the ratepayers. I have lived in the same home for 30 years. Our gas fired furnace has never been updated so here's the question - why did our gas cost \$50.00 per month in 1989 and now the same usage costs us \$125.00 per month? This is while year after year the cost of extracted gas stocks has dropped and dropped. As a consumer I have to ask, who is the UTC working for? Obviously not we consumers! This said - do UTC members need to be reminded that we consumers are facing the most disruptive event in 100 years? Some accommodation **MUST BE MADE** for those many households that have lost income and cannot pay the exorbitant price of gas that benefits only a small number of rich executives and shareholders. It's time for the UTC to respond like we are on the edge of a financial catastrophe, worse than the Great Depression of the 1930s! The UTC **MUST** act accordingly and favor consumers over utility profits! **THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!** - it cannot be business as usual - pushing off all costs onto consumers already unable to shoulder the burden of years of inflated prices!

+++++

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.

Regards,  
Paul Fellows  
4220 Dayton Ave N  
Seattle, WA 98103 <<http://admin.phone2action.com/email/open/leg/390479/101595467>>