

Comment to Utilities and Transportation Commission

Dear Commissioners,

**This is a comment regarding Docket # U-220281**

My name is Jeanne Large. I'm a resident of Kirkland, Washington and a dedicated supporter programs that look out for the well-being of all residents of our state, particularly those suffering during this urgent and critical pandemic.

We always have families in our communities who struggle to pay for essentials like housing, food, water and electrical utilities. At this time, with unemployment and business closures at levels I've never seen before, we need to pay attention to the safety and health of all Washington residents but especially those who cannot pay their bills right now.

I understand that as the pandemic began spreading through the country, some utilities have considered shutting off water for customers who cannot afford to pay. I know people who in recent years have had their electric power service shut down when they did not pay their bills. While there are realistic business reasons for these actions, these are not actions that we can allow at this time. Everyone needs to live with clean water with which to wash their hands and electricity to operate their healthcare equipment and refrigerators.

Please do all you can do to see that all people in Washington State will have access to stable utility services. Please work with local utilities such as water and electric power providers to see that there are no fees for disconnects, fair payment plans for all utilities and assistance to low income and out-of-work families who are not able to pay and don't need to accumulate debt.

Thank you,

Jeanne Large  
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