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State Of WASH.  
UTIL. AND TRANSP.  
COMMISSION

**From:** [Malea Lash \(malealash@gmail.com\) Sent You a Personal Message](mailto:malealash@gmail.com)  
**To:** [UTC DL Records Center](#)  
**Subject:** Docket # U-200281  
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Dear Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC),

I know people who lost their jobs in the pandemic and either don't qualify for unemployment or still have not started receiving unemployment and are at risk of having their power turned off. Wealth for few at the expense of suffering for many is oppression and I will not stand for it.

More than six months into the COVID-19 crisis, it is clearer than ever that the effects of the pandemic are not going away anytime soon. We need to act accordingly. It is imperative that our leaders pass the protections working people need, starting with debt relief, to get and stay well in this pandemic and beyond. Washington can be a state where everyone - no matter their race, income, or where they live -- has access to electricity and clean water. This is a state where people's health and well being, not corporate profits, can drive policymakers' decisions. 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 at least April 30, or 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-19 costs during this global crisis -- utilities must consider cutting executive and/or shareholder pay to ensure people's basic health and safety.

Sincerely,

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