

Dear Commissioners,

COVID-19 has been a devastating public health disaster, with economic consequences across the Commonwealth, and many people are experiencing unemployment/underemployment, higher utility bills from staying at home, and other economic stresses. Access to heat, electricity, and water service is crucial for maintaining a safe, healthy, livable home, especially during a global pandemic. Utility shutoffs for vulnerable families endangers all of us Pennsylvanians by exacerbating the spread of the coronavirus.

I'm writing to urge the Commission to extend the current protections on utility shutoffs beyond March 31, 2021 for all Pennsylvanians currently protected by Phase II of the moratorium. Customers should remain protected throughout the duration of the pandemic.

Additionally, I ask that the Commission develop a just and equitable plan to forgive the hundreds of millions in outstanding utility debt. For Pennsylvanians who have suffered during the pandemic to recover economically, they must not be bogged down by utility debt.

Sincerely,

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