

Dear Commissioners,

Everyone deserves utilities — especially in a pandemic. Due to the effects of climate change, we have had exceptional weather this winter and no one should be left in the dark or without heat.

COVID-19 has had devastating public health and economic consequences across the Commonwealth, and many people are experiencing unemployment/underemployment, higher utility bills from staying at home, and other economic stresses on top of the existing wealth inequality that has existed long before COVID became a household name. Access to basic utilities is crucial for maintaining a safe, healthy, livable home, especially right now.

I 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 be protected throughout the duration of the pandemic and beyond.

Additionally, I think it is incredibly important that the Commission work to develop a just and equitable plan to forgive utility debt long term. For Pennsylvanians who have suffered during the pandemic to recover economically, they must not be weighed down by utility debt. There is enough stress in the world right now!

Sincerely,

Sara Harmon, Philadelphia, PA 19013, PECO Customer