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Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2020 2:19 PM

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Subject: Extend Disconnection Moratorium to Non-Residential Customers and Include Water Utilities Under PUC Jurisdiction

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Hello Commissioners:

I want to thank you for your Order Granting Temporary Moratorium on Involuntary Natural Gas, Electric, and Telecommunications Service Disconnections in response to Vermont Legal Aid's filing.

I request that you immediately extend the same moratorium on involuntary disconnections to business customers, and to water utility customers whose providers fall under PUC jurisdiction.

In just a week and a half, many Vermont businesses, including some entire industries, had their income streams deeply cut or eliminated altogether. As they try to regain their footing, service disconnections should not add one more pressure that would slow the return to normal employment and business operations.

The regulated utilities have a luxury most industries do not - they can seek to recoup any lost income in subsequent rate filings. To support the urgent, short-term needs of our small business community the PUC should extend its moratorium to non-residential customers and include water utilities.

Respectfully,

Tim

Tim Ashe

Vermont State Senator

President Pro Tem

