

**Supplemental Comments of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD)
Extension of Moratorium on Utility and Telecommunications Shutoffs to Both Residential and
Non-Residential Customers**

In response to the April 16, 2020 Public Utility Commission order in Case No. 20-0703-PET, extending to May 31, 2020 its moratorium on utility disconnections to residential and non-residential customers, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development submits this supplemental support for the PUC's action. ACCD believes the moratorium extension to be an appropriate response to the personal and economic impact Vermonters and Vermont businesses have experienced as a direct result of the COVID-19 emergency. Now, as much as ever, maintaining vital utility services will provide a significant measure of protection.

A similar set of situations exist for literally hundreds of Vermont businesses. In many cases, these businesses have lost the revenue that serves as the basis for them to pay bills and yet the services provided by electric, natural gas and telecommunication utilities are necessary to allow them to recover when the immediate consequences of the coronavirus pandemic diminish.

Thank you for continuing to respond to the seriousness of the economic disruption during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.