

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Docket No. 20-0703-PET

Vermont Legal Aid request for moratorium on)
Utility and telecommunications shutoffs during)
State of Emergency)

COMMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

On April 16, 2020, the Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) issued *its Order Requesting Comments on Potentially Extending the Temporary Moratorium on Involuntary Utility Service Disconnections* (“Order”). The Department offers the following comments in response to the Order.

The Department supports extending the temporary moratorium on involuntary utility disconnections from April 30, 2020, to May 31, 2020. As noted in its Order, on April 10, 2020, Governor Scott extended the state of emergency until May 15, 2020. It remains essential in these unprecedented and uncertain times that vulnerable Vermonters continue to have access to essential utility services. The Department further notes and commends the many utilities that have voluntarily extended the temporary moratorium on involuntary utility disconnections until May 31, 2020.

Dated this 20th day of April, 2020.

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

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