

## Filed VIA E-PUC

July 22, 2020

VERMONT PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION People's United Bank Building, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor 112 State Street Montpelier, VT 05620-2701

Re: Case No. 20-0703-PET - Vermont Legal Aid request for moratorium on Utility and telecommunications shutoffs during State of Emergency

Dear Commission:

Today the Department of Public Service ("Department") filed a request to extend the temporary moratorium on involuntary disconnections through September 30, 2020. Vermont Gas Systems ("VGS") supports that request. We note however that the date brings us to the cusp of the winter heating season. VGS believes it is in our customers' best interest to conduct outreach regarding prospective repayment plans to avoid creating potentially unmanageable past due balances and to encourage customers to seek financial assistance as soon as possible.

These are extremely challenging times for all. We appreciate the efforts of the Department and the Commission as we all work together to keep Vermonters safe.

Sincerely,

Eileen Simollardes Vice President Regulatory Affairs

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