

NEPPA Resolution

Support Relief for Utilities and Ratepayers in COVID-19 Legislation

WHEREAS, the health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are vast and ongoing, and;

Whereas, many states suspended utility disconnections during the health emergency, and many utilities have voluntarily done so, and;

Whereas, utilities experiencing high numbers of customers in arrears are working with their customers to provide assistance and payment plans to prevent unpaid balances from becoming insurmountable, and;

Whereas, the disruption of commercial activity has caused some utilities to recover significantly less revenue than anticipated, and;

Whereas, utilities employ essential workers and are also incurring additional costs associated with protecting their workforce from exposure, then;

Be it now

RESOLVED, that NEPPA:

1. Supports efforts by Congress to provide financial relief for customers impacted by COVID-19 that can be used to pay utility bills in arrears.
2. Supports federal assistance for utilities to recover costs and lost revenue associated with COVID-19, either through forgivable loans, direct payments, or grants for other activities that can offset some losses.
3. Opposes a nationwide moratorium on utility shutoffs, which would inhibit utility efforts to work with customers on payment options.

A & R Committee voted to recommend adoption 2/11/2021

Board of Directors voted unanimously to support 8/25/2021