

## Massaro, Luly (PUC)

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**From:** Camilo Viveiros <camiloviveiros@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 25, 2018 11:53 AM  
**To:** Massaro, Luly (PUC)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] : Docket No. 1725 Comments

**Categories:** HOLIDAY

Docket No. 1725

Dear Commissioners,

On Wednesday night, October 24th, the below group of people gathered at the George Wiley Center to discuss utility issues. These comments represent just a snapshot of one moment at the George Wiley Center. Every day we receive many phone calls and we welcome many walk-ins from people across Rhode Island who are having difficulty with access to utilities.

This is just a sampling of the voices who are calling on the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission to support the George Wiley Center's request for restoration of utility customers' service with a 10% down payment. Please consider these brief comments as just a segment of those who are directly impacted and concerned about people who are living without utilities. Thank you for taking action so people can live with dignity by allowing for people to pay 10% down to have their utilities restored.

Camilo Viveiros, Coordinator, George Wiley Center

A lot of people are on a fixed income of only 400- 600 a month. Could you live off that amount? How can we afford such high percentages to have our utilities restored? Please allow for people to pay 10% to get our power back on! Stephanie Taylor (Providence)

Although unemployment is down wages aren't up, in order to meet the demands of the cost of living vote for the George Wiley Center's recommendation. By supporting the suggestion from the George Wiley Center you can help decrease the unfair energy burden that is on low-income families. Rhode Island has some of the highest utility costs in the nation. I hope you do all that you can do to make everything more affordable for families who are struggling. Nancy Lopez (Pawtucket)

Being able to pay something is better than nothing. You should be able to pay 10% to restore your utilities and to get utilities back on what a person is able to afford.

Lindsay Maddox (Narragansett)

It increases dangerous situations when gas utilities are shut off, forcing people to use electric heaters. The use of electric heaters as a main source of heat can lead to fires. It is important that you vote to give people the ability to pay 10% down in order to get their utilities on before the beginning of the winter moratorium.

Brad Mellon (Pawtucket)

It is heartbreaking when families want to have others over for the holidays and they can't because there are no lights and it is freezing. Make it more affordable so people can be restored. Mae Mallon (Pawtucket)

Given the nature of numerous individuals with disabilities and families with children having their utilities cut off, we are requesting that these individuals be allowed to pay 10% to have their utilities restored at a reasonable percentage.

Pauline (Pawtucket)

Please consider the many families and individuals who may not have the funds to pay for their monthly utilities bills. Support any provisions that help these people.  
David Jardin (East Providence)

No one should have to suffer without utilities because of their limited income or no income. We need you to look at making sure that all people can live safely through the winter time in Rhode Island. Brenda Taylor (Providence)