

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-2506

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October 16, 2025

John Pettigrew  
Chief Executive Officer  
National Grid  
170 Data Drive  
Waltham, MA 02451

Dear Mr. Pettigrew:

Throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, thousands of families are experiencing financial hardship due to the ongoing government shutdown. Federal workers, federal contractors, and the people who depend on their paychecks are currently at risk of having their gas and electricity services discontinued due to temporary inability to pay. I am writing to urge National Grid to issue an immediate moratorium on utility shutoffs for households impacted by the government shutdown.

There are more than 45,000 dedicated federal government workers in Massachusetts, and they disproportionately live in my Congressional district – the Massachusetts 7<sup>th</sup>. These public servants perform a range of essential responsibilities from directing air traffic and enforcing civil rights to developing cures for diseases, processing tax refunds, and more. It is critical that National Grid recognizes the contributions of these workers to their communities and take steps to support their well-being during this distressing time.

For no fault of their own, federal workers and contractors are missing wages and may be unable to pay their utility bills. Terminating service due to nonpayment translates to a lack of heat, electricity, internet, and other essentials. A disruption in service will undoubtedly disrupt learning for kids, diminish resources for elders, and endanger the health and safety of entire families.

On behalf of the federal civil servants residing in Massachusetts, I request that National Grid continue all utility services and offer a payment deferral program to households impacted by the ongoing government shutdown. This program should not require a down payment nor should it carry interest or fees. In moments of financial hardship, your customers need relief, not greater strain. Tens of thousands of federal workers, federal contractors, and people who depend on them should not be punished for their commitment to serving our nation. Instead, they should be rewarded with compassion, understanding, and flexibility.

As I work with my colleagues in Washington to end the federal government shutdown and alleviate its harmful impacts, I urge you to immediately announce a utility shutoff moratorium and protect federal workers from further hardship.

Sincerely,



Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress