If your utility company is Eversource, Yankee Gas, Aquarion Water, Connecticut Water Company, United Illuminating, Southern Connecticut Gas, or Connecticut Natural Gas and you need help exercising your rights to keep your utilities on, please contact Connecticut Legal Services to find out if we are able to help you.

Call Connecticut Legal Services at

(888) 380-3646

Connecticut Legal Services or CLS is available to help you make payment arrangements with the utility companies listed above, when you are unable to do so.

What payment plans are available?

- **Matching Payment Program**
- **Low Income Discount Rate Program**
  - Tier 1 is for customers earning 60% of the state median income and reduces a your electric bill by 10% each month if you qualify.
  - Tier 2 is for customers earning 160% of the federal poverty guidelines and reduces your electric bill by 50% each month if you qualify.

We can also help you sign up for shut-off protection if you qualify for it.

- **Winter shut off protections for those who qualify due to hardship November 1- May 1.** You can qualify for hardship status if you receive cash assistance, energy assistance, SNAP, Husky, SSI, or unemployment. You can also qualify if someone in your household has a serious medical condition, if your income is very low, or if something makes it very difficult for you to pay your bill.

- **Year round shut off protections for qualifying medical condition if it would endanger someone in your household's life if the utilities were shut off.** This includes, a child age two or younger discharged from the hospital who needs utility service for their health.

Other Programs you can apply for to lower your utility costs:

- **Energy Assistance for winter heating bills—** apply online at the Department of Social Services or at your local Community Action Agency.
- **Weatherization to make your home more energy efficient** with insulation, storm windows, furnace repair, etc. to reduce your heating costs

Attorney Kristen Miller Hatcher is responsible for the content of this document.