

Good evening, Senator Cummings –

I am forwarding a document that was prepared over the weekend by the Public Service Department staff whose work, credentials, and professional conduct were the subject of testimony before the Senate Finance Committee on March 19, 2021. The document is organized as a point-by-point response to the material issues raised. Every effort was made to identify the gist of each of these issues. As that proved hard to do at times, I am providing a link to the testimony on YouTube to facilitate any independent review the committee may wish to conduct: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=70FD3hJYcLA>)

In view of the March 19 testimony, I feel compelled to underscore that the Public Service Department is staffed by 48 professionals who bring their A game every day to make sure Vermont is a place where utility services are safe, reliable, affordable and sustainable at least-cost with due regard for the environment. The challenges they engage on everyday are imposing. The knowledge, skill, and compassion they bring to bear in serving the public is inspiring and of the highest quality in the nation. These individuals serve in good faith and often at considerable personal cost in terms of time and attention spent away from friends and family to ensure the public is served well and to the best of their ability. They deserve to be treated with respect and commended for their service.

The one issue not touched on in the enclosed document relates to whether I am dismissive of the public I serve. There are many YouTube videos, meeting minutes, and emails that reflect the deep and abiding regard I hold for the people and the public trust that has been invested in me for the last four years as the Commissioner of the Public Service Department.

Sincerely,

June E. Tierney  
Commissioner  
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