



# CITY OF PIERZ

DAVE FISCHER, MAYOR

Lynn Egan, Council  
Don Bujalski, Council  
Jacque Ballou, Council  
Kyle Bednar, City Clerk  
Linda Sczublewski, Treasurer  
Bob Otremba, Administrator

---

March 16th, 2020

To: Minnesota Department of Commerce and Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
Re: Responsive Measures to COVID-19 Outbreak

The City of Pierz has decided to discontinue penalties and disconnections for the months of March and April.

At the May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 city council meeting the council will discuss and consider observing the following consumer protections during the COVID-19 emergency:

- I. Extend the protections of Minnesota's Cold Weather Rule provided under Minnesota Statutes sections 216B.096 (public utilities), 216B.097 (electric cooperatives and municipal utilities) and 216B.16, subdivisions 12 and 12a (small gas utility and small electric utility, respectively) by restricting disconnection of residential customers for non-payment of utility bills and reconnecting customers who have been disconnected for the duration of the national security or state peacetime emergency. This request shall not affect the utility's ability to disconnect a customer's service for public safety concerns unrelated to non-payment of service.
- II. Waive late fees that any residential or small business customer incurs because of the economic circumstances related to the coronavirus pandemic.
- III. Arrange payment plans for customers requesting help during this time that is based on the financial resources and circumstances of the customer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Otremba".

Bob Otremba  
City Administrator  
City of Pierz