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PRESS RELEASE

**Distrigas and Citizens Energy Announce the Continuation of CEDHAP,
a Statewide Natural Gas Assistance Program,
with Another \$1 Million Donation**

Those in need urged to apply for funds before the moratorium on gas service shut-offs ends

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Lowell, MA – March 19, 2009 — Citizens Energy Chairman Joseph P. Kennedy II and Distrigas Chairman and CEO Clay Harris today announced the continuation of the Citizens Energy/Distrigas Heat Assistance Program (CEDHAP) for the fifth consecutive year. The program helps natural gas customers in Massachusetts who are struggling to pay their home heating bills, and provided assistance to more than 4,600 families last year.

CEDHAP continues to provide eligible households with a \$150 credit on their natural gas bills. These are families who do not qualify for federal fuel aid, but earn less than 60% of the median U.S. income, or who have exhausted their federal benefits.

At a press conference today at the home of Lowell Resident Sara Lavoie-Thiel, Lowell Vice Mayor Rita Mercier said that the program has benefited many families in the local area.

“We are so grateful to Distrigas and Citizens Energy. Without the assistance program, our residents and their families would be left out in the cold,” said Lowell Vice Mayor Mercier.

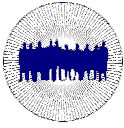
Citizens Energy is administering the program, with Distrigas committing about \$1 million in funding each year.

“We're proud to work with Clay Harris and all the good folks at Distrigas and also Lowell Community Teamwork, Inc. All of us are concerned for those people who are struggling to pay their heating bills, and fortunately this program provides some much-needed help,” said Kennedy. He pointed out that this cold and snowy winter has left many area families with high heating bill balances and strained household budgets.

Harris added, “With the weak economy and the cold winter Massachusetts has been experiencing, this program is more necessary now than ever before. I strongly urge residents who are having difficulty making ends meet to apply for help before the moratorium on gas service shut-offs ends.”

In New England, 34% of all homeowners use natural gas for home heating. Since CEDHAP was launched in January 2005, thousands of Massachusetts households have used the program, with payments being made on behalf of customers of Bay State Gas, Berkshire Gas, Holyoke Gas & Electric, Middleboro Gas & Electric, NStar, National Grid, Unitil and Westfield Gas & Electric. More than 5,000 households are expected to benefit from the program in 2009.

(more)



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Lowell Resident Sara Lavoie-Thiel is a single mother of two, and one of the thousands of Massachusetts residents benefiting from the CEDHAP Program. She had been working at Wendy's until she recently underwent foot surgery. "I just want to thank Citizens Energy and Distrigas for their help in providing heat for me and my children when I was unable to do so," said Sara. "Without their help, I don't know what I would've done. It's nice to know that I have someone to turn to when I need help."

Kennedy also thanked the local fuel assistance agencies across the state for providing additional assistance -- and for helping to spread the word about how to apply for the CEDHAP Program.

Households who believe they may qualify for assistance through CEDHAP are encouraged to call 1-866-GAS-9918. Callers to this hotline can receive a \$150 credit on their gas utility bills by undergoing a simple two-step process:

1. Leave their name and address on the hotline, and an application form will be mailed to the household within 24 hours.
2. Fill out the form and return it to Citizens Energy along with a copy of their gas bill. The program will then credit the household's gas account.

Citizens Energy Corporation exists to help make life's basic needs more accessible and affordable. Beginning in 1979 with oil-trading ventures in Latin America and Africa, Citizens Energy has used revenues from commercial enterprises to channel millions of dollars into charitable programs in the U.S. and abroad. Whether heating the homes of the elderly and poor in Massachusetts, lowering the cost of healthcare for millions of Americans, or starting solar heating projects in Jamaica and Venezuela, Citizens Energy creates social ventures as innovative as the businesses that finance them. At Citizens Energy, we believe no one should be left out in the cold.

Distrigas of Massachusetts LLC is part of GDF SUEZ Energy North America, Inc., which manages a range of energy businesses in the United States, Mexico, and Canada, including electricity generation and cogeneration, natural gas and liquefied natural gas (LNG) distribution and sales, asset-based trading and origination, and retail energy sales and related services to commercial and industrial customers. Distrigas of Massachusetts owns and operates an LNG receiving terminal in Everett, Mass., which began operations in 1971 and currently serves most of the natural gas utilities in New England and key power producers, meeting approximately 20 percent of New England's annual natural gas demand.

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