



## *National Fuel Funds Network*

1010 Vermont Ave., NW, #718

Washington, DC 20005

202 824-0638 (fax), 202 824-0660 (phone)

[info@nationalfuelfunds.org](mailto:info@nationalfuelfunds.org) [www.nationalfuelfunds.org](http://www.nationalfuelfunds.org)

March 23, 2007

### **Energy Safety Net Bulletin #106**

Dear Member: The House of Representatives today passed legislation providing \$400 million in additional funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program for the current fiscal year.

The additional LIHEAP funds were part of a controversial \$124 billion supplemental appropriations bill providing additional funds for the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. It passed 218-212. While providing funds to continue the war efforts, the legislation also sets a deadline for withdrawing US forces from Iraq.

The \$400 million in LIHEAP funds are divided equally between regular program funds and contingency funds.

Meanwhile, the Senate Appropriations Committee has included \$640 million in additional FY 2007 LIHEAP funds in the Senate version of the supplemental appropriations bill. The LIHEAP funding in the Senate bill is also divided equally with \$320 million in regular program funds and \$320 million in contingency funds. The Senate version of the bill is expected to come up for a vote next week.

President Bush threatened to veto the legislation if it included a deadline for the removal of troops from Iraq. NFFN will continue to monitor the legislation and will keep you informed.

#### **Fuel Fund Actions**

- Connecticut Light and Power (CL&P) announced that it will contribute \$250,000 to Operation Fuel this year, more than double the amount the utility donated to the statewide fuel fund last year. In addition, the utility said it would match dollar for dollar up to \$150,000 contributions made to the fuel fund from March 17 through the end of April.

CL&P and WFSB-TV in Hartford conducted a fundraising phonathon to raise contributions for Operation Fuel during the television station's 6 am and 9 am morning newscasts.

### **Utility Actions**

- The Central Hudson Gas and Electric Corporation has won approval from the New York Public Service Commission for a program designed to make utility service more affordable.

The new program, called the Enhanced Power Opportunities Program, allows the utility to offer reduced monthly utility bills to low-income customers, forgive back debts and give referrals to a state-run energy efficiency program.

Eligible consumers will receive credit allowances ranging from \$25 to \$150 per month depending on household income, family size, and utility bill amount. Unpaid utility bills will be reduced and possibly eliminated when consumers make timely bill payments.

- The Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) reported that it raised nearly \$1.5 million for its Care To Share Program in 2006. The funds came through voluntary contributions from customers and a \$1 million donation from the FPL Group Foundation. FPL also reported that it would make a \$1 million donation to the program in 2007.
- The Anadarko Petroleum Corporation has donated \$10,000 to Energy Outreach Colorado to support energy assistance and energy efficiency programs in Weld County. Anadarko General Manager David Howell said, "It's important to us to take an active role in supporting the communities where our employees live and work. We have a lot of respect for Energy Outreach Colorado and are proud to support its mission to make home energy affordable to all Coloradoans."
- The Entergy Corporation and its employees and customers have contributed \$2.4 million to local energy assistance programs over the past year. According to the utility, Entergy customers and employees donated \$1.7 million and Entergy Corporation shareholders matched those contributions raising the total to \$2.4 million.