INFORMATION ON OTHER ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

You can learn more about other energy assistance programs by calling the toll-free numbers below:

NJ Lifeline
1-800-792-9745

Helps with gas and electric bills for disabled or senior homeowners and renters with limited incomes.

NJ SHARES
1-866-NJSHARES (657-4273)

Helps with gas and electric bills for people facing a temporary financial crisis.

New Jersey Comfort Partners
1-888-773-8326

Helps qualified low-income households lower natural gas and electric bills through energy education, the installation of energy efficiency measures, and repairing or replacing heating and cooling equipment.

Jeanne M. Fox
President of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

"Hard working families should not have to choose between paying their energy bills and paying for other daily needs like food, rent and medical care. We created USF to help ensure that New Jersey families no longer need to make that choice."

- Jeanne M. Fox
President of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

James M. Davy
Commissioner, Department of Human Services

Seema M. Singh
Ratepayer Advocate

Do you need help with your energy bills?

The New Jersey Universal Service Fund (USF) and The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program - (LIHEAP) can help.

HOW WE CAN HELP

There are now two important utility assistance programs available to eligible households: USF and LIHEAP. This brochure provides information about these programs and about several other energy assistance programs that may also be helpful.

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

LIHEAP is a program that helps you pay your heating costs. Even if your heat is included in your rent, you may qualify. LIHEAP takes applications from November 1 to March 31.

You are eligible for LIHEAP if:

- Your household income is less than or equal to 175 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. (see chart)

The Universal Service Fund (USF)

USF is a program created by the State of New Jersey to help make energy bills more affordable for low-income customers. If you are eligible, USF can lower the amount you have to pay for your gas and electric bill. USF accepts applications all year.

You are eligible for USF if:

- Your household income is less than or equal to 175 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. (see chart)

AND

- You are paying more than 3 percent of your yearly income on electric bills or more than 3 percent of your yearly income on gas bills. If you have electric heat in your home, you must be paying more than 6 percent of your yearly income on electricity.

INCOME ELIGIBILITY FOR USF AND LIHEAP

Maximum Monthly Gross Income* Levels for the Period 10/1/2004 — 9/30/2005	
Number in Household	**Monthly Gross Income**
1	$1,358
2	$1,822
3	$2,286
4	$2,749
5	$3,213
6	$3,677
7	$4,141
8	$4,604
9	$5,068
10	$5,532
11	$5,996
12	$6,181

NOTE: To determine eligibility for household sizes greater than 12, add $123 for each additional member.

***Gross income is income before taxes.**

For more information about these programs, call toll-free:

USF Hotline:
1-866-240-1347

LIHEAP Hotline:
1-800-510-3102

HOW TO APPLY

You can apply for USF and LIHEAP with one application. You may be eligible for both programs. If you sign up between November 1 and March 31, you will be applying for LIHEAP and USF. During the rest of the year, you only can sign up for USF.

To find out where you can obtain and file an application, call **1-800-510-3102**. You can also get applications from the website of: www.energyassistance.nj.gov

BENEFIT AMOUNTS

LIHEAP: Benefits are normally paid once a year, during the heating season. Additional benefits *may* be available at other times during the year. The amount of the benefit is based on household income and size, fuel type and region.

USF: Monthly benefits are based on household income and size, and the amount of your electric and natural gas bills. The benefit will appear as a credit on your utility bill.