Sample Form: 3/6/12 12:16 PM

NATURAL GAS RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION - Option 1

Dear Name of Municipality Resident:

<u>Name of Municipality</u> has passed an <u>ordinance or resolution</u> (If part of a larger program[to join with neighboring towns to establish a <u>Name of Aggregation Program, e.g. Essex</u> <u>County Aggregation Program,]</u>) which would permit the aggregation of all residential customers in <u>Name of Municipality</u> for the purpose of purchasing natural gas at rates lower than currently available from your natural gas utility. <u>Municipality/County</u> will combine the load of all residential customers (and possibly some commercial customers) and seek competitive bids from licensed suppliers to provide this supply service. By law, we cannot accept a bid unless it is at a rate that is equal to or lower than your utility currently charges for the gas supply portion of your bill¹. This is an exciting opportunity to join with your neighbors and save on your utility bill.

The aggregation program is only for the gas supply portion of your natural gas service. The delivery portion will continue to be provided by <u>utility name</u> at regulated rates and <u>utility name</u> will continue to provide all emergency and safety services. <u>Utility name</u> will also continue to provide customer services such as meter reading, billing² and service restoration.

The <u>Name of Aggregation Program</u> has been structured to provide residential customers with maximum possible savings at a minimum of risk. The program will last for <u>length</u>. If the bidding process is successful, you will be notified of the name of the new gas supplier and the date on which service will begin. If for any reason you are dissatisfied with the new supply service, you have the right to leave the aggregation program at any time that you choose³.

IMPORTANT: As a residential natural gas customer who has not chosen a Third Party Supplier for your gas supply, you will be <u>AUTOMATICALLY ENROLLED</u> in this program unless you indicate your desire not to participate by completing, signing and mailing the attached response card by <u>date</u>. (The date shall be equal to 30 calendar days after the postmark on the notice.) (If another method of opting out is offered to the customer, that method may be described here.)

Additional information about government aggregation can be obtained from your municipal office at <u>address</u> or from <u>Utility Name</u> at <u>xxx-xxx-xxxx</u>. If you have a specific question concerning the program outlined above, you should contact <u>name</u> (municipal contact) by phone at <u>xxx-xxx-xxxx</u> or by e-mail at <u>xxxx@xxxx.xxx</u> for additional information.

Sincerely, (Town/County Official)

¹ Natural gas prices are volatile. Gas utility rates could increase or decrease during the course of the program, which would affect the level of customer savings.

² Other billing arrangements may apply for customers who do not remain current with their utility payments.

³ Switching out of the aggregation program is subject to State-approved processes and time delays.