



*Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
LEADING BOLDLY, WORKING TOGETHER*

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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ComEd Announces Bridge Program for Utility Assistance

Rockford IL – June 1, 2010 - ComEd, in partnership with the Illinois Association of Community Action Agencies and the City of Rockford Human Services Department, announces a new program of utility assistance for qualified ComEd customers that are facing disconnection of their electric service or who are already disconnected for nonpayment. Called the **ComEd SHF Bridge Program**, it will be a new component to ComEd's Special Hardship Fund Program (SHF).

Customers' income should be at or below 400% of Federal Poverty Level. They must prove a hardship as defined in the SHF program qualifications. LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) eligible customers may also receive assistance if they qualify for a hardship and have not received a hardship benefit already.

The program will be effective from June 1 until August 31, 2010 or until funds are exhausted.

For further details or to schedule an appointment, call the Energy Division of the City of Rockford Human Services Dept. at 815-987-5711.

(See Accompanying Media Fact Sheet)



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March 1, 2011

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FACT SHEET

- Program Name:** Com Ed SHF Bridge Program
- Program target:** Customers facing disconnection or already disconnected from their electric service for non-payment who meet specific qualifying factors.
- Qualifications:** Applicant must have income at or below 400% of Federal Poverty Level. LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) eligible customers may also receive assistance if they qualify for a hardship benefit and have not received it already. Applicant's total outstanding balance owed should not exceed \$1200.00, and they must prove a hardship as defined in the Special Hardship Fund Program, such as disability, loss of income or employment, military deployment, medical hardship, victim of criminal activity, etc. To take advantage of the reconnection component of this bridge, the applicant will need to reduce their balance down to \$1000 prior to getting the Special Hardship Fund Program grant. In order to get reconnected or prevent a disconnection, the grant must result in the account balance being reduced to zero.
- Program Availability:** Program will be effective from June 1 until August 31, 2010 or until funds are exhausted.
- Application process:** Applicants can apply by calling the City of Rockford Human Services Dept., Energy Division at 815-987-5711
- Program sponsors:** ComEd is partnering with the Illinois Association of Community Action Agencies and participating Local Administrating Agencies, which includethe City of Rockford Human Services Dept., Energy Division.

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