



## News Release

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### **NU Foundation to donate \$1 million for fuel assistance**

*Supporting families in need in CT, western MA and NH*

**HARTFORD, Connecticut, October 25, 2010** – The Northeast Utilities (NU) Foundation will donate \$1 million this winter to support fuel assistance programs in Connecticut, western Massachusetts and New Hampshire. The funds will be available to families in need residing in communities served by NU’s operating companies.

“These funds will support the region’s network of fuel assistance programs and fuel banks who are themselves struggling to help families facing an energy emergency this winter,” said Charles W. Shivery, the president, chairman and chief executive officer of Northeast Utilities.

“This gift from the Northeast Utilities Foundation is a perfect example of the benefits we all stand to gain when we have strong corporate neighbors such as NU,” Connecticut Governor M. Jodi Rell said. “Because of this goodwill, we can continue to provide that much-needed safety net for families in need. I commend NU and the Foundation and encourage others to join them in supporting fuel assistance programs.”

Funding will be made available to:

- Operation Fuel in Connecticut, to be disbursed in communities served by Connecticut Light & Power and Yankee Gas.
- The Good Neighbor Energy Fund in Massachusetts, to be disbursed in communities served by Western Massachusetts Electric Company.
- Neighbor Helping Neighbor Fund in New Hampshire, to be disbursed in communities served by Public Service of New Hampshire.

Shivery first announced the Foundation’s financial commitment on October 18 while accepting the New Englander of the Year award from the New England Council. Shivery was one of three 2010 recipients of the prestigious award along with U.S. Senator Susan Collins of Maine and author and historian Doris Kearns Goodwin.

Connecticut's [Operation Fuel](#) is a private, nonprofit energy assistance program for people who need emergency help with energy bills and are not eligible for, or have exhausted, state or federal assistance. Most eligible households have incomes between 151 percent and 200 percent of the federal poverty level. The maximum available Operation Fuel assistance is \$300 per household. Payments are made directly to the customer's energy supplier. To apply for Operation Fuel funds, contact the fuel bank in your area for an appointment. For more information, or to find out the name of the fuel bank nearest you, call 2-1-1.

[The Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund](#) is in its 25<sup>th</sup> year of providing energy assistance to hundreds of thousands of residents in temporary crisis who are struggling to pay their energy bills and do not qualify for federal or state energy funds. The fund is a cooperative effort between sponsoring Massachusetts energy companies, The Salvation Army and caring neighbors throughout the Commonwealth, and has raised over \$16.4 million and assisted nearly 75,000 households with a month's energy expense since its inception in 1985. For more information, visit <http://www.magoodneighbor.org/>.

[Neighbor Helping Neighbor](#) was established in 1986 by New Hampshire electric and gas utilities in partnership with the six Community Action Agencies (CAAs) across the state, as a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) charitable corporation to help pay the utility bills of customers who experience some sort of emergency or financial hardship but are unable to qualify for other government-funded energy assistance programs. For more information, visit <http://www.nhnfund.org/>.

The [Northeast Utilities Foundation](#), established by NU in 1998 and supported by Northeast Utilities' operating companies (Connecticut Light & Power Co., Yankee Gas Services Co., Western Massachusetts Electric Co. and Public Service of New Hampshire), has benefited charitable partners in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire with total donations of more than \$12 million. The Foundation's focus areas are education for workforce development, environmental stewardship and economic development. For more information on the Northeast Utilities Foundation, please visit [www.northeastutilitiesfoundation.org](http://www.northeastutilitiesfoundation.org).