

STATE OF ALABAMA
HOME ENERGY SUPPLIER AGREEMENT
LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

The undersigned (hereinafter referred to as the COMPANY) hereby agrees to the following terms and conditions of the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (hereinafter referred to as the DEPARTMENT) in order to participate in the LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP) for the period of October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012.

- (1) The Department, through its administering LIHEAP agencies, shall notify the Company of each eligible household and the amount of assistance to be paid on behalf of the household.
- (2) The Company shall charge the eligible household, in accordance with the Company's normal billing process, the difference between the actual cost of home energy and the amount of the payment made by the Department through LIHEAP.
- (3) The Company shall not treat adversely any eligible household in regard to terms and conditions of sale, credit, delivery, or price either in the costs of goods supplied or the services provided because of such assistance on behalf of an eligible household.
- (4) The Company agrees that any payment amount made by the Department or its administering LIHEAP agencies, and accepted by the Company, shall result in a prompt and timely fuel delivery, or the continuation or restoration of the home energy supply for a period of not less than thirty (30) days from the date the Company receives official notification from the local administering LIHEAP agency of the payment. Notification shall include, but may not be limited to, the receipt by the Company of the Company's copy of the LIHEAP-101 application form, and shall constitute a commitment on the part of the local administering LIHEAP agency for the payment of the home energy delivered or otherwise provided. The Company shall not be required to make more than one delivery to an eligible household within a thirty (30) day period.
- (5) The Company agrees that the entire LIHEAP payment will be credited to the eligible household's account immediately upon receipt of the payment, regardless of whether the LIHEAP payment results in a credit balance on the account. The balance shall remain on the eligible household's account until it is depleted or until the account is otherwise closed.
- (6) The Company agrees to refund to the local administering LIHEAP agency any remaining LIHEAP funds balance when the household's account is closed. Such refunds are to be made payable to the local administering LIHEAP agency and mailed within forty-five (45) days of the account's closing date. The Company shall include the household account name and account number for reference purposes.
- (7) The Company agrees to cooperate with the Department's monitoring of this Agreement, including the Department's monitoring of documentation of energy supplied to eligible households. The Company shall observe its usual and customary practices governing the release of household account information.
- (8) The Company agrees to not discriminate based on race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin or disability in its implementation of this Agreement.
- (9) The Company agrees that the terms and commitments contained herein shall not be constituted as a debt of the State of Alabama in violation of Article 11, Section 213 of the Constitution of Alabama, 1901, as amended by Amendment No. 26. The Company further agrees that if any provision of this Agreement shall contravene any statute or Constitutional provision or amendment, either now in effect or which may, during the course of this Agreement, be enacted, then that conflicting provision in the Agreement shall be deemed null and void. The Company's sole remedy for the settlement of any and all disputes arising under the terms of this Agreement shall be limited to the filing of a claim with the Board of Adjustment for the State of Alabama.

For any and all disputes arising under the terms of this Agreement, the parties hereto agree, in compliance with the recommendations of the Governor and Attorney General, when considering settlement of such disputes, to utilize appropriate forms of non-binding alternative dispute resolution including, but not limited to, mediation by and through the Attorney General's Office of Administrative Hearings or where appropriate, private mediators.

(Company)

Address: _____

(City, State, Zip)

(Signature of Authorizing Official)

Date: _____

(Contact Person)

(Telephone Number)