### **Dominion's EnergyShare Program**

# P when it's needed Year-round



## **Dominion's** EnergyShare



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- **EnergyShare** is Dominion's year-round energy assistance program that helps those in need keep their homes warm during the winter and cool during the summer when other assistance has been exhausted.
- Started in 1982.
- Expanded to include cooling assistance in Summer 2008.
- A signature corporate program.
- Public/Private partnership.



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#### • The EnergyShare Umbrella

- -- Heating Assistance bill payments from November to mid June (since 1982)
- -- Cooling Assistance bill payments from June to October (since 2008)
- -- Fan Care cooling assistance for seniors from June to September (since 1990)





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### Citizen Oversight

- -- A citizen steering committee determines eligibility criteria and set guidelines.
- -- Five local committees oversee EnergyShare in different regions throughout Virginia and meet as needed.
- --Chairpersons from each local oversight committee serve on the steering committee.
- -- This committee meets twice a year in Richmond.



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### Guidelines (heating & cooling)

- Pays any type of heating or cooling bill
- Applicant must have a disconnection notice (unless over age 60) and live in Dominion's service area (may be served by a cooperative)
- Helps anyone experiencing a crisis or hardship
- Income guideline is 50% of local area median income
- Maximum assistance is \$600 for heating and \$300 for cooling
- Payments go directly to energy vendors
- Dominion pays agency administrative expenses
- Every cent donated goes to help people in need

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#### Administration

Managing Agency (heating and cooling)

United Way of Greater Richmond and Petersburg

- -- Collects and distributes funds as directed by a formula determined by EnergyShare committees
- Intake and Distributing Agencies
  - -- Approximately 70 health and human service agencies administer EnergyShare throughout Virginia
  - -- Screen clients and determine eligibility
  - -- Write checks on behalf of clients to vendors



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- EnergyShare Funding Sources
  - -- Dominion
  - -- Employees
  - -- Customers
  - -- Business Partners





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#### **Funding Statistics**

- EnergyShare Heating in 27 years EnergyShare has helped 180,000 families and raised \$35 million
- Last winter's program (2008-09) raised more than \$7 million (with \$6 million contributed by Dominion)
  - Helped 15,000 families in Virginia
- '09 cooling program spent nearly \$1.3 million (with \$1 million contributed by Dominion)
  - Helped 5,700 families in Virginia
- The 2009-2010 Heating Season began Nov. 2
- Dominion has contributed \$2 million thus far



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#### How to Contribute

- Dominion customers may add \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$25
  or \$35 to the amount due on their bill; or
- Write a check in any amount payable to EnergyShare
- Contribution envelopes mailed in customer bills in Nov. and Feb.

#### How to Get Help

- Call Dominion's Customer Service Center toll free at 1-888-667-3000 for the location of the EnergyShare agency nearest you
- Visit <u>www.dom.com</u> for the agency nearest you



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### Questions?