



# News Release

Russell M. Pry – Summit County Executive

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Summit County Executive Russell M. Pry Offers Financial Assistance to Electric Customers in Need, Ohio Fuel Fund Grants**

On Wednesday, February 24, 2010, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Summit County Executive Russell M. Pry's Department of Community and Economic Development will be accepting Ohio Fuel Fund Grant applications at The Job Center, located at 1040 East Tallmadge Avenue in Akron.

The Ohio Fuel Fund Grant program is an initiative that provides financial assistance to low-income First Energy electrical consumers living in central, northeastern and northwestern Ohio. Qualified customers can receive a grant up to the amount of their delinquent balance, or \$300 (the lesser amount of the two). All grants are distributed in the form of billing credits and can only be used for electrical usage. Ohio Fuel Fund Grants may not be used to pay down Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) balances.

In 2009, Pry successfully distributed \$218,901 in Ohio Fuel Fund Grants to approximately 958 households across Summit County. The average grant amount awarded was \$228.50.

"As a distributing agent of the Ohio Fuel Fund Grant, we are focused on connecting citizens with this unique, cost-saving opportunity," stated Summit County Executive Russell M. Pry. "My administration plans to continue hosting similar events until funds run out."

To qualify for an Ohio Fuel Fund Grant, applicants must have: an active residential service account with First Energy (in the name of an adult resident), previously applied for the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) & Emergency-HEAP and have a total household income that is at or below 200% of the federal poverty level (see income table).

Household Size	Weekly Gross Income	Monthly Gross Income	Yearly Gross Income
1	\$417	\$1,805	\$21,660
2	\$560	\$2,428	\$29,140
3	\$704	\$3,052	\$36,620
4	\$848	\$3,675	\$44,100
5	\$992	\$4,298	\$51,580
6	\$1,136	\$4,922	\$59,060
7	\$1,280	\$5,545	\$66,540
8	\$1,423	\$6,168	\$74,020
For each additional person add	\$144	\$623	\$7,480

**- MORE -**

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To submit an application, citizens must present the following items in person:

- Proof of Identification (e.g., birth certificate, drivers license, photo ID, social security card)
- Proof of Household Income (e.g., HEAP documents, income tax records, pay stubs, social security check statements, W-2 forms)
- Proof of an Electric Bill Balance (e.g., most recent bill, termination notice)
- Proof of a Good Faith Customer Payment made within the past 90-days (e.g., payment receipts)

Citizens who have received Ohio Fuel Fund Grant assistance within the past 12 months are not eligible.

The Ohio Fuel Fund Grant program is being sponsored by the following First Energy electric utility operating companies: the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, Ohio Edison and the Toledo Edison Co.

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