

## City of Pickerington Mayor's Office News Release

**For Immediate Release:** July 17, 2009

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### **City of Pickerington Selects Volunteer Energy for Gas Aggregation Program**

*10% guaranteed savings plan on tap for winter heating season looks to save residents on their energy costs*

Pickerington, OH -- July 17, 2009 -- Residents and businesses in the City of Pickerington will be getting a break on their natural gas bills this winter. The City has chosen Volunteer Energy to supply natural gas to local users beginning this fall for a two-year period under the City's two-year municipal gas aggregation plan. The new plan calls for a 10% guaranteed savings over the gas cost recovery (GCR) portion supplied by Columbia Gas.

"We're very excited the City of Pickerington selected us for their voter approved natural gas aggregation program. As a Pickerington based company, we really wanted this opportunity to serve our fellow neighbors and friends, and help them save money on their energy costs," said Fred Holmes, Director of Municipal Aggregations for Volunteer Energy.

Municipal aggregation programs have been gaining in popularity as a way for local governments to help their residents control rising energy prices. Ohio is one of the most active states for aggregations nationwide. City of Pickerington voters approved the aggregation plan last November.

The program will begin in September 2009 with the 10% guaranteed savings rate appearing on bills by December. Columbia Gas will still send out the monthly bills and respond to service and emergency calls. All residents and businesses within the city will be enrolled automatically, following a 21-day "opt-out" period in which anyone may choose not to be in the program.

To be eligible for enrollment, a City resident or business must be current on their gas bill, and be with Columbia Gas for the actual gas portion. If a City of Pickerington resident or business is with a supplier other than Columbia Gas and would like to join the program, they must first complete their current contract, or pay any applicable cancellation charges to that supplier.

"We think the residents of Pickerington will really appreciate the savings afforded by this program," said Pickerington Mayor Mitch O'Brien. "Volunteer Energy has a great reputation and it certainly is satisfying when you can do business with a company that provides jobs and pays taxes right here in Pickerington. It's a winning situation for all concerned," concluded Mayor O'Brien.

For more information on the Pickerington Natural Gas Aggregation Program, contact Volunteer Energy at 1-800-977-8374 or visit their web site at [www.volunteerenergy.com](http://www.volunteerenergy.com).

About Volunteer Energy.

Founded in 2001, Volunteer Energy is a leading Pickerington, Ohio based natural gas and electricity marketing company. Known for low pricing and high customer satisfaction, Volunteer Energy is a trusted energy partner to tens of thousands of homeowners and businesses across the Midwest.

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