



**CITY OF RICHMOND**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES



**City of Richmond Department of Public Utilities  
Communications Division**

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**Dwight C. Jones, Mayor**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Mayor Dwight C. Jones Announces Lower PGC**

RICHMOND, VA--Mayor Dwight C. Jones today announced an 18 percent reduction in the purchased gas cost (PGC) rate charged by the City Department of Public Utilities (DPU). This decrease is due primarily to market conditions that have shown a decline in the price of the commodity over the last several months.

"I am pleased that this fluctuation in natural gas prices is to the benefit of the consumer. The fact that natural gas bills will continue to go down for our customers is good news I'm happy to bring during this turbulent economic time," said Mayor Jones.

The City passes along the cost of the natural gas it purchases to its customers, dollar for dollar, without any markup. Beginning with the bill customers receive in October 2009, the PGC will decrease from \$ \$.895 to \$.735 per Ccf (100 cubic feet of natural gas). As a result, the average residential customer who uses 70 Ccf per month will pay approximately \$91.75 compared to a current bill of \$102.95, an 11 percent reduction in the total gas bill.

DPU analysts periodically review and adjust rates up or down based on market and weather conditions.

DPU offers information and programs year-round to encourage customers to better manage their utility bills and seek assistance before bills become unmanageable. DPU also encourages customers to consider enrolling in the Equal Monthly Payment Plan in order to avoid large seasonal fluctuations in their monthly bill. More information about EMPP and other programs is available by calling 644-3000 or visiting DPU's Website at <http://www.richmondgov.com/dpu>.

*The City of Richmond Department of Public Utilities provides natural gas, water, wastewater and stormwater services to more than 500,000 residential and commercial customers in the metropolitan region. DPU also operates electric street lighting utility, which maintains more than 37,000 streetlights throughout the City. For more information, call DPU's Customer Care Center at 644-3000 or visit DPU's Web site at [www.richmondgov.com/dpu](http://www.richmondgov.com/dpu).*

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