We are writing to you because you received or applied for Crisis Fuel Assistance last winter. We want to tell you about how a new State law (Title 33 V.S.A. §2609, E.324.9) has changed the number of Crisis Fuel Assistance grants a household can receive each winter heating season to:

One crisis grant only per household that:
- Received Seasonal Fuel Assistance; and
- Is eligible for Crisis Fuel Assistance.

Two crisis grants only per household that:
- Is not income eligible for Seasonal Fuel Assistance; and
- Is eligible for Crisis Fuel Assistance.

To be eligible for Crisis Fuel Assistance, your:

- Total gross household income must be at or below 200% of federal poverty;
- Household resources, such as cash on hand, must be below the maximum set in fuel rules;
- Household must be low on fuel (at or below ¼ tank) or otherwise at risk of being without heat and you must be the person responsible for paying for the home heating fuel or utility service;
- Household must have experienced an extenuating or unpredictable situation that led to the heating emergency. Examples: the loss of a job or illness family illness or not enough money for basic expenses.
- Household must provide documentation of how all income was spent for the past 30 days; and
- Household must fulfill any requirements you agreed to as a condition of getting Crisis Fuel Assistance in the past. Example: Your family agreed to apply for other benefit programs that would help reduce other household expenses such as food or utilities.

If you have questions or concerns about this change, please call us toll free at 1-800-775-0514, during regular business hours until December 2, 2013. You can also voice your opinion about this change at an upcoming public hearing that is open to everyone.

**What:** Public Hearing on Changes to Crisis Fuel Assistance

**When:** Friday, November 22, 2013 at 10:30 a.m.

**Where:** 312 Hurricane Lane in Williston, Vermont

Have you applied for Seasonal Fuel Assistance? We strongly encourage you to apply today. Please call our Benefits Service Center at 1-800-479-6151 for an application and to find out more. You can also apply online at: [www.mybenefits.vt.gov](http://www.mybenefits.vt.gov). Receiving Seasonal Fuel Assistance (if your are income eligible) is a requirement for getting Crisis Fuel Assistance.