

Washington, D.C. - Representative Lee Terry (NE-02) today issued the following statement regarding Aquila, Inc., a provider of natural gas in Nebraska, which will add \$125,000 of matching funds in addition to the \$250,000 already provided for their energy assistance program:

"I was pleased to see that Aquila has expanded its commitment to assist people in need by making this additional voluntary donation to its energy assistance program, HeatShare, that is administered by the Salvation Army. Although temperatures have been unseasonably warm, natural gas prices remain unusually high. When the cold weather finally hits, so will the higher gas prices. I have encouraged voluntary donations by energy providers this winter and applaud Aquila for its leadership in responding."

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In November, Terry sent letters to Secretary of Energy Samuel W. Bodman and to the CEOs of the 's top natural gas producers regarding home energy assistance. Terry asked for the creation of a voluntary, privately administered program that would distribute funds directly to utility companies' low-income assistance programs.

The companies receiving the letters were BP North America, ExxonMobil, Chevron/Texaco, Devon Energy, Conoco/Phillips, Anadarko, Royal Dutch/Shell Group, Kerr McGee, EnCana, and Burlington Resources.

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