



Press Release

For Release: Immediate

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Berkshire Gas Announces Third Gas Cost Reduction

Company Has Lowered Cost of Gas by 63% since November 1, 2008

Pittsfield, MA – March 30, 2009, With continued reductions in the commodity price of natural gas, Berkshire Gas is again seeking approval from the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities to lower the cost of gas charge on customer's bills, effective April 1, 2009. If approved, the average residential heating customer's monthly bill will decrease by approximately \$44.69, or 24.12%.

This will be the third reduction in the cost of gas factor on customer bills during the current winter season, which began on November 1, 2008. The Company reduced the cost of gas charge on December 1, 2008 by an average of 24%, and again on February 1, 2009 by an average of 15.5%, making the cost of gas charged by Berkshire Gas the lowest in all of Massachusetts.

With this reduction, Berkshire Gas will have lowered the cost of gas charge by nearly 63% since November 1, 2008. Over that period the average residential heating customer's monthly bill has gone down by \$102.74.

The Cost of Gas charge on customer bills represents the actual cost of natural gas supplies in the competitive market. Gas supply costs are a function of supply and demand in the marketplace largely driven by weather related heating demand.

The monthly bill reduction refers to the combined cost of gas charge and delivery charge on customer bills. The cost of gas is a direct pass through to customers, without any markup by or profit to the Company. The delivery charge is a regulated rate, approved by the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities. The Company's current delivery charge is governed by a rate filing approved by the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities in 2002.