



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **From Mayor Dean DePiero**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **PARMA SAVES MILLIONS IN GAS AND ELECTRIC BILLS**

**(PARMA)** – Parma residents are saving millions of dollars in electric and gas bills as a result of energy cost-saving deregulation programs available to municipalities.

“This is what we were hoping for when we signed-on to energy aggregation,” said Parma Mayor Dean DePiero. “The savings have been significant and the benefits are a tremendous bonus for the city and its residents.”

Parma’s energy consultant, The E-Group, has notified Parma Law Director Timothy Dobeck the total savings has surpassed the \$15 million dollar mark since the inception of the Electric Aggregation Program in March of 2001.

At the time, Mayor DePiero represented the 15th Ohio House District and helped to pass the groundbreaking legislation in the Ohio General Assembly. The E-Group reports Parma’s natural gas savings has been more than \$90,000 over the same time period.

“The credit should go to members of Parma City Council,” said Law Director Dobeck. “Council saw the advantages to investigate less expensive options of purchasing energy for our residents. Their foresight has paid off in a big way.”

The so-called Ohio electric choice law enables local governments to pool their residents together and purchase electric service. So far, more than 200 Ohio communities have decided to aggregate – approximately 800,000 residential consumers statewide.

The cost-cutting is realized when a city buys its energy in bulk at a lower rate and passes the savings along to all consumers – residential, industrial and municipal. By purchasing large blocks of energy, aggregated groups have the advantage to negotiate discounts on energy prices.

“We all win when you’re talking about a savings of \$15 million dollars,” said Mayor DePiero. “It’s like money in the bank, and that was our intention in the Ohio Statehouse when we approved the program back in 2001.”

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