



FACT SHEET: CITGO-VENEZUELA HEATING OIL PROGRAM

On January 27, 2011 in Boston, Massachusetts, CITGO Petroleum Corporation, which is owned by Venezuela's state oil company, launched the sixth annual installment of the CITGO-Venezuela Heating Oil Program.

The program, which offers discounted heating oil to needy families and communities, is founded in the principles of solidarity, social justice and fraternal friendship between the people of the U.S. and Venezuela.

BACKGROUND

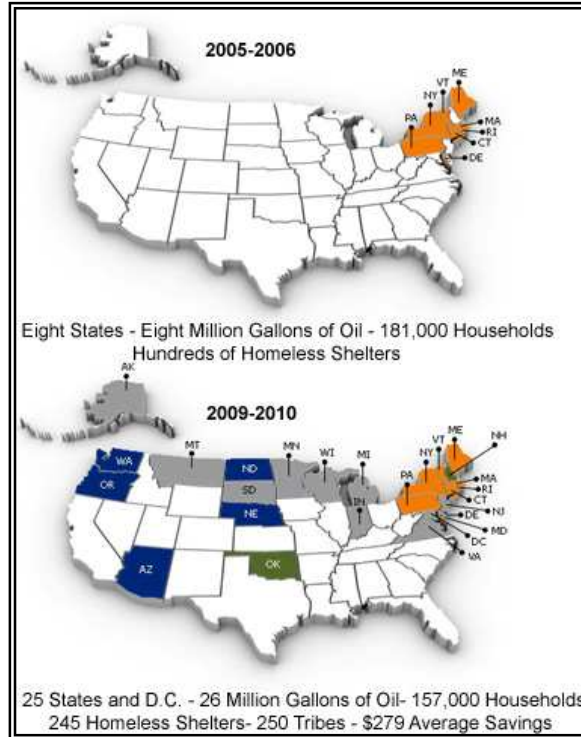
The CITGO-Venezuela Heating Oil Program came about in the aftermath of Hurricanes Rita and Katrina, as a response to the needs of thousands of low-income people in the U.S. affected by the spike in heating oil prices in late 2005.

Twelve U.S. senators asked U.S.-based oil companies to step forward and help low-income families affected by the high prices of heating oil. **CITGO**, a U.S.-based oil company owned by PDVSA, **Venezuela's state oil company, was the only one to respond.**

The program finds inspiration from Venezuela's deep belief in solidarity and the fight for social justice. As an oil-producing country that has taken dramatic steps to reduce poverty and inequality, Venezuela sees it as its responsibility, when it is possible, to help low-income families and communities across the globe achieve the same goals.

2005, THE FIRST YEAR

The program first launched in Boston, Massachusetts in November 2005 with the assistance of the Citizens



Energy, a non-profit run by Joe Kennedy. In its first year, it provided heating oil families and households and hundreds of homeless shelters in eight northeastern states with over eight million gallons of discounted heating oil.

FIVE YEARS ON

The fifth installment of the CITGO-Venezuela Heating Oil Program was kicked off on January 15, 2010 at the historic Riverside Church in New York.

In the 2010 period, the CITGO-Venezuela Heating Oil Program grew to 25 states and the District of Columbia, where over 26 million gallons of heating oil was provided to 157,000 families and households. Additionally, 245

homeless shelters and around 250 Native American communities received discounted heating oil, a substantial increase from the program's first year.

Average savings per household came to \$279.

THE 2011 PROGRAM

For the 2011 installment of the CITGO-Venezuela Heating Oil Program, 132,000 households across the U.S. will benefit from discounted heating oil. The 2011 program will amount to \$60 million worth of discounted heating oil for low-income families and households, homeless shelters and Native American tribes.

For More Information Visit our Website:

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Press and Communications Office

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