



State helps dole out propane to neediest

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By Dan Gearino

Last week, in the middle of a deep freeze, Jennifer Sherick's thermostat was set in the 50s, her propane tank was about to go dry and her fuel retailer was warning of a two-week wait for a refill.

It was only because of a highly unusual effort by state officials that Sherick's Marysville house got the heating fuel it needed.

With propane supplies running dangerously low, state agencies are stepping in to get fuel to the people whose needs are greatest. This is unusual because the state doesn't regulate propane dealers. And yet, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and other agencies are working with companies to identify where supplies are the lowest and find customers who are most in danger of losing heat.

"I was blessed, and I am very peaceful now," Sherick, 37, said. "It was just nice to know it was in their hands."

There are many versions of this story across the state as propane prices have soared and supplies have dwindled.

Article continued here:

<http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/business/2014/02/02/state-helps-dole-out-propane-to-neediest.html>

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