

# Exhibit B

Notice to Residents (undated):

*Reminder regarding RRHA billing for Excess  
Utility Charges beginning in January 2013*

**AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM  
THE RICHMOND REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY**

**ATTENTION ALL RESIDENTS!**



**Reminder regarding RRHA billing for Excess Utility Charges beginning in January 2013.**

In March 2012, RRHA public housing residents were informed of RRHA's plan to resume billing residents for excess electricity use in accordance with HUD regulation (24 CFR §965.502).

**Excess utility use billing will resume with your December 2012 Rent Statement. All excess utility expenses are due that month by the 8th, after the charge appears on your rent statement.**

December 2012 Rent Statement will have a new look and contain information regarding your excess utility usage. ***You will NOT be required to pay the excess utility charges on your December 2012 Rent Statement.*** This first bill should help you identify instances of overconsumption.

**What is an Electricity Consumption Allowance?** An electricity consumption allowance is a monthly credit, applied to Public Housing Residents who are responsible for paying utility charges, based on the size of the apartment. In accordance with HUD regulations, Utility Consumption Allowances are established "*based on an estimate of a reasonable amount of utilities consumed by an energy-conservative household of modest circumstances consistent with requirements of a safe, sanitary and healthful living environment*" (24 CFR 965.502)

**What is an Excess Utility Charge?** If a Resident's utility usage exceeds the Electricity Consumption Allowances, the Resident will be charged the amount that exceeds Electricity Consumption Allowance (based on utility rates charged to RRHA). *Due to the building design, Residents living in RRHA's Senior Housing will not be charged for excess utility usage.*

**May I request relief from the excess utility charge?** In accordance with RRHA's Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy (ACOP), Requests for relief from charges for excess consumption of RRHA purchased utilities may be granted based on:

- a. Special needs of elderly;
- b. Disabled residents;
- c. Special factors affecting utility usage not within the control of the resident.

Residents must provide written documentation to support the request for relief to their property manager.

**What are some energy saving tips that may help me avoid an excess utility charge?**

- Turn out the lights! Don't forget to flick the switch when you leave a room.
- Unplug your chargers for your cell phones, game systems, and other personal gadgets when you're not charging. Keep them unplugged until you need them.
- Use power strips to switch off televisions, television equipment, and stereos when you're not using them. Even when you think these products are off, their "standby" consumption can be equivalent to that of a 75 or 100 watt light bulb running continuously.

- Use sunlight wisely. During the heating season, leave shades and blinds open on sunny days, but close them at night to reduce the amount of heat lost through windows. Close shades and blinds during the summer or when the air conditioner is in use or will be in use later in the day.
- Turn your window unit to the highest setting instead of the lowest, it uses less energy. Help circulate cooled air with floor or ceiling fans that can increase air flow throughout the room.

RRHA will continue to provide information on ways that our families can reduce their electricity consumption. Together, we can work to reduce energy costs that will result in savings for both RRHA and our families, improve efficiency and eliminate waste.

*Please contact your property management office, if you have any questions or need more energy saving tips.*