

SAMPLE RELEASE OF TENANT UTILITY INFORMATION

DATE:

TO: (Name of Utility Provider Address)

FROM: (Name Owner/Agent Address)

SUBJECT: Request for Utility Information

Dear Sir/Madam:

The person named below receives housing assistance under a program of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Department provides utility allowances to properties receiving subsidy assistance where all or some utilities are paid directly by the tenants. These utility allowances are adjusted each year and supported by an owner's analysis of the property's utility costs and consumption data.

In order to perform this utility analysis and better estimate the allowance provided to our tenants, your cooperation is requested in providing cost and/or consumption data for the below individual for the previous 12 months. Below you will find the tenant's consent to release this information.

Thank you for your help with HUD's goal of ensuring the right benefits go to the right individuals.

Request for Utility Information for: NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS UTILITY INFORMATION TO THE PERSON LISTED ABOVE

CONSENT TO THE RELEASE OF UTILITY INFORMATION: I hereby authorize the release of the requested utility information to the building owner and to HUD for the term of my tenancy at the above address. Information obtained under this consent is limited to utility cost and consumption for the address provided above. I understand that my utility information will be used to adjust utility allowances and to enable HUD to better conserve energy and better manage its expenditures on utilities.

Signature of Tenant _____

Date _____

Note to Applicant/Tenant: You do not have to sign this form if either the requesting organization or the organization supplying the information is left blank.

Name of Property Owner or Agent _____

Title _____

Signature of Property Owner or Agent _____

Date _____

PENALTIES FOR MISUSING THIS CONSENT:

Title 18, Section 1001 of the U.S. Code states that a person is guilty of a felony for knowingly and willingly making false or fraudulent statements to any department of the United States Government. HUD and any owner (or any employee of HUD or the owner) may be subject to penalties for unauthorized disclosures or improper uses of information collected based on the consent form. Use of the information collected based on this verification form is restricted to the purposes cited above. Any person who knowingly or willingly requests, obtains, or discloses any information under false pretenses concerning an applicant or participant may be subject to a misdemeanor and fined not more than \$5,000. Any applicant or participant affected by negligent disclosure of information may bring civil action for damages and seek other relief, as may be appropriate, against the officer or employee of HUD or the owner responsible for the unauthorized disclosure or improper use. Penalty provisions for misusing the social security numbers are contained in the Social Security Act at 208 (a) (6), (7) and (8). Violations of these provisions are cited as violations of 42 USC 408 (a) (6), (7) and (8).