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For Immediate Release

72-11

**MEDIA ADVISORY
FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER TIM ECHOLS**

ECHOLS TO HOST ENERGY TOWN HALL IN BRUNSWICK

Who: **Tim Echols—Public Service Commissioner**, State of Georgia, host and facilitator

What: Energy Town Hall

When: Friday, November 18th from 10 a.m. until 12 noon

Where: Brunswick-Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce at 4 Glynn Avenue in the large Board Room

ATLANTA – November 16, 2011 – Commissioner Tim Echols, of the Georgia Public Service Commission, will be hosting a Town Hall on Coal Plant closures, Compressed Natural Gas Stations, Renewables and other energy matters he wishes to hear from Georgia consumers on. This Friday, November 18th, 2011 beginning at 10 a.m., Echols will gather with a leaders and citizens from the Glynn County and surrounding area to discuss the impact of EPA regulations, the potential closure of seven coal plants, the use of renewable energy and the use of alternative fuel for transportation.

"Depending on exactly what the EPA rules require, Georgia Power may request to close a number of coal units," said Commissioner Tim Echols. "My concern about shuttering the first two coal units at Plant Branch near Lake Sinclair in 2013 is the economic impact to the local area around the plant. Add to that the fact that part of the replacement power will come from Alabama, and the whole thing negatively impacts Georgia jobs."

Echols said he plans to do a number of Energy Town Halls around the state to determine if voters prefer to keep our power "homegrown" or if they are comfortable securing cheaper electricity from Alabama at the expense of Georgia jobs.

Commissioner Echols is the newest member of the Georgia Public Service Commission, having been elected statewide to a six-year term in November, 2010. He drives a compressed natural gas car, and has solar thermal on his Athens home.

His complete biography is at <http://tiny.cc/y5ktq>. The Commission web site is www.psc.state.ga.us.

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