Commission Approves Spending Plan for Plant Vogtle Construction; Approves SCANA Energy as Natural Gas Regulated Provider

ATLANTA, February 10, 2012 – The Georgia Public Service Commission (Commission) today unanimously approved Georgia Power’s latest request for approval of its expenditures at its Plant Vogtle nuclear power construction project near Waynesboro, Georgia. The Commission approved an agreement between the Company and the Commission’s Public Interest Advocacy Staff to settle issues in Georgia Power’s Fifth Semi-Annual Vogtle Construction Monitoring Report for the period ending June 30, 2011.

Under the terms of the stipulated agreement, the Commission agreed that the project should continue and approved the expenses and construction schedule contained in this filing. The Commission has certified Georgia Power’s cost of the construction of Plant Vogtle Units 3 and 4 at $6.1 billion. In the Commission’s certification of the construction project in 2009, the Company agreed to file semi-annual monitoring reports with the Commission. The next report is due to be filed February 28, 2012. This will be the first new nuclear power plant construction in the nation in 30 years. More information on this issue can be found on the Commission web site, www.psc.state.ga.us and then using the docket search after entering Docket 29849.

In other action, the Commission unanimously approved SCANA Energy as the Natural Gas Regulated Provider for a two year term beginning September 1, 2012 and ending August 31, 2014.

The new Regulated Provider contract provides savings for customers in both Group 1 and Group 2. Group 1 senior customers will see their monthly customer service charge drop by $0.45, from $1.95 to $1.50, while Group 2 customers will also see a $0.45 decrease in their monthly customer service charge from $9.95 to $8.95. In addition, Group 2 customers who pay their gas bills on time for six months will see their monthly customer service charge decrease to $6.95. After 12 months of on-time payments, these customers will also be eligible to return to the SCANA Energy deregulated market.

The Regulated Provider, established under O.C.G.A. § 46-4-166, provides natural gas service to low-income consumers (Group 1) and to customers who are unable to obtain or maintain natural gas service from other marketers or whose utility payment history is cited as reason for transfer from Group 1 to Group 2 (Group 2).

The Regulated Provider serves those customers in the Atlanta Gas Light Company service areas that are served by one of the nine certificated natural gas marketers.
For more information, use the Docket Search function on the Commission website, www.psc.state.ga.us, and enter Docket Number 34432.

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