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NEWS RELEASE

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Commission Approves Pilot Electric Rate to Spur Manufacturing Jobs and Economic Development

ATLANTA, April 3, 2012 – The Georgia Public Service Commission (Commission) today unanimously approved an Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) Pilot Rate by Georgia Power Company for manufacturers who use electric arc furnaces in order to encourage additional manufacturing in Georgia, increase employment opportunities and keep local industries competitive. The pilot program is designed to encourage greater utilization of energy by manufacturers and do so in a manner that will not shift costs to other ratepayers.

“I’m encouraged by this program. This is the type of program to promote economic development that we need to continue to look at but the most important part is that it does not shift cost. No other customer class will pay for this pilot,” said Commissioner Stan Wise. Commissioner Wise on March 6, 2012 called for Georgia Power to file the EAF Pilot Rate with the Commission. The Company filed its proposal on March 9, 2012.

"All of us need to do everything we can to grow manufacturing in this state," said Commission Chairman Tim Echols. "This effort by the Commission today is with that in mind."

Under this pilot program, the EAF Rate Schedule would be effective with bills that are rendered for the billing month of June 2012. This pilot program is available to all customers that meet the following qualifications.

- Operate an EAF
- Are currently on a Fixed Pricing Alternative or Time of Use Rate
- Meet a monthly minimum actual EAF demand of 50 megawatts
- Control EAF loads to a minimum level (0 kilowatt) during the on peak period during summer months prior to participating in the pilot

The Commission will evaluate the EAF Pilot Rate after September 2012 to determine if the new rate increased manufacturing production and whether it shifted any costs to other customers.

For more information, use the Docket Search function on the Commission website, www.psc.state.ga.us , and enter Docket Number 35533.

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