



## Georgia Public Service Commission

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NEWS RELEASE

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### **Commission Approves \$43.6 million in Refunds for Georgia Power Customers; *Orders Company to Show Impact of Tax Cuts on Rates***

ATLANTA, January 16, 2018 – The Georgia Public Service Commission (Commission) today unanimously ordered Georgia Power Company to refund its customers \$43.6 million. The refunds are the result of the Company earning above its Commission approved return on equity (ROE) for calendar year 2016 under terms of the Commission’s order in the 2013 Georgia Power rate case in Docket 36989. The exact amount per customer and the date of the refunds will be determined in a later filing.

Background: The final Commission Order in Docket 36989 provided that rates would be set using a 10.95% return on equity (“ROE”) with an earnings dead band between 10.00% and 12.00% retail ROE. Retail earnings above 12.0% ROE are shared, with two thirds being directly refunded to customers, allocated on a percentage basis to all customer groups including Real Time Pricing incremental usage, and the remaining one-third retained by Georgia Power Company.

The Commission also ordered the Company to file with the Commission by February 20, 2018 comments quantifying the effects of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act signed into law by the President on December 22, 2017. The measure lowers the corporate tax cut from 35% to 21% effective January 1, 2018.

In other action, the Commission approved the construction of a gas pipeline in Columbia County in Docket 41560. The project calls for the installation of 13,000 feet of 4-inch steel approach main in support of a facilities expansion by a major employer in Columbia County that currently employs 750 people.

The Commission also approved natural gas distribution line construction projects in Madison and Schley Counties worth \$11.4 million.

“Whether it’s expanding pipelines or building new state-of-the-art sources of energy, we want to help make our state more prosperous for all citizens,” said Vice-Chairman Tim Echols. “Keeping rates low and providing refunds reminds ratepayers that we are working on their behalf.”

The Georgia Public Service Commission is a five-member constitutional agency that exercises its authority and influence to ensure that consumers receive safe, reliable, and reasonably-priced telecommunications, electric and natural gas service from financially viable and technically competent companies.

For more information on the Commission, see the Commission web site at [www.psc.state.ga.us](http://www.psc.state.ga.us).

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