

**MEDIA ADVISORY****GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 14, 1998**CONTACT:** Shawn Davis, Public Information Officer
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**PSC DENIES GEORGIA POWER \$35 MILLION ON
ROCKY MOUNTAIN PLANT**

ATLANTA -- Calling today's decision a "reasonable conclusion to a twenty year dilemma," the Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC) ruled that Georgia Power's construction of a hydroplant was not a prudent decision and denied Georgia Power from billing ratepayers for \$35 million of the construction.

The controversial construction of Rocky Mountain Pump Storage Facility is one less issue the PSC will have to decide this summer when Georgia Power files their next rate case. Choosing to single out the case early due to its complexity and the high costs involved, the PSC only allowed recovery of \$108 million of the \$143 million Georgia Power had requested. The \$108 million allowed will have little noticeable impact for Georgia Power's 1.7 million customers as the project costs will be spread out over thirty years.

"This is a reasonable conclusion to a twenty year dilemma," said PSC Chairman Stan Wise. "Ratepayers will pay no more for this project than what it would have cost Georgia Power had they built the appropriate plant to begin with," he added.

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