

MEDIA ADVISORY

GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 30, 1999  
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**COMMISSION FINDS ADEQUATE MARKET CONDITIONS EXIST**

ATLANTA – This morning, during a special administrative session, the Georgia Public Service Commission determined by a 5-0 vote that adequate market conditions exist in all nine Atlanta Gas Light delivery groups in the state, thus allowing the process of random assignment, as defined under Senate Bill 215 and amended under House Bill 822, to begin.

The order, which will be effective with the Chairman's signature on Monday, May 03, 1999, will start the one hundred day clock that Georgians' have to choose a marketer or have one randomly chosen for them by the Public Service Commission. Although, already over 50% of the approximate 1.4 million Atlanta Gas Light customers have chosen a marketer, leaving roughly 675,000 consumers "on the clock".

"Today's proceedings should serve as one of the final bells for consumers to switch to a new marketer before a decision is made for them" commented PSC Chairman Stan Wise. "We at the Commission have already certified twenty marketers, many of whom have aggressively worked to ensure a strong presence in our state. It is now up to the remaining consumers to shop around, take advantage of the new market, and find a company that will best serve their needs" Chairman Wise concluded.

Under the random assignment process, marketers will receive a proportionate percentage of those customers that have not switched. For example, if they already serve 30% of a delivery area, they will receive 30% of those randomly assigned.

As for a calendar of events, customers will be reminded for the first time their need to choose a marketer on or before June 17, 1999, followed by a second reminder on or before July 22, 1999. On August 16, 1999, a master list of those consumers who have not yet chosen a marketer will be created, followed by the actual random assignment process. This process will conclude on August 31, 1999, and consumers will be notified of their new marketer on September 20, 1999, just in time for the new winter heating cycle.

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