

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

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**ALLTEL CUSTOMERS TO RECEIVE \$11.4 MILLION IN REFUNDS**

(ATLANTA)-Earlier today, a majority of the Georgia Public Service Commission (Commission) and ALLTEL agreed to settle a case that has been in litigation since 1996 and which currently has an appeal pending in the Georgia Supreme Court. The principal terms of the Settlement include:

- ALLTEL shall refund \$11,450,000 to its customers. The settlement requires ALLTEL to make a one-time credit of about \$25 per customer on the bills of more than 450,000 wireline telephone customers in Georgia. The credits will be made shortly after the settlement terms are finalized. (Customers in the former Standard Telephone Co. and Georgia Telephone Corp. market areas will not be eligible for the credit since these companies were not the subjects of the 1996 Commission order covered by the settlement.);
- Between April 1, 2000 and July 1, 2001 ALLTEL will receive approximately \$21,000,000 less from the universal service fund. The Settlement also substantially reduces disbursements from the universal service fund thereafter. These reductions should help reduce telecommunications costs statewide;
- By July 1, 2001, ALLTEL (including Standard Telephone Company and Georgia Telephone Company) will make internet service available to all of its access lines on a local calling basis;
- By December 31, 2001, ALLTEL (including Standard Telephone Company and Georgia Telephone Company) will deploy broadband Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) Service to at least 40% of its access lines and offer this service at competitive prices;
- ALLTEL will reduce prices on several optional Extended Area Service (EAS) routes, including Danville to Macon, Edison to Albany, Homerville to Waycross, Rebecca to Tifton, Lake Sinclair to Macon, Montrose to Macon, Milledgeville to Macon, Morgan to Albany, Pineview to Cordele, Shellman to Albany and Sylvania to Statesboro; and
- ALLTEL will offer a new one-way EAS from White Plains to Eatonton, Woodland to Columbus, White Plains to Metro Atlanta and Winterville to Metro Atlanta at reduced rates.

The customers of ALLTEL are already reaping the benefits of the \$340 million infrastructure improvement plan that the Commission approved for 1993 to 1998 and they will soon benefit from the expanded internet and broadband access.

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