



NEWS RELEASE
GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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PSC Requires Marketers To Put Payment Arrangements In Writing; Approves Georgia Public Web Application; Accepts Stipulation in Piedmont Road Incident

ATLANTA – The Public Service Commission (PSC) today ordered all natural gas marketers to provide written confirmation of any payment arrangements with their customers. The Commission decided such a policy was needed following its receipt of a large number of complaints about Shell Energy's disconnection policies. At its next Administrative Session on September 18, 2001, the Commission will review Shell's disconnection practices in light of the newly mandated policy regarding written payment arrangements.

The Commission also approved the application of Georgia Public Web Inc. for an interim certificate of authority to resell and provide competitive local exchange services. Georgia Public Web wants to establish a telecommunications network to offer local phone service and lease fiber optic, primarily in thirty-one cities and one county in Georgia.

On a 3-2 vote, the Commission accepted a stipulation by Atlanta Gas Light Company (AGLC or the Company) to resolve allegations stemming from a complaint against the Company for alleged violations of the Georgia Utility Facility Protection Act. The complaint stems from a July 9, 2000 incident in the 2700 block of Piedmont Road in Atlanta in which an excavator struck and damaged a 16-inch water line and a 4-inch natural gas line, causing severe traffic disruption for days and economic losses for area businesses. The stipulation calls for Atlanta Gas Light Company to pay \$4,500 into the state treasury and work with the Utilities Protection Center to revise policies concerning requests to locate underground utility lines.

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