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News Release

PSC Chairman and DHR Commissioner Sign Agreement To Qualify Customers For The Regulated Provider

ATLANTA, September 12, 2002 – Georgia Public Service Commission Chairman David L. Burgess and Georgia Department of Human Resources Commissioner Jim Martin today signed a Memorandum of Understanding that will enable DHR to qualify up to 50,000 consumers who may be eligible for the Regulated Provider, SCANA Energy Regulated Division. The Public Service Commission (PSC) appointed SCANA Energy Regulated Provider as the regulated provider pursuant to the Natural Gas Consumers' Relief Act, which became law on April 25, 2002. The purpose of the regulated provider is to offer natural gas to low-income citizens and low-income seniors at special rates (Group 1), as well as to provide service to customers who have been denied service by other marketers (Group 2). For the low-income groups who qualify for the lowest rates (Group 1), SCANA will waive all deposit requirements until October 20, 2002.

Under the terms of the Memorandum, the Department of Human Resources (DHR) will process up to 50,000 applications of consumers who wish to receive service from the Regulated Provider. The PSC will provide to DHR up to \$678,000 in funds already allocated from the Universal Service Fund for processing costs. DHR will begin processing the applications on Monday, September 16, 2002. The agreement will be in effect until September 1, 2003.

Low-income consumers meeting income and household requirements who wish to sign up for the Regulated Provider should contact SCANA Energy Regulated Division at 1-866-245-7742 or DHR at 1-800-869-1150. Consumers who have been denied service by other marketers should call SCANA Energy Regulated Division regardless of income or household size.

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