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News Release

PSC Approves Continuation of Low-Income Assistance Grants For Winter Heating Season

ATLANTA, November 19, 2002 – The Georgia Public Service Commission (Commission) today approved the continuation of two programs that will provide assistance to low-income customers and low-income senior citizens with their outstanding natural gas bills during this winter heating season. Nearly \$1 million will be available for a maximum \$400 one time matching grant per consumer. The Georgia Department of Human Resources (DHR) will disburse the funds from the Universal Service Fund to the natural gas marketers on behalf of those who meet DHR's definition of low-income.

The Commission in October 2001 adopted the low-income assistance programs pursuant to legislation approved by the 2001 General Assembly that required the Commission to use the Universal Service Fund primarily to assist low-income customers. The grants will continue until the funds are expended.

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