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## Georgia Public Service Commission

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## **News Release**

## PSC Approves Additional Funding For Universal Service Fund; Approves Funding For Regulated Provider

ATLANTA, December 3, 2002 – The Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC or Commission) today accepted an audit report that will result in additional funding for the Universal Service Fund (USF), an action that ensures continued funding for the Regulated Provider as well as assistance for low-income natural gas customers and low-income senior citizens. As a result of the Commission ordered audit, Atlanta Gas Light Company (AGLC or the Company) will pay an additional \$4.7 million into the USF. As of January 1, 2003 the USF will have a projected balance of \$19 million but the account balance will increase to more than \$23.5 million once the AGLC payment is applied. The USF is used primarily to provide assistance to low-income consumers and to pay for pipeline and service extensions.

In order action, the Commission approved a reimbursement to SCANA Energy of \$501,592 for start-up and per customer costs associated with implementing the Regulated Provider program. This reimbursement is made in accordance with the Commission's consent order naming SCANA Energy as the Regulated Provider.

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