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## Georgia Public Service Commission

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From the Office of Commissioner Angela Speir  
**News Release**

### **Commissioner Angela Speir Votes No on Georgia Power Rate Hike**

Atlanta, December 21, 2004 – Commissioner Angela Elizabeth Speir supported a proposal today that would have resulted in a \$57 million rate DECREASE for Georgians. A majority of the five-member Commission did not support the proposal to decrease rates. Commissioner Speir stated that the facts on the record supported the Adversary Staff's proposal to decrease Georgia Power's rates by \$57 million. Commissioners Speir and Robert B. Baker voted against the increase.

Commissioner Speir said, "the decision today was not the most fair, equitable outcome for the people of Georgia".

A majority of the Commission voted 3-2 to approve an agreement which increases the Company's base rates by 4.2% or about \$3.10 on the average monthly residential bill.

"In looking at the Staff's numbers, I support the Adversary Staff's original proposal. The evidence in the record supports the Return on Equity of 10% or less. The Company's witness used flotation rates and leverage adjustments which this Commission has never used." We need to look at the record and what's best for the people of Georgia."

Commissioner Speir says that the three-year accounting order will hurt consumers, "It's the consumers who take the hit."

The new Georgia Power rates will take effect January 1, 2005.

Commissioner Speir is serving her first six-year term on the Commission having been elected in November 2002. She is the first woman elected to the Commission and the second Republican woman elected to statewide office. She is a native of Dekalb County and currently resides in Gwinnett County.

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