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From the Office of Commissioner Stan Wise **News Release**

Commissioner Stan Wise Issues Statement On Rule Revising Natural Gas Marketer Late Fees

Atlanta, January 18, 2005 – Commissioner Stan Wise says the vote today by a majority of the Georgia Public Service Commission to raise the amount of a customer's past due balance on which natural gas marketers can charge late fees transfers costs to customers who pay their natural gas bills on time from those who do not. The revised rule increases the past due balance on which natural gas marketers can charge their customers late fees from \$10.00 to \$30.00. The late fee is \$10.00 or 1.5%, whichever is greater.

"Recent decisions by the Commission have assisted low-income customers and senior citizens. I believe the record is clear. The vote today by the majority panders to those who refuse to pay their bills in a timely manner," Wise said.

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