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## **Georgia Public Service Commission**

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**For Immediate release**

**NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Commission Approves Innovative Program to Allow Atlanta Gas Light to Promote Economic Growth and Clean Environment**

ATLANTA, March 3, 2009 – The Georgia Public Service Commission (Commission) today unanimously approved an innovative program that will allow Atlanta Gas Light Company (AGLC) to attract new business to Georgia while at the same protecting the environment. Known as “Georgia Sustainable Environmental Economic Development” program or SEED, the program allows AGLC to contract with business customers to help finance new line extensions, new natural gas equipment and equipment installations.

The Commission and AGLC will work together to determine how SEED should be designed to best meet the needs of Georgia business. Georgia SEED is a five year experimental program that allows AGLC to invest in capital projects and is available to customers who can show significant economic and environmental benefits for the state. Customers will have little or no upfront costs and can pay back the costs over the life of the project.

“I’m not sure we’ve ever seen an initiative that’s more progressive and innovative to promote job growth than what we’ve seen today,” said Commissioner Stan Wise.

Georgia SEED will allow for three potential avenues for contracts: providing customers with the benefit of a new utility service extension to new plant sites; offering financing for the purchase and installation of new higher efficiency gas equipment; and discounted utility rates to help lower overall energy costs.

The Commission approved a number of conditions proposed by Commissioner Lauren “Bubba” McDonald, Jr. McDonald said his conditions were aimed at minimizing cross subsidization from projects where AGLC might receive greater benefits than the ratepayers.

For more information, use the Docket Search function on the Commission website, [www.psc.state.ga.us](http://www.psc.state.ga.us) , and enter Docket Number 28871.

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