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## Georgia Public Service Commission

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**13-09**

### NEWS RELEASE

#### **PSC Reconsiders Chairman Election; Everett Remains Chairman**

Atlanta, June 16, 2009 – A majority of the Georgia Public Service Commission (Commission) today voted to reconsider its May 5, 2009 decision to elect Commissioner Stan Wise as Commission Chairman effective July 1, 2009 for a two-year term. The Commission then voted to table the original motion pending the outcome of legislation in the Georgia General Assembly.

The 3-2 decision means Commissioner Doug Everett will remain Commission Chair for the remainder of 2009. Lauren “Bubba” McDonald, Jr. will serve as Vice-Chairman during the same period. Today’s vote follows a June 8, 2009 opinion by Georgia Attorney General Thurbert Baker that the Commission could not elect a chairman for more than a one-year term as set forth in the 1992 statute, O.C.G.A. § 46-2-5. Earlier this year, the Commission also proposed House Bill 568 which would have allowed the Commission to select a chairman by majority vote for up to a three year term. The measure is awaiting action by the State Senate.

Commissioner Wise in making the motion for reconsideration said, “I do not want this Commission to be distracted with this issue as we perform our duties. We will continue to have discussions with attorneys and the General Assembly prior to the next session as to the best solution in this conflict between the constitution and the law enacted by the 1992 General Assembly.”

Commissioner Wise has served on the Commission since 1995 and previously served as Commission Chairman in 1997, 1999 and 2006. His full biography is found on the Commission web site at <http://www.psc.state.ga.us/pscinfo/bios/wise.asp>.

Commissioner Everett has served on the Commission since 2003 and previously served as Chairman in 2004. His biography is found on the Commission web site at <http://www.psc.state.ga.us/pscinfo/bios/everett.asp>.

All Commissioner Biographies can be found on the Commission web site at <http://www.psc.state.ga.us/pscinfo/bios.asp>.

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