

Contact: Bill Edge Phone 404-656-2316 www.psc.state.ga.us

Georgia Public Service Commission

244 Washington St S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Phone: 404-656-4501 Toll free: 1-800-282-5813 (outside metro Atlanta)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

17-10

NEWS RELEASE

PSC Approves Atlanta Gas Light Strategic Corridors; Eliminates Telecommunications Relay fee; Sets Georgia Power Company Rate Case Schedule

ATLANTA, June 17, 2010 – The Georgia Public Service Commission (Commission) today approved on a 4-1 vote two Atlanta Gas Light Company (AGLC) strategic corridors designed to extend natural gas service to White and Bryan Counties. The total estimated construction cost of the two projects is \$7 million. The Commission passed a motion by Commissioner Doug Everett to approve the projects under the AGLC Strategic Infrastructure Development and Enhancement Program, known as STRIDE, and the Integrated System Reinforcement Program, approved by the Commission on October 6, 2009 in Dockets 8516 and 29950.

The projects are designed to extend natural gas service to areas currently not served and to promote economic development in those areas. The White County project will extend a 4" high pressure gas main approximately 10 miles from Clermont in Hall County north along US 129 to Cleveland in White County. The Bryan County project consists of approximately 3 miles of 6" high pressure steel main beginning at the 12" high pressure gas line that runs from Jesup towards Richmond Hill. This main will run along state and county roads towards I-95 where it will terminate at the crossing of I-95 and Belfast Siding Road. Based on Company filings, both counties are projected to see substantial population growth over the next five years.

In other action, the Commission:

1. Approved unanimously the elimination of the surcharge all landline telecommunications consumers pay to fund services for the state's hearing and sight impaired citizens. The Commission passed a motion by Commissioner Robert Baker, Jr. to reduce the monthly charge to zero for the Georgia Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS) for the next three years. The last reduction in the monthly charge was in August 2006 when the Commission reduced the charge from \$0.10 a month to the current \$0.05 a month.

The reduction will continue to enable the Commission to collect sufficient monies to fund the TRS, the Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program, the Audible Universal Information Access Service and the Hearing Aid Program while eliminating any over collection. All of the aforementioned programs are required under Georgia law.

- 2. Approved the filing and hearing schedule for the upcoming Georgia Power rate case expected to be filed with the Commission on July 1, 2010 in Docket Number 31958. The schedule is:
 - July 1, 2010 Georgia Power files its case and direct testimony
 - October 4-6, 2010 Hearings: Georgia Power presents direct testimony
 - October 22, 2010 Staff and intervenors file testimony
 - November 8-10, 2010 Hearings: Staff and intervenors present testimony
 - November 19, 2010- Georgia Power files rebuttal testimony
 - December 1-3, 2010 Hearings: Georgia Power presents rebuttal testimony
 - December 8, 2010 All parties file proposed orders
 - December 16, 2010 Energy Committee, Advisory Staff presents recommendation
 - December 21, 2010 Commission issues its decision at Administrative Session

Georgia law requires the Commission to issue a decision on the Company's rate request within 180 days from the date the proposed new rates are filed. More information on this issue can be found on the Commission website, www.psc.state.ga.us, under Docket Number 31958.

###