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Georgia Public Service Commission

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For immediate release

Consumer Advisory

3-10

Summer Electric Rates in Effect; PSC Says Conservation Can Keep Bills Lower

ATLANTA, June 9, 2010 – The hot summer months are here, meaning consumers will be running their air conditioners full time to cool their homes. Summer can also mean higher electric bills due to higher summer Georgia Power Company electric rates from June through September for both base electric rates and fuel cost rates. The Georgia Public Service Commission (Commission) wants consumers to know that they can take several steps to mitigate the effects of the hot weather and keep their electric bills at a reasonable level.

The following tips can help to lower energy usage and electric bills:

- Keep curtains and shades closed during the summer, especially on the east and west sides of your home
- Set your thermostat at 78 degrees
- Avoid using appliances that give off heat during the hottest times of the day
- Use ceiling fans to supplement air conditioners
- If your cooling system appears to be running continuously but seems to be cooling inadequately, change your filter
- Keep plants and brush at least three feet away from outside units so they operate more efficiently
- Install programmable thermostats to automatically reduce energy usage when you are normally away from home
- More energy saving tips can be found at <http://www.energy.gov/energysavingtips.htm>

The following are the monthly summer base rates for residential electric customers of Georgia Power:
June through September

Base Charge.....	\$7.50
First 650 kWh.....@	4.5991¢ per kWh
kWh.....@	7.6450¢ per kWh
kWh..... @	7.8765¢ per kWh

The following are the monthly rates for fuel cost recovery charges for Georgia Power customers:
June through September:

Secondary Distribution customers4.6255¢ per kWh

Georgia Power customers can use our Electric Bill Calculator on our web site to calculate their electric bills based on their current usage at <http://www.psc.state.ga.us/calc/electric/GPcalc.asp>

Senior Citizen – Low Income Assistance

Qualified senior citizens who are Georgia Power customers may be eligible for a monthly bill discount of up to \$14.00 at their primary residence. This discount will be applied to the customer's pre-fuel monthly bill amount. To qualify, the customer must be 65 years of age or older with total household income of \$14,355 or less per year and the electric service account must be individually metered and in the customer's name.

For energy assistance, low income consumers can contact their local Community Action Agency for information regarding receiving grants to be used for paying their energy bills or call 1-800-869-1150 or 404-657-3426 inside metro Atlanta.

Consumers may contact the Commission for more information:

Georgia Public Service Commission

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