



**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  
Fax: 404-656-2341

**For Immediate Release**

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### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

#### **PSC to Hold Workshop on Hot Weather Utility Disconnection Rules**

Atlanta, March 13, 2008 — The Georgia Public Service Commission (Commission) will conduct a workshop on Thursday March 20, 2008 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. to discuss utility service disconnections during periods of hot weather. The meeting will take place at the Commission offices at 244 Washington Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia in Room 110.

The workshop is open to all parties and individuals interested in electric utility disconnection policy and public health issues. The purpose of this workshop is to increase the informal dialogue between state agencies and all parties interested in Georgia's hot weather disconnection policy. The parties who attend are encouraged to ask questions, offer recommendations, and express concerns they might have on the current hot weather disconnection policy.

The Commission issued an order on September 4, 2007 requiring Georgia Power to file an inclusion in its tariffs for exceptions to disconnections during hot weather as follows: Residential service will not be disconnected if at 8 A.M. on the scheduled disconnection day, the forecasted high temperature for the day is 98 degrees or higher or the heat index for the day is forecasted to be 110 degrees or higher.

The Commission's order also required staff to conduct a workshop, gather information and hear from interested parties to ensure the correct policy is in place.

The Commission has long had rules restricting utilities from disconnecting electric utility consumers on the coldest days of the year. In winter, consumers cannot be disconnected when the forecasted low temperature for the next 24 hours is below 32° F. However, the Commission had nothing in place governing disconnecting consumers on the hottest days of the year.

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