

#### **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

4-09

### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## PSC Sets Public Hearing in Albany for February 5 on Georgia Power Plant Mitchell Conversion Certification

Atlanta, January 28, 2009 — The Georgia Public Service Commission seeks public comments on the Georgia Power Company (Company) request seeking certification to convert its Plant Mitchell generation plant from coal burning to biomass fuels. A public hearing is scheduled beginning at 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. on Thursday, February 5, 2009. The meeting will take place in the County Commission Chambers, Central Square Government Center, 222 Pine Avenue, Albany, Georgia. The Commission especially seeks comments and input from agriculture, business and community leaders.

The remaining hearing schedule in this Docket as adopted by the Commission is as follows:

- February 19, 2009—Company rebuttal
- March 17, 2009—Commission decision

Georgia Power has indicated in its filing that conversion of the Plant Mitchell Unit 3 is consistent with the Company's renewable expansion plans, adds to fuel diversity and maximizes the life and value of the unit. As part of the 2007 Integrated Resource Plan, the Commission found Georgia Power's plan to develop cost-effective renewable resources to be reasonable. If approved, the plant is scheduled to be in commercial operation for the summer of 2012. Under the IRP statute, new power generation cannot be added to the system or significant changes made to the capacity of an existing facility without a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity issued by this Commission.

More information on this issue can be found on the Commission web site, <u>www.psc.state.ga.us</u> under Docket Number 28158.

The audio web cast of the meeting is available by going to the Commission website, <a href="http://www.psc.state.ga.us">http://www.psc.state.ga.us</a> and clicking on the Audio Broadcast link.