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News Release

PSC Calls for End to Georgia Ratepayers Payments to the Nuclear Waste Fund; Urges Return of Payments Used for the Yucca Mountain Project

Atlanta, February 2, 2010 — The Georgia Public Service Commission (Commission) today unanimously passed a motion calling for Georgia ratepayers to stop paying monies into the Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Fund which is being used to develop Yucca Mountain as a repository for permanent disposal of the nuclear waste. Additionally, the Commission called for the return of all Georgia ratepayers' monies paid in since the fund's inception in 1982. Commissioner Robert B. Baker, Jr., who proposed the motion, said "It is long past time that Georgia ratepayers stop contributing to the fund."

Commissioners noted that Georgia ratepayers have paid over \$1.1 billion into the Nuclear Waste Fund since 1982 yet the Obama Administration has now proposed to eliminate all funding for the Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Repository in the federal Fiscal Year 2011 Budget. The Department of Energy also plans to withdraw the facility's license application at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Commissioner Doug Everett said, "Since the current administration is no longer supporting any funding for Yucca Mountain, we cannot support any additional Georgia ratepayers' funds going into the fund and Georgians should get their money back." The Commission will also send a representative to Washington next week to take part in a Nuclear Waste Disposal Policy meeting.

The federal government is legally required under the 1982 Nuclear Waste Policy Act to take spent nuclear fuel from nuclear plant operators and is financially obligated to repay expenses associated with onsite nuclear waste storage.

You can find the Commission on the web at <http://www.psc.state.ga.us>.

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