

PSC HISTORY

1879 — Established as the Georgia Railroad Commission.

1922 — The General Assembly renames the commission the Georgia Public Service Commission to reflect the changing nature of technology and utility regulation.

1950 — The PSC is given authority to issue certificates of public convenience and necessity to telephone companies.

1970 — The Commission starts its gas pipeline safety program.

1998 — Natural gas sales change from a regulated to a competitive environment following passage of natural gas deregulation in 1997. Several natural gas marketers now compete for customers while the largest investor owned gas utility, Atlanta Gas Light, has shifted to a pipeline distribution company regulated by the PSC.

2018 — The Commission plays a critical role in ensuring utility service is properly restored after Hurricane Michael devastates portions of South Georgia.

2019 — To increase reliable internet access to rural Georgia, the General Assembly allows Electric Membership Cooperatives to provide broadband. The PSC is given compliance authority over the EMCs.

2022 — In a three-year energy plan, approved in 2019, the PSC nearly doubles Georgia's solar energy array adding 2,210 megawatts of solar energy for a total of more than 4,600 megawatts of solar energy in use by the end of 2022.

YOUR PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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Working For You: The Georgia Public Service Commission



WHO WE ARE

The Public Service Commission is a quasi-legislative, quasi-judicial agency comprised of five Commissioners elected statewide. We have the authority to regulate pricing for most electric, natural gas, and landline telephone utilities in Georgia.

Whether you own a house, rent your home, run a business, or just travel around your neighborhood and state, the PSC ensures reliability: When switches are flipped, the lights come on.

The Commission helps provide reasonably priced utility service from companies that are competent and fiscally secure.

HOW THE PSC CAN HELP

Understanding your bill: Power bills and gas bills can be complicated. If you need help deciphering your bills, give us a call.
(404) 656-4501

Utility Assistance Programs: If you find yourself coming up short, we can find a program to help you pay your bills.

- ◇ Low Income Energy Assistance Program
- ◇ Senior Citizen Discounts
- ◇ The Salvation Army
- ◇ The United Way

Monthly Gas Scorecard: With so many natural gas marketers, how do you pick the one best for you?

<https://psc.ga.gov/utilities/natural-gas/gas-marketer-scorecard/>

For other help including weatherization tips to optimize your home's energy usage or to file a complaint against a utility provider, visit the **Consumer Corner:**

<https://psc.ga.gov/about-the-psc/consumer-corner/>



PUBLIC HEARINGS

The PSC generally meets every other Thursday for **Committee Meetings**, where matters relating to the Energy, Telecommunications, Facilities Protection, and Administrative Affairs committees are discussed and debated.

The Commission generally meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month for **Administrative Sessions**, where Commissioners take formal votes on matters.

PSC hearings are held in Room 110 of the Public Service Commission offices: 244 Washington Street, SW., Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

Occasionally, PSC hearings on issues of importance to consumers may be held in other parts of the state.

All PSC Administrative Sessions, Committee Meetings, and other hearings are open to the public and are available on the internet through the PSC web site. The PSC invites any member of the public to make a statement before the Commission, to comment at Committee Meetings, or to participate as a witness at any public hearing.

A "Public Comments" section is also available on our Website. Those comments will be preserved in the record as if they were made at a meeting.

PSC JURISDICTION

The Commission has jurisdiction over the following:

- ☑ **Investor-owned electric power companies (i.e. Georgia Power)**
- ☑ **Investor-owned natural gas companies (i.e. Atlanta Gas Light)**
- ☑ **Underground facility protection and natural gas pipeline safety**
- ☑ **Landline telecommunications companies**
- ☑ **Credit card, calling card, and coin-operated telephones**
- ☑ **Automatic telephone dialing and announcing devices**
- ☑ **Telephone service observing equipment**

The Commission DOES NOT have rate-setting authority over:

- ☒ **Natural gas marketers**
- ☒ **Municipally owned gas and electric utilities**
- ☒ **Electric Membership Cooperatives (EMCs)**
- ☒ **Water/sewer services**
- ☒ **Cellular telephone companies**
- ☒ **Interstate long-distance companies**
- ☒ **Cable or satellite television industries.**

