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Public service commissioner Echols hopes discussions spur ideas on alternative-fuel vehicles

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By By Walter Jones

ATLANTA -- Georgia's rookie state energy regulator is crossing the state in search of ideas for making the roads more friendly to cars and trucks that run on electricity, solar power, natural-gas and other alternative fuels.

Public Service Commissioner Tim Echols held the first of five roundtable discussions Tuesday in the commission offices. A second will be held in Athens Tuesday at Power Partners Solar, 200 Newton Bridge Road from 4-6 p.m.

On Wednesday, he heads to Savannah for a session at the Hyatt Regency from 10 a.m. to noon, then to Dublin from 4-6 p.m. at MAGE Solar.

He wraps up in Augusta Thursday from 4-6 p.m. at the Boat House, 101 Riverfront Dr.