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For Immediate Release

COMMISSIONER TIM ECHOLS NAMED CHAIR OF NATIONAL NUCLEAR SUBCOMMITTEE

November 27, 2023 – (ATLANTA) – The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners has named Georgia PSC Commissioner Tim Echols to chair the Nuclear Waste Subcommittee.

The NARUC Subcommittee will bring the brightest minds in nuclear energy to three national conferences each year. Commissioner Echols says there will be a focus on small modular reactors.

“SMRs hold great promise for the US and our climate goals,” Echols said. “It’s my hope that the federal government can reappropriation part of the Inflation Reduction Act money to be used as a federal backstop against cost overruns that are likely to result in building new nuclear.”

Echols has long served as Vice-Chair of the Committee and is seen as an expert in the field of nuclear energy and reprocessing. As he has since 2014, Echols is representing the United States at the World Nuclear Exhibition held in France Nov. 28 to 30.

“For the first time in decades, the United States can stand shoulder to shoulder with French officials and be proud of the completion of the Westinghouse AP1000 built at Plant Vogtle in Georgia,” Echols said. “It is my hope that our success here in Georgia will lead other states in America to begin their own nuclear projects.”

Echols led the effort in 2017 to complete the reactors after Toshiba bankrupted Westinghouse, the plant’s prime contractor. Despite the challenges, Georgia Power completed the project under the oversight of the Georgia Public Service Commission.

“Finishing Plant Vogtle has been a critical part of my tenure on the PSC,” Echols said. “Our Commission, the legislature, the business community and many others have been supportive of the effort and we are proud to be the only state in America to accomplish such a task.”

Commissioner Echols is Vice-Chair of the Georgia Public Service Commission. You can find his complete biography and photo on the Commission web site at <https://psc.ga.gov/about-the-psc/commissioners/tim-echols/>

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