



STATE OF ALABAMA

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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TWINKLE ANDRESS CAVANAUGH
PRESIDENT

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CAVANAUGH COMMENDS COMMISSION FOR APPROVING MOTION TO HOLD FORMAL REVIEW IF NEEDED AFTER PUBLIC HEARINGS PROCESS

Montgomery – Alabama Public Service Commission (PSC) President Twinkle Andress Cavanaugh on Wednesday commended her fellow commissioners for unanimously approving a motion calling for formal hearings to be held if they are still needed once the ongoing public utility rate review process concludes.

“I am confident that our ongoing public review of utility rates being charged by Alabama Gas Corporation, Mobile Gas Company and Alabama Power Company will be successful, but I appreciate my fellow commissioners joining my call for formal hearings to be convened if they are needed as a backup plan,” Cavanaugh said. “The public rate reviews that Commissioner Oden and I have endorsed remain the most cost-effective and transparent way to ensure that Alabama consumers are being treated fairly, but he and I have said repeatedly that formal hearings will be held if agreements on rates cannot be reached. Today’s vote simply solidifies what he and I have stated since day one of this process.”

Commissioners also unanimously voted to approve President Cavanaugh’s motion instructing the PSC staff to proceed with scheduling public rate review hearings for Alabama Gas Corporation and Alabama Power Company. Mobile Gas Company’s public rate hearings have already begun.

“Our commission is committed to looking into the utilities we regulate and ensuring the rates they charge are fair to customers while also ensuring an adequate return,” Cavanaugh said. “By using the process that has already begun rates can be adjusted, if necessary, without the involvement of expensive, out-of-state attorneys and drawn out, snail’s pace judicial hearings being needed. The formal, legal route has been, and remains, our fallback plan should these public hearings fail.”

Cavanaugh said she believes that today’s unanimous votes indicate the commission is finally in agreement on the proper path to proceed upon and appreciates the unanimous support that both motions received from her colleagues.

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