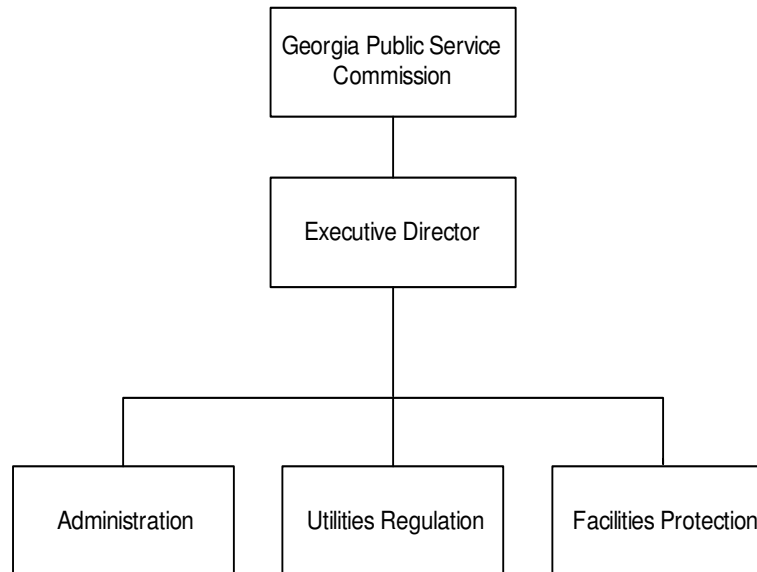


# PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



# PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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## **Roles and Responsibilities:**

The Public Service Commission (PSC) is responsible for regulating public utility companies under its jurisdiction. In carrying out its responsibilities, the commission promulgates and enforces rules governing regulated companies, assists consumers of regulated companies with questions and problematic situations, and educates the public on consumer rights and responsibilities in the evolving regulatory environment. Above all, the Commission aims to ensure that the best value in electric, natural gas, transportation and telecommunications service is delivered to Georgia consumers and that the level of pipeline safety and utility facility protection practiced in the state remains high.

The PSC is a quasi-legislative, quasi-judicial agency directed by a five-member board of commissioners. Commissioners are elected through statewide general elections and serve six-year terms. The agency's staff includes accountants, analysts, engineers, information systems specialists, inspectors, and various administrative personnel who assist the commissioners in fulfilling their duties. The Commission has two programs: Facilities Protection and Utilities Regulation.

## **FACILITIES PROTECTION**

Through its safety program, the Georgia Public Service Commission protects people, property and the

environment from physical harm from an accidental release of natural gas or other liquid, and averts interruptions of utility service resulting from damage to utility facilities caused by blasting or excavating operations. The commission fulfills its responsibilities by enforcing industry compliance with safety rules and regulations and by educating the system operators. By training operators, the Commission ensures that industry personnel understand proper procedures for locating and marking utility facilities before blasting or excavating. The combination of enforcement and education is highly effective and contributes to the health and security of Georgia.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Under legislation adopted by the 2005 General Assembly, the Commission assumed the regulation of household goods movers, luxury limousines, buses and non-consensual towers. The Commission sets maximum rates to be charged and ensures that these carriers are properly licensed, insured and able to comply with all safety regulations. The transportation unit is part of the utilities regulation division.

## **UTILITIES REGULATION**

The goal of utilities regulation is to ensure that telecommunications, electric and natural gas providers serve the state with affordable rates and quality service.

Even though the natural gas and telecommunications industries have been partially opened to competition, the PSC remains responsible for monitoring the rates and service standards of electric, transportation, natural gas, and telecommunications companies. Additionally, it is the role of the commission to approve supply plans for electric and natural gas companies, monitor utility system and telecommunications network planning, arbitrate complaints among competitors, provide consumer protection and education, and certify competitive transportation, natural gas and telecommunications providers.

The PSC recognizes that its responsibility to ensure that utility services are reliable and reasonably priced has not changed even as utility markets become more competitive. The Public Service Commission believes that Georgians should continue to have access to high quality utility services, whether those services are priced in a competitive market or through economic regulation.

## **AUTHORITY**

Article 4, Section 1 of the Constitution of the State of Georgia; Titles 40 and 46 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.

# PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## DEPARTMENT BUDGET FINANCIAL SUMMARY BY PROGRAM - FISCAL YEAR 2007

Program / Fund Sources	FY 2007 Agency Request Total	FY 2007 Governor' s Recommendation						Total
		FY 2006 Current Budget	Redistribution	Reductions	Enhancements	Other Adjustments	Total Changes	
<b>Administration</b>								
State General Funds	\$1,148,039	\$1,401,396	(\$87,986)	(\$175,000)		\$48,655	(\$214,331)	\$1,187,065
Total	1,148,039	1,401,396	(87,986)	(175,000)		48,655	(214,331)	1,187,065
<b>Facilities Protection</b>								
Federal Funds	388,452	273,311						273,311
State General Funds	724,676	665,164	(60,519)			25,679	(34,840)	630,324
Total	1,113,128	938,475	(60,519)			25,679	(34,840)	903,635
<b>Utilities Regulation</b>								
State General Funds	7,018,530	6,339,307	148,505		\$310,215	231,679	690,399	7,029,706
Total	7,018,530	6,339,307	148,505		310,215	231,679	690,399	7,029,706
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$9,279,697</b>	<b>\$8,679,178</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$175,000)</b>	<b>\$310,215</b>	<b>\$306,013</b>	<b>\$441,228</b>	<b>\$9,120,406</b>
<u>Less:</u>								
Federal Funds	\$388,452	\$273,311					\$0	\$273,311
State General Funds	\$8,891,245	\$8,405,867		(\$175,000)	\$310,215	\$306,013	\$441,228	\$8,847,095
<b>TOTAL STATE FUNDS</b>	<b>\$8,891,245</b>	<b>\$8,405,867</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$175,000)</b>	<b>\$310,215</b>	<b>\$306,013</b>	<b>\$441,228</b>	<b>\$8,847,095</b>

## PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

### DEPARTMENT BUDGET FINANCIAL SUMMARY BY OBJECT CLASS - FISCAL YEAR 2007

Object Classes / Fund Sources	FY 2007 Agency Request Total	FY 2004 Expenditures	FY 2005 Expenditures	FY 2007 Governor' s Recommendations		
				FY 2006 Current Budget	Changes	Total
Personal Services	\$7,264,410	\$6,493,935	\$6,431,840	\$6,881,352	\$364,588	\$7,245,940
Regular Operating Expenses	250,711	269,924	291,120	425,711	(175,000)	250,711
Travel	89,376	85,990	87,638	89,376		89,376
Motor Vehicle Purchases	48,900	19,634	16,474			0
Equipment	28,400	21,357	65,630	15,300		15,300
Computer Charges	337,030	262,458	220,172	237,030		237,030
Real Estate Rentals	550,329	494,933	501,955	550,329	51,640	601,969
Telecommunications	112,186	88,484	80,340	112,186		112,186
Per Diem and Fees	598,355	1,013,925	983,456	367,894	200,000	567,894
Contracts		290,474				
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$9,279,697</b>	<b>\$9,041,114</b>	<b>\$8,678,625</b>	<b>\$8,679,178</b>	<b>\$441,228</b>	<b>\$9,120,406</b>
<u>Less:</u>						
Federal Funds	\$388,452			\$273,311		\$273,311
State General Funds	\$8,891,245	\$9,041,114	\$8,678,625	\$8,405,867	\$441,228	\$8,847,095
<b>TOTAL STATE FUNDS</b>	<b>\$8,891,245</b>	<b>\$9,041,114</b>	<b>\$8,678,625</b>	<b>\$8,405,867</b>	<b>\$441,228</b>	<b>\$8,847,095</b>
Positions	103	94	94	96	2	98
Motor Vehicles	22	19	19	19		19

## PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

### PROGRAM BUDGET SUMMARY - FISCAL YEAR 2007

Program Budgets	FY 2006 Current Budget			FY 2007 Governor' s Recommendations		
	State Funds	Federal and Other Funds	Total	State Funds	Federal and Other Funds	Total
Administration	\$1,401,396		\$1,401,396	\$1,187,065		\$1,187,065
Facilities Protection	665,164	\$273,311	938,475	630,324	\$273,311	903,635
Utilities Regulation	6,339,307		6,339,307	7,029,706		7,029,706
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$8,405,867</b>	<b>\$273,311</b>	<b>\$8,679,178</b>	<b>\$8,847,095</b>	<b>\$273,311</b>	<b>\$9,120,406</b>

# PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## BUDGET SUMMARY - FISCAL YEAR 2007

Governor' s Recommended Adjustments to the Current Budget	Amounts
<b>FY 2006 STATE GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>\$8,405,867</b>
<b>Public Service Commission</b>	
1. Annualize the cost of the FY 2006 salary adjustment and provide for a salary increase in FY 2007 of up to 4% effective January 1, 2007 (\$65,757).	\$126,929
2. Increase funds to reflect an adjustment in the employer share of State Health Benefit Plan premiums from 14.20% to 16.713%.	118,286
3. Increase funds to reflect an adjustment in the Workers' Compensation premiums.	9,158
4. Provide for an adjustment to the Georgia Building Authority (GBA) real estate rental rate for office space.	51,640
5. Transfer \$87,986 from the Administration program to the Utilities Regulation program; transfer \$60,519 from the Facilities Protection program to the Utilities Regulation program; and transfer a position from the Utilities Regulation program to the Facilities Protection program to accurately reflect program expenditures.	Yes
6. Reduce one-time funding for moving expenses in the Administration program.	(175,000)
7. Provide funding for per diem and fees in the Utilities Regulation program to hire outside consultants and expert witnesses for upcoming rate proceedings.	200,000
8. Add 2 positions to the Transportation unit of the Utilities Regulation program to perform audits and training and to update maximum rate tariffs.	110,215
<b>TOTAL NET STATE GENERAL FUND ADJUSTMENTS</b>	<b>\$441,228</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE GENERAL FUNDS RECOMMENDED</b>	<b>\$8,847,095</b>