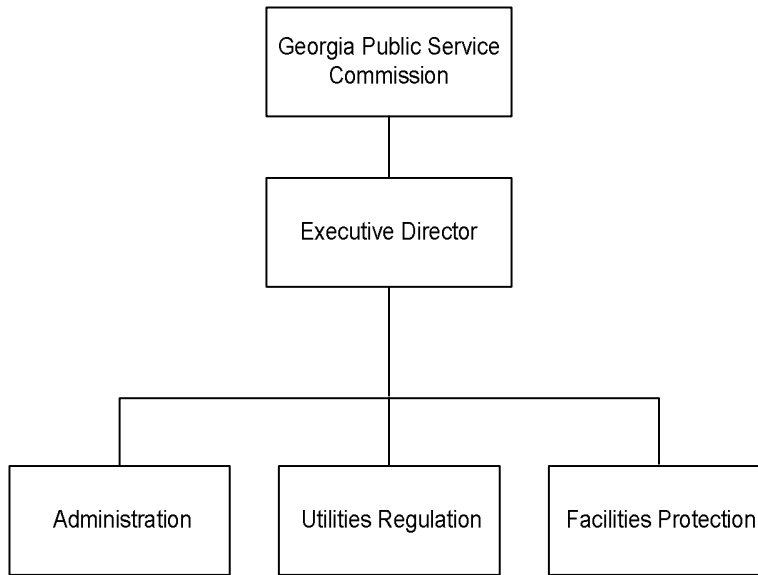


# PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

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# **PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

## **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

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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 services are 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.

### **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.

Although 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**  
**PROGRAM BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES - FY 2008**

| <b>DEPARTMENT BUDGET SUMMARY</b> | <b>FY 2007</b>        |                  | <b>FY 2008</b>      |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|
|                                  | <u>Current Budget</u> | <u>Changes</u>   | <u>Recommended</u>  |
| State General Funds              | <u>\$9,047,095</u>    | <u>\$806,325</u> | <u>\$9,853,420</u>  |
| <b>TOTAL STATE FUNDS</b>         | <b>\$9,047,095</b>    | <b>\$806,325</b> | <b>\$9,853,420</b>  |
| Federal Funds                    | <u>273,311</u>        |                  | <u>273,311</u>      |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>               | <b>\$9,320,406</b>    | <b>\$806,325</b> | <b>\$10,126,731</b> |

**BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS BY DEPARTMENT (Information Only):**

**Statewide Budget Changes:**

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Annualize the cost of the FY 2007 salary adjustment.   | \$86,949         |
| 2. Provide for a general salary increase of 3% effective January 1, 2008 and provide for performance increases. | 128,138          |
| 3. Reflect an adjustment in the employer share of State Health Benefit Plan premiums from 16.713% to 22.843%.   | 329,009          |
| 4. Reflect an adjustment in Workers' Compensation premiums.   | 42,007           |
| 5. Increase the Georgia Building Authority (GBA) real estate rental rate for office space.                      | 32,779           |
| Total Change  | <u>\$618,882</u> |

**BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS BY PROGRAM:**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**Recommended Change:**

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Fund statewide budget changes.   | \$82,006        |
| 2. Transfer funds to the Facilities Protection program to properly align real estate expenditures among programs.   | (15,460)        |
| 3. Provide for an adjustment to real estate rentals to accurately reflect the FY 2007 Georgia Building Authority (GBA) rental rate for office space.                  | 9,630           |
| 4. Realize CNG savings by redirecting funds from the Administration program to the Facilities Protection program to fill 1 vacant pipeline safety inspector position. | (3,852)         |
| Total Change  | <u>\$72,324</u> |

| <b>Program Budget:</b> | <b>FY 2007</b>        |                    | <b>FY 2008</b>     |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                        | <u>Current Budget</u> | <u>Recommended</u> | <u>Recommended</u> |
| State General Funds    | \$1,187,065           |                    | \$1,259,389        |
| Total Funds            | <u>\$1,187,065</u>    |                    | <u>\$1,259,389</u> |

**FACILITIES PROTECTION**

**Purpose:** Provide for the protection of the buried utility facility infrastructure within the State of Georgia.

| <b>Performance Measures:</b>  | <b>FY 2005</b> | <b>FY 2006</b> | <b>FY 2007</b>   | <b>FY 2008</b>   |
|---|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
|   | <u>Actual</u>  | <u>Actual</u>  | <u>Estimated</u> | <u>Estimated</u> |
| 1. Number of pipeline safety inspections  | 557            | 543            | 570              | 570              |
| 2. Number of people trained on Georgia Utility Facility Protection Act (GUFPA) requirements | 1,445          | 1,627          | 1,708            | 1,758            |

**Recommended Change:**

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| 1. Fund statewide budget changes.   | \$45,495 |
| 2. Transfer funds from the Administration program (\$15,460) and the Utilities Regulation program (\$23,685) to properly align real estate expenditures among programs. | 39,145   |
| 3. Provide for an adjustment to real estate rentals to accurately reflect the FY 2007 GBA rental rate for office space.   | 8,560    |
| 4. Provide funds for costs for GUFPA enforcement cases to encourage compliance and increase training participation.   | 25,000   |

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**PROGRAM BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES - FY 2008**

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| 5. Realize CNG savings by redirecting funds from the Administration program (\$3,852) and the Utilities Regulation program (\$22,815) to fill 1 vacant pipeline safety inspector position. | 26,667           |
| 6. Add 2 pipeline safety inspector positions and 2 vehicles to enforce state and federal natural gas regulations.  | 108,097          |
| <b>Total Change</b>  | <b>\$252,964</b> |

| Program Budget:     | FY 2007               | FY 2008            |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
|                     | <u>Current Budget</u> | <u>Recommended</u> |
| State General Funds | \$630,324             | \$883,288          |
| Federal Funds       | 273,311               | 273,311            |
| <b>Total Funds</b>  | <b>\$903,635</b>      | <b>\$1,156,599</b> |

**UTILITIES REGULATION**

**Purpose:** Regulate intrastate telecommunications, natural gas, and electric utilities.

| Performance Measures:   | FY 2005       | FY 2006       | FY 2007          | FY 2008          |
|---|---------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
|   | <u>Actual</u> | <u>Actual</u> | <u>Estimated</u> | <u>Estimated</u> |
| 1. Number of valid telecommunication, natural gas, and electric complaints resolved satisfactorily by the Public Service Commission | 7,962         | 9,097         | 9,000            | 10,000           |

**Recommended Change:**

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Fund statewide budget changes.   | \$491,381        |
| 2. Transfer funds to the Facilities Protection program to properly align real estate expenditures among programs.   | (23,685)         |
| 3. Provide for an adjustment to real estate rentals to accurately reflect the FY 2007 GBA rental rate for office space.   | 36,156           |
| 4. Realize CNG savings by redirecting funds from the Utilities Regulation program to the Facilities Protection program to fill 1 vacant pipeline safety inspector position. | (22,815)         |
| <b>Total Change</b>   | <b>\$481,037</b> |

| Program Budget:     | FY 2007               | FY 2008            |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
|                     | <u>Current Budget</u> | <u>Recommended</u> |
| State General Funds | \$7,229,706           | \$7,710,743        |
| <b>Total Funds</b>  | <b>\$7,229,706</b>    | <b>\$7,710,743</b> |

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**DEPARTMENT BUDGET FINANCIAL SUMMARY BY OBJECT CLASS - FY 2008**

| Object Classes / Fund Sources | FY 2005<br>Expenditures | FY 2006<br>Expenditures | FY 2007<br>Current Budget | FY 2008<br>Agency Request<br>Total | FY 2008<br>Governor's<br>Recommendation |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Personal Services             | \$6,431,840             | \$7,009,667             | \$7,502,887               | \$7,617,382                        | \$8,175,142                             |
| Regular Operating Expenses    | 291,120                 | 380,251                 | 386,568                   | 386,568                            | 411,443                                 |
| Travel                        | 87,638                  | 113,806                 |                           |                                    |   |
| Motor Vehicle Purchases       | 16,474                  |                         |                           |                                    | 19,200                                  |
| Equipment                     | 65,630                  | 12,758                  | 15,300                    | 15,300                             | 15,300                                  |
| Computer Charges              | 220,172                 | 298,732                 | 239,447                   | 239,447                            | 224,249                                 |
| Real Estate Rentals           | 501,955                 | 516,899                 | 601,969                   | 601,969                            | 689,094                                 |
| Telecommunications            | 80,340                  | 102,226                 | 102,228                   | 102,228                            | 95,296                                  |
| Per Diem and Fees             | 983,456                 | 676,149                 |                           |                                    |   |
| Contractual Services          |                         |                         | 472,007                   | 472,007                            | 497,007                                 |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>            | <b>\$8,678,625</b>      | <b>\$9,110,488</b>      | <b>\$9,320,406</b>        | <b>\$9,434,901</b>                 | <b>\$10,126,731</b>                     |
| <u>Less:</u>                  |                         |                         |                           |                                    |   |
| Federal Funds                 | \$549,521               | \$584,146               | \$273,311                 | \$273,311                          | \$273,311                               |
| Other Funds                   |                         | 65,862                  |                           |                                    |   |
| Subtotal                      | <b>\$549,521</b>        | <b>\$650,008</b>        | <b>\$273,311</b>          | <b>\$273,311</b>                   | <b>\$273,311</b>                        |
| State General Funds           | <b>\$8,129,104</b>      | <b>\$8,460,480</b>      | <b>\$9,047,095</b>        | <b>\$9,161,590</b>                 | <b>\$9,853,420</b>                      |
| <b>TOTAL STATE FUNDS</b>      | <b>\$8,129,104</b>      | <b>\$8,460,480</b>      | <b>\$9,047,095</b>        | <b>\$9,161,590</b>                 | <b>\$9,853,420</b>                      |
| Positions                     | 94                      | 98                      | 98                        | 98                                 | 100                                     |
| Motor Vehicles                | 19                      | 19                      | 19                        | 19                                 | 21                                      |