



Georgia Public Service Commission

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FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER LAUREN "BUBBA" MCDONALD, JR. NEWS RELEASE

McDonald Calls for Large Scale Solar Projects in Georgia

Asks Georgia Power and Commission Staff to Present Plan within 30 Days

Atlanta, June 7, 2011 – Commissioner Lauren "Bubba" McDonald, Jr. today called on Georgia Power Company and the staff of the Georgia Public Service Commission to present to the Commission options on the expansion of large scale solar energy projects in Georgia within 30 days. Commissioner McDonald made his request during today's Commission Administrative Session.

"I have been and continue to look for ways to encourage the development of solar energy in the state of Georgia," McDonald said. "As part of an overall portfolio mix, I believe solar energy can serve as a reliable source of clean energy and a hedge against volatility in the price of fossil fuels. As the cost of solar energy continues to decline, Georgia Power and this Commission should be prepared to move toward the inclusion of more solar energy in Georgia Power's resource mix."

McDonald added that one option would be to carve out additional capacity for solar energy from the Georgia Power 2015 Request For Proposal (RFP) seeking additional electric generation capacity. He added that another option would be an amendment to Georgia Power's Renewable Action Plan that would allow for the possibility of including solar energy through a Purchased Power Agreement. (PPA)

Commissioner McDonald is in the third year of his six-year term on the Georgia Public Service Commission after having been elected in December 2008. He previously served on the Commission from 1998 to 2002 as well as serving 20 years in the Georgia General Assembly where he chaired the House Appropriations Committee. Commissioner McDonald's full biography can be found on the Commission web site at <http://www.psc.state.ga.us/pscinfo/bios/mcdonald.asp>.

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