



Georgia Public Service Commission

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From the Office of Commissioner Stan Wise NEWS RELEASE

Commissioner Wise Participates in Electricity Reliability Roundtable in Washington, D.C.

Atlanta, February 10, 2012 – Georgia Public Service Commissioner Stan Wise participated in the National Electricity Reliability Roundtable held February 9, 2012 in Washington, D.C, hosted by the Institute for the 21st Century, an affiliate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Moderators were Karen Harbert, President and CEO, Institute for 21st Century Energy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and David Wright, President, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, and Vice Chairman, South Carolina Public Service Commission.

The discussion focused on the challenges in the absence of significant action by Congress on energy issues in the past few years and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) advancement of an aggressive suite of regulations, many of which impact electric power generation.

“Clearly the Department of Energy or the EPA rules, cost, jobs and reliability are at the forefront of what Public Service Commissioners are trying to protect in their respective states,” said Commissioner Wise.

The Roundtable also discussed rules such as the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule, Utility MACT, cooling tower regulations under section 316(b), and New Source Performance Standards to address greenhouse gas emissions that have cumulative impacts on the viability of many existing base load generation units. In order to comply with these regulations, significant numbers of retrofits and retirements of such generation units are likely. These retirements could stress the reliability of the electric system, have unintended consequences on end-use customers, and could force uneconomic and imprudent choices involving existing and new infrastructure.

“The sustainability of some observer’s vision that we can be at 90 per cent renewables, efficiencies and storage in 25 years is just not a sustainable vision,” Wise added.

Other participants in the Roundtable included: Congressman Gene Green (D-TX);

Congressman John Shimkus (R-IL); Congressman Lee Terry (R-NE); Chairman Art Graham (Florida Public Service Commission); Chairman Todd Snitchler (Public Utilities Commission of Ohio); Commissioner Cheryl LaFleur (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission); Commissioner Philip Moeller (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.)

Commissioner Wise is a past President of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and currently is a member of the NARUC Board of Directors. He is serving in his third term on the Georgia Public Service Commission and previously served as Commission Chairman in 1997, 1999, 2006 and 2011. Commissioner Wise's full biography is available on the Commission web site at

<http://www.psc.state.ga.us/pscinfo/bios/wise.asp>

