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## **Georgia Public Service Commission**

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**For Immediate release**

**NEWS RELEASE**

**From the Office of Commissioner Stan Wise**

### **Commissioner Wise Recognizes Hurricane Sandy Storm Teams**

ATLANTA, Dec. 4, 2012—Georgia Public Service Commissioner Stan Wise asked his colleagues today to recognize all those utility workers from the state of Georgia who assisted in the massive power restoration effort after Hurricane Sandy and the subsequent storm that devastated the northeastern United States this fall.

Hurricane Sandy struck near Atlantic City, N.J., October 29, bringing heavy rain, wind, flooding and snow to the Mid-Atlantic, Northeast and portions of the Midwest United States. A second storm struck the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast November 7 adding misery and destruction to an already tragic situation. The U.S. Department of Energy reported that 8.6 million customers were without power because of these events.

Thousands of workers from across the nation responded and Georgia was well represented. Commissioner Wise noted, "Georgia utility workers from Electric Cities of Georgia, Georgia EMC and Georgia Power responded to the call, leaving home and family to help those suffering in desperate conditions." Two dozen of those workers (linemen, supervisors, financial comptrollers and team leaders) were in attendance at this morning's Administrative Session.

The organizations responded under longstanding "mutual assistance agreements," that ensure Georgians will have access to similar help in future disasters that hit the state.

The Georgia utilities together sent some 1,400 workers to Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia and spent up to two weeks restoring power and rebuilding the devastated electric system.

The utilities involved reported receiving heartfelt appreciation from customers in the storm-ravaged areas.

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