



Georgia Public Service Commission

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NEWS RELEASE

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From the Office of Commissioner Tim Echols

Echols' Electric Car Gets First Charge at UGA

ATLANTA, May 7, 2014 -- Public Service Commissioner Tim Echols and his wife leased an all-electric Nissan Leaf automobile last fall, despite having very few places to charge the vehicle in Athens. Today Commissioner Echols, at the request of the University of Georgia, was the first "customer" at the University of Georgia Auxiliary Services new Level 2 electric vehicle charging station in the North Parking Deck on the University campus. Echols also made remarks at a small ceremony and demonstration held in the North Campus Parking Deck.

"Having a charging infrastructure in Athens and throughout the state is important if we really want people to buy and drive these cars," said Echols. "When people drive their electric car onto campus to do research or attend a sporting event, they need the confidence to know they can get back home."

Echols said that while he enjoys the electric car, he promotes other alternative fuels as well. "I created the Alternative Fueled Vehicle Roadshow to help educate fleet managers, city officials and the general public about the value of alternative fuels like E85, CNG, biofuels and electric vehicles," said Echols. "They don't work for everyone, but every drop of oil we don't have to buy from foreign dictators make us more secure."

Echols has three degrees from the University of Georgia. He is the author of the book "Real Citizenship," a primer on grassroots political activism. He grew up in Clayton County and attended public schools there before attending the University of Georgia. His term on the Commission expires in 2016 and Echols said he intends to seek re-election. His complete biography is at <http://tiny.cc/y5ktq>. The Commission web site is www.psc.state.ga.us.



Commissioner Tim Echols (right) charges his all-electric vehicle as University of Georgia Parking Director Don Walter looks on