

ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION P.O. BOX 304260 MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-4260

TWINKLE ANDRESS CAVANAUGH, PRESIDENT

JOHN A. GARNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JEREMY H. ODEN, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

CHRIS "CHIP" BEEKER, JR., ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

<u>MEMORANDUM</u>

DATE:

January 30, 2024

TO:

Commissioner Twinkle Andress Cavanaugh

Commissioner Jeremy H. Oden

Commissioner Chris "Chip" Beeker, Jr.

FROM:

Jeff Johnston, Director 1997

Utility Services Division

SUBJ ECT:

Agenda for February 6, 2024 Commission Meeting.

The following items will be presented to the Commission during the regular February 6, 2024 Commission Meeting.

CONSUMER SERVICES REPORT

CONSUMER SERVICES ELECTRIC & GAS INQUIRIES

January

12/23/2023 - 1/24/2024

Company	Service Category	Total Inquiries	Service Outage Interruption	Service Quality	Service Connection	Service Disconnected	Billing Issues	Payment Issues	Request Info Only
Alabama Power	Residential	34	1	4	1		22	2	4
	Business	2					1		1
Spire Alabama	Residential	10			3	3	2	1	1
	Business								
Spire Gulf	Residential	1							1
	Business								VALUE OF LAND
TOTAL	Residential	45	1	4	4	3	24	3	6
	Business	2					1		1

BASIC SERVICE ONLY

Company	Service Category	Total Inquiries	Service Outage	Service Quality	Service Connection	Service Disconnec tion	Billing Issues	Payment Issues	Lifeline	Request Info Only
ILEC	Residential									
1220	Business						Control of the second			William Control
CLEC	Residential						And Valley to the second			
CLEC	Business					00 = 10 a l V 0 = 200				
	Residential		是依然性是多位制				位为自己。			
TOLL	Business									
	Residential			成是是国家的						
OTHER	Business						CONTRACT TREADS			
Total Under PSC Complaint Jurisdiction		0								

OTHER RETAIL SERVICES/ISSUES

Service Category	Total Inquiries	Toll Service	Internet Service	Slamming Cramming	Wireless Issues	Number Porting Issues	Video CATV	Inmate Calling Service	Request Info Only
Residential	2		1		1				
Business	1		1						
Total	3		2		1		-		
Not Under PSC Jurisdiction	3		2		1				
Under PSC Jurisdiction									

Other Retail Services/Issues Under PSC Jurisdiction (Above)	0
Basic Service Inquiries Under PSC Jurisdiction (Previous Page)	0
Total Telecom Inquiries Under PSC Jurisdiction (Non-referrals)	0
Inquiries Not Subject to PSC Jurisdiction	3

Referred Inquiries					
(Waived Complaint Jurisdiction)					
Residential	4				
Business	3				
TOTAL	7				

TOTAL TELECOM INQUIRIES								
Under PSC Complaint Jurisdiction		Received But Not Under PSC Jurisdiction	Total Received					
0	7	3	10					

Utility Services Agenda Monthly Commission Meeting January 30, 2024 Page 2

Gas Agenda

NATURAL GAS

Docket 18046 and SPIRE ALABAMA INC. -- Division Report on Rate RSE as of December 18328 31, 2023

Based on preliminary figures as of December 31, 2023, the projected RSE return on average common equity for the rate year ending September 30, 2024, was 9.42 percent. The authorized return on average common equity is 9.50 to 9.90 percent.

Docket 28101 <u>SPIRE GULF INC.</u> -- Division Report on Rate RSE as of December 31, 2023

Based on preliminary figures as of December 31, 2023, the projected RSE return on average common equity for the rate year ending September 30, 2024, was 9.93 percent. The authorized return on average common equity is 9.70 to 10.30 percent.

Docket U-4330 <u>SPIRE ALABAMA INC.</u> -- Application for Approval of an Amendment to the Special Services Agreeement with Alabama Power Company (formerly Tenaska Alabama II Partners, L.P.)

Recommend Approval

Recommend Approval

Docket U-3400 <u>SPIRE GULF INC.</u> -- Application for Approval of a Firm Storage Service and Interruptible Natural Gas Transportation Agreement with Bay Gas Storage Company, LLC

Utility Services Agenda Monthly Commission Meeting January 30, 2024 Page 3

Water Agenda

WASTEWATER

Docket 32698 RIVER BEND MARINA LLC -- Application for Renewal of Certificate of

Financial Viability for River Bend Marina, LLC.

Recommend Approval.

DOCKET 32151 - TELECOMMUNICATION PROVIDERS FILING NOTICE OF THEIR ELECTION TO WAIVE THE COMMISSION'S RETAIL SERVICE COMPLAINT AND DISPUTE JURISDICTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH §37-2A-4(K) of ALABAMA LEGISLATIVE ACT 2014-082.

JANUARY 2024 ELECTIONS:

NONE

PRIOR ELECTIONS:

ACN Communications Services, Inc.

BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Alabama (Effective June 1, 2014)

CenturyTel of Alabama, LLC d/b/a CenturyLink

Knology of Alabama, Inc. d/b/a WOW! Internet, Cable and Phone

Knology of the Valley, Inc. d/b/a WOW! Internet, Cable and Phone

Knology Total Communications, Inc. d/b/a WOW! Internet, Cable and Phone

Frontier Communications of Alabama, LLC

Frontier Communications of Lamar County, LLC

Frontier Communications of the South, LLC

Gulf Telephone Company d/b/a CenturyLink

McLeodUSA Telecommunication Services

National Telephone of Alabama, Inc.

Network Telephone Corporation

Paetec Communications, Inc.

Roanoke Telephone Company, Inc.

Spectrotel of Alabama, LLC

TEC of Jackson, Inc.

The Other Phone Company

US LEC of Alabama, LLC

Valley Telephone Co., LLC d/b/a WOW! Internet, Cable and Phone

Wiregrass Telecom, Inc. d/b/a WOW! Internet, Cable and Phone

Windstream Alabama, LLC

Windstream Communications, Inc.

Windstream KDL, Inc.

Windstream Norlight, Inc.

Windstream NuVox, Inc.

YMax Communications Corp.



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CHRIS "CHIP" BEEKER, JR., ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

January 30, 2024

TO:

President Twinkle Andress Cavanaugh

Commissioner Jeremy H. Oden

Commissioner Chris "Chip" Beeker, Jr.

FROM:

Jonathan M Kimbril, Acting Director MCK

Gas Pipeline Safety Division

SUBJECT:

Agenda for February 6, 2024, Commission Meeting

This memorandum reflects activities of the Gas Pipeline Safety (GPS) Division that will be presented at the February 6, 2024, Commission Meeting.

Inspections

During the month of December, a total of sixty-seven (67) inspections and one (1) operator training sessions were conducted utilizing eighty-nine and Quarter (89.25) person-days. The inspections and training are as follows:

Standard	Construction	Operator	Public	IMP /	Control	Incident	Section	Drug &	Follow-	Total
Inspection		Qualification	Awareness	DIMP	Room	/Accident	114	Alcohol	Up	Inspections
12	14	0	23	4	0	1	0	0	13	67

From the sixty-seven (67) inspections shown above, twelve (12) enforcement letter of notification was issued noting twenty-nine (29) non-compliance issues. There were eighteen (18) non-compliance items corrected during the month of December.

Training

One (1) operator/contractor training session on compliance and regulatory update training was conducted in December:

Incidents / Accidents

There were two (2) state reportable incidents and zero (0) federal incidents reported during the month of December.

- **12/13/2023** Spire Alabama - A contractor using a boring machine struck and damaged the gas main while installing electrical conduit. It appears the gas line was accurately marked.
- > 12/13/2023 Southeast Gas - Locator failed to locate main due to not seeing ribbon on pole at 1910 Honeysuckle Rd (west side of Honeysuckle) as per request. Southeast Gas's maps and google maps failed to show 1910 Honeysuckle Rd correctly.

Miscellaneous

The Gas Pipeline Safety recently concluded its annual Pipeline Safety Conference at a new venue. The conference witnessed participation levels consistent with previous years, maintaining the tradition of fostering engagement within the industry.



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JOHN A. GARNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

January 30, 2024

TO:

President Twinkle Andress Cavanaugh

Commissioner Jeremy H. Oden

Commissioner Chris "Chip" Beeker, Jr.

FROM:

Amanda D. Shehane, Director AD&

Utility Enforcement Division

SUBJECT:

Agenda for the February 6, 2024, Commission Meeting

This memorandum reflects the Utility Enforcement Division's (UED) report describing the major tasks, inspections and activities accomplished by its staff during the month of December 2023.

RAILWAY SAFETY

The track inspection results below reflect activity by our Railway Safety (RWS) Staff in the field.

Rail Carriers	Regular Track	Track Defects	Violations	Track Miles	Track Turnouts
Visited	Inspections	Identified	Recommended	Inspected	Inspected
4	11	46	0	145	94

The table below reflects track safety observations made in which no non-compliant conditions were identified. Twenty-three roadway workers, bridge workers, and practices were observed.

Railroad Bridge	Roadway Worker	Roadway Maintenance	Bridge Worker
Observations	Protection	Machines	Safety
4	9	6	0

The data in the table below was collected from Motive Power & Equipment (MP&E) inspections performed on locomotives, freight cars, tank cars, and other railroad equipment.

Rail Carriers	Regular Eqpt.	Defects	Violations	Number of
Visited	Inspections	Identified	Recommended	Units Inspected
4	0	0	0	0

The table below shows observations completed by the MP&E Inspector in which no non-compliant conditions were identified.

Air Brake	Blue Flag	End of Train
Tests	Protection	Devices
0	2	0

Both track and MP&E inspectors performed record inspection reviews shown below on railroad inspections, repair records, and highway grade crossings.

	Track Inspection Records	MP&E Railcar & Locomotive Repair Records	Highway Grade Crossings
Inspections	14	7	1
Units Inspected	382	128	5
Defects	7	0	2

There were six incidents reported by the National Response Center (NRC) in December:

- 1. A seven-car derailment in yard tracks in Tuscaloosa on ABS.
- 2. A six-car derailment in yard tracks in Birmingham on NS.
- 3. A vehicle strike at a crossing with unknown injuries (driver fled the scene) in Tuscaloosa on **NS**.
- 4. A vehicle strike at a crossing with unknown injuries in Stevenson on NS.
- 5. A vehicle strike at a crossing with no injuries in Bessemer on NS.
- 6. An unoccupied vehicle strike with no injuries in Coaling on NS.

In addition to the incidents reported above, the RWS staff also received the following notifications reported by sources other than NRC.

- 1. A 100-gallon lube oil spill in Talladega on CSX.
- 2. A vehicle strike with serious injuries in Hartselle on CSX.
- 3. A vehicle strike with injuries in Ashford on CSX

MOTOR CARRIER SERVICES

The Motor Carrier Services (MCS) staff accomplished the following matters regarding state authority to operate as a motor carrier in Alabama with proof of insurance coverage:

Vehicle Registration	Intrastate Applications		NOL Processed/ Closed Intra	Under Legal Division	New Authority	Motor Carrier Authority Inquiries		
Numbers	Processed	Returned	Applications	Review	Approved	Phone	E-mails	Others
23	6	3	1	3	4	37	47	14

MCS staff members handled the tasks shown below regarding insurance coverage, prepared correspondence that challenged incorrect filings and addressed related inquiries:

Insurance	Revocation	Reinstatement Orders	Miscellaneous Actions	Letters Sent	Insurance Inquiries		
Filings Received	Orders				Phone	E-mails	
258	18	12	4	23	27	335	

The MCS Section addressed the following Unified Carrier Registration (UCR) responsibilities:

UCR Applications		UCR Mailouts	UCR Audit	UCR Inquiries		
Received	Returned	for 2024	Correspondence	Phone	E-mail	
10	0	0	6	105	37	

As of December 31, there were 10,447 Alabama carriers (94%) registered for 2023 UCR with 662 that remain unregistered. As of December 31, there were 6,049 Alabama carriers (64%) registered for 2024 UCR with 3,436 that remain unregistered.

In December, \$878 was collected for Focused Anomaly Reviews (FARs) audits for the 2024 UCR registration year.

MCS staff participated in the UCR Board call and the UCR Enforcement Subcommittee call during the month.

The staff also assisted motor carriers in making necessary changes to their operating status with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). There were seven MCS-150 forms processed. Four motor carriers had their USDOT number deactivated. Three forms contained updates to the motor carriers' USDOT number data.

In December, one passenger tariff for Murdock Transportation LLC (C3881) was rejected because it was incomplete. One household goods tariff for Stash & Go LLC dba Stash & Go Moving (NEW) and one passenger tariff for Auburn Downtown Limo L.L.C (C4150) were accepted.

A desk audit was conducted for household goods carrier **Movers Plus LLC** (C4089). It was recommended to the carrier to list itemized charges on the bill of laden/receipt and to use fractions of time on hourly moves.



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January 30, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO:

President Twinkle Andress Cavanaugh

Commissioner Jeremy H. Oden

Commissioner Chris "Chip" Beeker, Jr.

FROM:

John D. Free, Director JDF

Electricity Policy Division

SUBJECT:

Agenda – February 6, 2024 Commission Meeting

The Electricity Policy Division will present the following items at the February 6, 2024 Commission Meeting.

ELECTRICITY

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

Dockets 18117 Divis

Division Report on Rate RSE and Rate ECR as of December 31, 2023

and

18416:

18148

The Electricity Policy Division performed the regular monthly examination of the books and records of Alabama Power Company. Included in the table below are selected financial highlights concerning Rate RSE and Rate ECR.

In addition, the Division's computations and determination of the twelve months ended December 2023 Weighted Return on Average Retail Common Equity (WRRCE) can be found on page 2 of this report, along with a year-

end overview of Rate RSE.

Rate RSE	Rate ECR Summary
12 Months Ended	Energy Cost Over/(Under)
DECEMBER 31, 2023	Recovered for
	DECEMBER 2023
6.13%	
WRRCE	\$20,689,768

^{*}The authorized Weighted Return on Average Retail Common Equity Range is 5.75% - 6.15%.

ELECTRICITY POLICY DIVISION AGENDA February 6, 2024 Commission Meeting Page 2

ELECTRICITY POLICY DIVISION

Alabama Power Company Weighted Return on Average Retail Common Equity Calculation 12 Months Ended December 31, 2023

Common Equity as of December 31, 2023	\$12,338,914,900
Average Common Equity	
For the 12 Months Ended December 31, 2023	\$12,050,874,565
Retail Investment Separation Factor	94.80%
Average Retail Common Equity	*** ***
For the 12 Months Ended December 31, 2023	\$11,424,229,088
Retail Net Income	
For the 12 Months Ended December 31, 2023	\$1,343,817,466
Common Equity Percentage of Capital Structure	
For the 12 Months Ended December 31, 2023	52.13%
Weighted Return on Average Retail Common Equity (WRRCE)	
For the 12 Months Ended December 31, 2023	6.13%

This calculation reflects the amount of revenue to be returned for the benefit of customers, which at this time is estimated to be approximately \$14.8 million. This calculation also reflects a discretionary accrual by the Company of \$52.5 million to the Reliability Reserve.



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JOHN A. GARNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

January 31, 2024

TO:

Commission President Twinkle Andress Cavanaugh

Commissioner Jeremy H. Oden

Commissioner Chris "Chip" Beeker, Jr.

Division Directors

FROM:

Legal Division

SUBJ ECT:

Agenda - February 6, 2024 Commission Meeting

The Legal Division will present the following at the February 6, 2024

Commission Meeting:

DOCKET 33432

(Y) - Application of Stash & Go LLC d/b/a Stash & Go Moving, of

Gadsden, Alabama, for a Certificate to transport household goods.

Recommend: Grant certificate and approval of tariff

DOCKET C-20838

(Y) - Petition of Henderson & Coker, Inc., of Alexander City, Alabama,

for approval of cargo self-insurance.

Recommend: Approval

DOCKET C-20809

(Y) - Petition of New Frontier Oil, L.L.C., of Birmingham, Alabama, for

reinstatement of Motor Carrier Certificate F4899 which was revoked due to Petitioner's failure to maintain proper proof of cargo insurance

coverage.

Recommend: Grant/Reinstatement

DOCKET 33033:

33110

(Y) - Petition of Birmingham Mobile Inc d/b/a Zippy Shell of Birmingham, for cancellation of Motor Carrier Certificates 4112 and

F5256.

Recommend: Grant cancellation as requested

LEGAL DIVISION AGENDA February 6, 2024 Commission Meeting January 31, 2024 PAGE #2

DOCKET C-20735 (B) - Petition of BHH Services, LLC, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, for reinstatement of Motor Carrier Certificate 4123 which was revoked due to Petitioner's failure to maintain proper proof of cargo insurance coverage.

Recommend: Grant/Reinstatement