### PSC in the Community

In September, the PSC held a food drive to collect canned goods and non-perishable food items for Harvest Hope Food Bank. In all, Commissioners and Staff were able to donate 146 pounds of food to Harvest Hope.

In December, the Commission came together for its annual Christmas Project. This year, staff and commissioners donated items to children in need from Chapin Elementary School. In all, the Commission was able to donate 4 pairs of shoes, 3 remote controlled cars, clothes, and sports gear to the children.

### PSC Elects New Officers

The Public Service Commission has elected new officers. Swain E. Whitfield (5th District) was named Chairman and Comer H. “Randy” Randall (3rd District) was named Vice Chairman.

Chairman Whitfield has served on the Public Service Commission since 2008. He is an active member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), where he serves as Co-Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Critical Infrastructure, and is a member of the Washington Action Committee, Nuclear Issues and Waste Disposal Subcommittee, Gas Infrastructure Modernization Partnership, and Committee on Gas. He is also the 1st Vice President of the Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (SEARUC), and Vice-Chairman of the Gas Technology Institute’s Advisory Board.

As Vice Chairman, Commissioner Randall will assist the Chairman with the continued advancement of Commission procedures, regulations, and rulings. Commissioner Randall is a member of NARUC, serving as a member of the Committee on Water, Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues-Waste Disposal, and Transportation Task Force.

The newly elected officers will serve two years as Chairman and Vice Chairman.

### Public Service Commission of South Carolina

101 Executive Center Drive, Saluda Building
Columbia, SC 29210

Contact Information:

Swain E. Whitfield, Chairman
5th District
(803) 896-5259
Commissioner.Whitfield@psc.sc.gov

Comer H. “Randy” Randall, Vice Chairman
3rd District
(803) 896-5180
Commissioner.Randall@psc.sc.gov

Jocelyn Boyd, Chief Clerk & Administrator
(803) 896-5113
Jocelyn.Boyd@psc.sc.gov

Phone: (803) 896-5100
Fax: (803) 896-5246
www.psc.sc.gov
contact@psc.sc.gov

Editor: Afton Ellison

Office of Regulatory Staff Attorney, Andrew Bateman, gives an opening statement to the public night hearing attendees during the Harbor Island Utilities, Inc. hearing in Harbor Island, SC.
As we approach the end of 2016, I would like to share some of my reflections and some of the accomplishments of the Commission. Commissioner Randy Randall and I were sworn in as Vice Chairman and Chairman, respectively, effective July 1 of this year. I would like to thank my colleagues for this honorable and yet awesome responsibility. It has been a very busy time these past six months as we have held numerous hearings, including a major Base Load Review Act case. These cases continue to be critical to all South Carolinians. Our Commissioners continue to hold Committee Chairmanships and other important roles at NARUC and NARUC affiliates. Through the dedication and hard work of our Commissioners and Staff, the Commission has continued our core mission and continues to be a National model of restructuring through South Carolina Act 175, as the Legislature intended.

South Carolina has again endured another tough year with the devastation of Hurricane Matthew. However, with the proactive measures taken by our State Leaders and many others, damages and loss of life in South Carolina were not as bad as was predicted. We suspended a major hearing so that utilities and others could go into hurricane readiness mode. The state’s utilities, the Coops, the Office of Regulatory Staff, the Emergency Operations Center, and many others are to be commended on how quickly they restored power to most areas of our State, and for the tireless efforts to continue to work until everyone’s power was restored. Once again, South Carolina survived a major event and showed resiliency. As we don’t know what the future holds, continue to pray for our great State as we head into this holiday season. I would like to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2017.

PSC Participates in Annual Ethics Training

As mandated by Act 175 of 2004, members of the Public Service Commission must attend a workshop of at least six contact hours concerning ethics and the Administrative Procedures Act. This year, the PSC hosted a joint ethics training with the Office of Regulatory Staff. The diverse panel featured six speakers from many different backgrounds.

Michael Burchstead, General Counsel of the SC State Ethics Commission, discussed the Rules of Conduct and other State Ethics Act issues for public employees.

Judge Thomas W. Cooper, Jr. covered the Code of Judicial Conduct, including a history of the Code, and the five Judicial Canons.

Dr. R. Gregg Dwyer, MD, Edd, DFAPA, FASAP, discussed healthy ethical stress coping mechanisms, substance abuse, and mental health.

Desa Ballard, Esquire, presented examples of judicial misconduct, including cases of impartiality and social media blunders.

Colin Miller, Associate Dean of Faculty Development at the University of South Carolina School of Law, presented on the South Carolina Administrative Procedures Act and Rules on Evidence.

Chris Johnson, Esquire, presented on ethical issues in the workplace. Examples included office gossip and social media.

In August, Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Commissioner Mignon L. Clyburn returned to the Public Service Commission to discuss current and emerging issues before the FCC. She discussed Lifeline, Broadband, and Inmate calling issues, among others.

In October, Commissioner Swain E. Whitfield was elected Chairman of the Gas Technology Institute’s (GTI) Public Interest Advisory Committee (PIAC). Chairman Julie Brown of Florida was elected as Vice Chairman of the PIAC.

GTI is the research and development arm of US natural gas consumers and gas distribution companies. Its research has produced over 700 products, processes, and techniques that have lowered the cost of natural gas supply, increased the safety of gas pipeline and distribution systems, and increased the efficiency of consumer and industry end-use appliances.

The PIAC provides GTI with strategic advice on which research and development is in the public interest. As Chairman of the Committee, Commissioner Whitfield will lead the PIAC in its duties. “I am honored to be elected Chairman of the PIAC. It is a representative committee that includes many of my fellow Commissioners from NARUC, and I am so glad Commissioner Julie Brown of Florida was elected Vice Chairman. GTI is a cutting edge research and development organization and operates an R&D lab like no other in the world. GTI continues to provide benefits and cost savings to Americans through new technologies,” Commissioner Whitfield said of his election. “I am thrilled to have been elected Vice Chair of the PIAC, and am especially looking forward to working with Chairman Whitfield, whom I have known and worked with for more than 6 years. Commissioner Whitfield has been a national leader on important gas and critical infrastructure issues, and the work GTI does is integral to the industry,” Julie Brown said.


Dr. R. Gregg Dwyer, MD, Edd, DFAPA, FASAP, discussed healthy ethical stress coping mechanisms, substance abuse, and mental health.


In October, Commissioner Swain E. Whitfield was elected Chairman of the Gas Technology Institute’s (GTI) Public Interest Advisory Committee (PIAC). Chairman Julie Brown of Florida was elected as Vice Chairman of the PIAC.

GTI is the research and development arm of US natural gas consumers and gas distribution companies. Its research has produced over 700 products, processes, and techniques that have lowered the cost of natural gas supply, increased the safety of gas pipeline and distribution systems, and increased the efficiency of consumer and industry end-use appliances.

The PIAC provides GTI with strategic advice on which research and development is in the public interest. As Chairman of the Committee, Commissioner Whitfield will lead the PIAC in its duties. “I am honored to be elected Chairman of the PIAC. It is a representative committee that includes many of my fellow Commissioners from NARUC, and I am so glad Commissioner Julie Brown of Florida was elected Vice Chairman. GTI is a cutting edge research and development organization and operates an R&D lab like no other in the world. GTI continues to provide benefits and cost savings to Americans through new technologies,” Commissioner Whitfield said of his election. “I am thrilled to have been elected Vice Chair of the PIAC, and am especially looking forward to working with Chairman Whitfield, whom I have known and worked with for more than 6 years. Commissioner Whitfield has been a national leader on important gas and critical infrastructure issues, and the work GTI does is integral to the industry,” Julie Brown said.

Commissioner Whitfield has been a member of the GTI PIAC since October of 2013.
Reflections of Chairman Swain E. Whitfield

As we approach the end of 2016, I would like to share some of my reflections and some of the accomplishments of the Commission. Commissioner Randy Randall and I were sworn in as Vice Chairman and Chairman, respectively, effective July 1 of this year. I would like to thank my colleagues for this honor and yet awesome responsibility. It has been a very busy time these past six months as we have held numerous hearings, including a major Base Load Review Act case. These cases continue to be critical to all South Carolinians. Our Commissioners continue to hold Committee Chairmanships and other important roles at NARUC and NARUC affiliates. Through the dedication and hard work of our Commissioners and Staff, the Commission has continued our core mission and continues to be a National model of restructuring through South Carolina Act 175, as the Legislature intended.

South Carolina has again endured another tough year with the devastation of Hurricane Matthew. However, with the proactive measures taken by our State Leaders and many others, damages and loss of life in South Carolina were not as bad as was predicted. We suspended a major hearing so that utilities and others could go into hurricane readiness mode. The state’s utilities, the Coops, the Office of Regulatory Staff, the Emergency Operations Center, and many others are to be commended on how quickly they restored power to most areas of our State, and for the tireless efforts to continue to work until everyone’s power was restored. Once again, South Carolina survived a major event and showed resiliency. As we don’t know what the future holds, continue to pray for our great State as we head into this holiday season. I would like to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2017.

PSC Participates in Annual Ethics Training

As mandated by Act 175 of 2004, members of the Public Service Commission must attend a workshop of at least six contact hours concerning ethics and the Administrative Procedures Act. This year, the PSC hosted a joint ethics training with the Office of Regulatory Staff. The diverse panel featured six speakers from many different backgrounds.

Michael Burchstead, General Counsel of the SC State Ethics Commission, discussed the Rules of Conduct and other State Ethics Act issues for public employees.

Judge Thomas W. Cooper, Jr. covered the Code of Judicial Conduct, including a history of the Code, and the five Judicial Canons.

Dr. R. Gregg Dwyer, MD, Edd, DFAPA, FASAP, discussed healthy ethical stress coping mechanisms, substance abuse, and mental health.

Chris Johnson, Esquire, presented on ethical issues in the workplace. Examples included office gossip and social media.

Desa Ballard, Esquire, presented examples of judicial misconduct, including cases of impartiality and social media blunders.

Colin Miller, Associate Dean of Faculty Development at the University of South Carolina School of Law, presented on the South Carolina Administrative Procedures Act and Rules on Evidence.

As mandated by Act 175 of 2004, members of the Public Service Commission must attend a workshop of at least six contact hours concerning ethics and the Administrative Procedures Act. This year, the PSC hosted a joint ethics training with the Office of Regulatory Staff. The diverse panel featured six speakers from many different backgrounds.

In August, Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Commissioner Mignon L. Clyburn returned to the Public Service Commission to discuss current and emerging issues before the FCC. She discussed Lifeline, Broadband, and Inmate calling issues, among others.

In October, Commissioner Swain E. Whitfield was elected Chairman of GTI PIAC. GTI is the research and development arm of US natural gas consumers and gas distribution companies. Its research has produced over 700 products, processes, and technologies that have lowered the cost of natural gas supplies, increased the safety of gas pipeline and distribution systems, and increased the efficiency of consumer and industry end-use appliances.

The PIAC provides GTI with strategic advice on which research and development organization and operates an R&D lab like no other in the world. GTI continues to provide benefits and cost savings to Americans through new technologies,” Commissioner Whitfield said of his election. “I am thrilled to have been elected Vice Chair of the PIAC, and am especially looking forward to working with Chairman Whitfield, whom I have known and worked with for more than 6 years. Chair Whitfield has been a national leader on important gas and critical infrastructure issues, and the work GTI does is integral to the industry,” Julie Brown said.

Commissioner Whitfield has been a member of the GTI PIAC since October of 2013.

Table 1 - Allowable Ex Parte Briefings & Special Presentation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presenter/Requestor</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FCC Commissioner Mignon L. Clyburn</td>
<td>Current and Emerging Issues before the FCC</td>
<td>August 23, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina, Incorporated</td>
<td>ND 2016-64-E: Storm Damage and Restoration</td>
<td>December 13, 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commissioner Swain E. Whitfield Elected as Chairman of GTI PIAC

In October, Commissioner Swain E. Whitfield was elected Chairman of the Gas Technology Institute’s (GTI) Public Interest Advisory Committee (PIAC). Whitfield was Chair of the Florida Public Service Commission, was elected Vice Chairman of the PIAC.

GTI is a representative committee that includes many of my fellow Commissioners from NARUC, and I am proud to be elected Chairman of the PIAC. GTI is a cutting edge research and development organization and operates an R&D lab like no other in the world. GTI continues to provide benefits and cost savings to Americans through new technologies,” Commissioner Whitfield said of his election. “I am thrilled to have been elected Vice Chair of the PIAC, and am especially looking forward to working with Chairman Whitfield, whom I have known and worked with for more than 6 years. Chair Whitfield has been a national leader on important gas and critical infrastructure issues, and the work GTI does is integral to the industry,” Julie Brown said.

Commissioner Whitfield has been a member of the GTI PIAC since October of 2013.

Household Heating Systems:

Although several different types of fuels are available to heat our homes, nearly half use natural gas.

Source: Energy.gov
PSC Releases DMS Training Modules

In June, the Commission released Training Modules for its Docket Management System (DMS). The training videos teach users how to effectively use the system through narration and simulations that illustrate how to execute certain functions on the DMS. The videos are an important and useful resource for new and current users of the system. The modules were made in partnership with SCETV, and are available on the Commission’s homepage and DMS homepage.

PSC in the Community

In September, the PSC held a food drive to collect canned goods and non-perishable food items for Harvest Hope Food Bank. In all, Commissioners and Staff were able to donate 146 pounds of food to Harvest Hope.

In December, the Commission came together for its annual Christmas Project. This year, staff and commissioners donated items to children in need from Chapin Elementary School. In all, the Commission was able to donate 4 pairs of shoes, 3 remote controlled cars, clothes, and sports gear to the children.

In June, the Commission released Training Modules for its Docket Management System (DMS). The training videos teach users how to effectively use the system through narration and simulations that illustrate how to execute certain functions on the DMS. The videos are an important and useful resource for new and current users of the system. The modules were made in partnership with SCETV, and are available on the Commission’s homepage and DMS homepage.

In September, the PSC held a food drive to collect canned goods and non-perishable food items for Harvest Hope Food Bank. In all, Commissioners and Staff were able to donate 146 pounds of food to Harvest Hope.

In December, the Commission came together for its annual Christmas Project. This year, staff and commissioners donated items to children in need from Chapin Elementary School. In all, the Commission was able to donate 4 pairs of shoes, 3 remote controlled cars, clothes, and sports gear to the children.

In June, the Commission released Training Modules for its Docket Management System (DMS). The training videos teach users how to effectively use the system through narration and simulations that illustrate how to execute certain functions on the DMS. The videos are an important and useful resource for new and current users of the system. The modules were made in partnership with SCETV, and are available on the Commission’s homepage and DMS homepage.

PSC Elects New Officers

The Public Service Commission has elected new officers. Swain E. Whitfield (5th District) was named Chairman and Comer H. “Randy” Randall (3rd District) was named Vice Chairman.

Chairman Whitfield has served on the Public Service Commission since 2008. He is an active member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), where he serves as Co-Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Critical Infrastructure, and is a member of the Washington Action Committee, Nuclear Issues and Waste Disposal Subcommittee, Gas Infrastructure Modernization Partnership, and Committee on Gas. He is also the 1st Vice President of the Southeastern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (SEARUC), and Vice Chairman of the Gas Technology Institute’s Advisory Board.

As Vice Chairman, Commissioner Randall will assist the Chairman with the continued advancement of Commission procedures, regulations, and rulings. Commissioner Randall is a member of NARUC, serving as a member of the Committee on Water, Subcommittee on Nuclear Issues-Waste Disposal, and Transportation Task Force.

The newly elected officers will serve two years as Chairman and Vice Chairman.

The Commission recently held several public night hearings at various locations throughout South Carolina. Night hearings give the Commission a chance to hear public testimony from individuals who are unable to attend a hearing in Columbia.

Public Night Hearings

A public witness is sworn in before delivering his testimony during the Duke Energy Progress, LLC public night hearing in Florence, SC.

Office of Regulatory Staff Attorney, Andrew Bateman, gives an opening statement to the public night hearing attendees during the Harbor Island Utilities, Inc. hearing in Harbor Island, SC.