

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE
ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

HELD Tuesday, April 7, 2026

The April 2026 meeting of the Alabama Public Service Commission was held on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, in the Carl L. Evans Chief Administrative Law Judge Hearing Room Complex, 100 North Union Street, Montgomery, Alabama. Commission President Cynthia Lee Almond called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with Commissioner Jeremy H. Oden and Commissioner Chris V. Beeker, III, present. The following staff members were also present: Luke Bentley, Chief Administrative Law Judge and Executive Director; Chad Mason, Administrative Law Judge; Amanda Shehane, Utility Enforcement Division Director; Randall Hand, PSC Gas Pipeline Safety Investigator and Training Coordinator, John Free, Electricity Policy Division Director; Patricia Smith and Donald Powell, Public Utility Analyst Managers; Caleb Hicks, Communications and PR Manager; Tanya Champion, Matthew Singleton, and Stacie Berry, Public Analysts; Aquilla Spivey, Consumer Service Manager; William Partlow, Staff Accountant; Mary Caitlyn Montgomery, Technical Assistant to Commissioner Beeker; Kaitlyn Rayborn, Executive Assistant to Commissioner Beeker; Janey Whitney, Technical Assistant to Commissioner Almond; Hanna Lombardi, Executive Assistant to Commissioner Almond; Kay Oswalt, Information Systems Manager; Dana Cheek, Programmer Analyst; Robin Bonney, Jerry Delancey, Jackie Mack, and Barbara Smith, Administrative Support Assistants; Devon D. Beaty, Acting Secretary of the Commission.

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Commissioner Almond noted that the public was informed of today's Commission meeting by notice dated November 12, 2025.

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Commissioner Almond opened the meeting with a prayer and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Commissioner Almond opened the floor for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2026, Commission Meeting.

Upon being motioned by Commissioner Oden and seconded by Commissioner Beeker, the Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

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UTILITY SERVICES DIVISION

Mr. Donald Powell reported for the Utility Services Division on Consumer Service Complaint Inquiries for the period of March 2026 as follows: Alabama Power Company had thirty-three residential and one business inquiry, Spire Alabama had three residential inquiries and one business inquiry, and Spire Gulf had zero residential inquiries and zero business inquiries. There was a total of eight telecommunication inquiries, consisting of one under Public Service Commission Complaint jurisdiction, three were referred to the companies since the complaint jurisdiction was waived, and four were not under Public Service Commission jurisdiction.

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Mr. Powell reported on Formal Dockets 18046 and 18328, Spire Alabama Inc., Division Report on Rate RSE as of February 28, 2026. Mr. Powell reported on Rate RSE for Spire Alabama Inc., based on preliminary figures as of February 28, 2026, the projected RSE return on average common equity for the rate year ending September 30, 2026, was 9.70 percent. The authorized return on average common equity is 9.50 to 9.90 percent.

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Mr. Powell reported on Formal Docket 28101, Spire Gulf Inc., Division Report on Rate RSE as of February 28, 2026. Based on preliminary figures as of February 28, 2026, the projected RSE return on average common equity for the rate year ending September 30, 2026, was 8.85 percent. The authorized return on average common equity is 9.70 to 10.30 percent.

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Mr. Powell reported on Docket 31182 Bio-Flow, Inc. to increase residential and unoccupied lot rates. Also adds a \$5.00 rate rider to fund a capital reserve account and increases Tap Fees effective date is May 1, 2026, and recommended suspension.

Upon motion by Beeker and seconded by Commissioner Oden, the Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the recommendation for suspension.

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Mr. Powell reported on the following dockets from the Utility Services Division Agenda:

Docket U-5501, Bellsouth Telecommunications LLC d/b/a AT&T Alabama and Wide Voice LLC. Approval of an Interconnection Agreement between BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Alabama or AT&T Southeast and Wide Voice, LLC pursuant to Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and recommended approval.

Upon motion by Commissioner Oden and seconded by Commissioner Beeker, the Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the recommendation for approval.

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Docket U-4942, Bellsouth Telecommunications LLC d/b/a AT&T Alabama or AT&T Southeast. Approval of an Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Alabama or AT&T Southeast and Entelegent Solutions, Inc. pursuant to Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and recommended approval.

Upon motion by Commissioner Beeker and seconded by Commissioner Oden, the Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the recommendation for approval.

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Docket 27991, Custom Teleconnect Inc. Request to Cancel Authority to provide Long Distance Resale and Alternate Operator Telecommunications Services. Filed March 10, 2026, with an immediate effective date. Company has no customers, so no customers will be affected and recommended approval.

Upon motion by Commissioner Oden and seconded by Commissioner Beeker, the Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the recommendation for approval.

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Docket 33419, CNS Networks LLC. Approval to cancel Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and withdraw Tariff. Certificate granted under this docket on March 5, 2024; however, the company failed to enter into any interconnection agreements, despite two extensions granted by the PSC. By notice received March 19, 2026, the Company stated it has no customers and requests withdrawal of its Certificate and Tariff and recommended approval.

Upon motion by Commissioner Beeker and seconded by Commissioner Oden, the Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the recommendation for approval.

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Mr. Powell noted final items were for information purposes only and require no action by the Commissioners.

GAS PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

Mr. Randall Hand reported for the Gas Pipeline Safety (GPS) Division Agenda on the following inspections during the month of February 2026.

Inspections

During the month of February, a total of sixty (60) inspections were conducted utilizing one hundred and seventeen (117) in person-days. The inspections are as follows:

		STANDARD INSPECTION	CONSTRUCTION	OPERATOR QUALIFICATION	PUBLIC AWARENESS	IMP / DIMP	CONTROL ROOM MGMT	INCIDENT / ACCIDENT	SECTION 114	DRUG & ALCOHOL	FOLLOW-UP	
GAS PIPELINE SYSTEMS	PRIVATE		9								2	TOTAL
	MUNICIPAL	6	12	2	2					2	13	
	MASTER METER	4										
	LIQUID PROPANE (LP)											
	LIQUIFIED NATURAL GAS (LNG)											
	INTRASTATE TRANSMISSION										2	
	GAS GATHERING										3	
	OFFSHORE GAS											
LIQUID PIPELINE SYSTEMS	REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS										1	
	CRUDE OIL										2	
	HVL FLAMMABLE / TOXIC											
	CARBON DIOXIDE											
	BIOFUEL											
TOTALS		10	21	2	2					2	23	60

Enforcement Actions

From the sixty (60) inspections shown above, nine (9) enforcement letters of notification were issued citing nineteen (19) non-compliance items. There were nine (9) non-compliance items corrected during the month of February.

Training

Two (2) operator/contractor training sessions were conducted in February, covering possible variations of combinations of the following: polyethylene (PE) plastic fusion, fire response (FR), and regulatory (CFR) training.

- 2/17/2026 Leak City, Athens AL PE 44 Personnel Trained
- 2/18/2026 Fultondale Utilities PE 56 Personnel Trained

Incidents/Accidents

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

- 2/4/2026 Tuscumbia Gas Department - A contractor installing Fiber Infrastructure by directional boring struck a Natural Gas main. It damaged approximately 4 ft of main that had to be replaced. There was an active 811-dig ticket.
- 2/19/2026 Russellville Gas Board - A contractor using a bulldozer struck a 4-inch plastic main while doing site work, causing 116 people to lose service for approximately 10 hours. Six feet of main had to be replaced. The contractor did not have an 811-dig ticket at the time.

Miscellaneous

The Gas Pipeline Safety (GPS) Division was invited to participate with the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) Public Awareness and Damage Prevention Team. This invitation was extended directly to the GPS program. The team is tasked with reviewing industry standards for potential development and adoption, as well as collaborating on the development of PHMSA regulatory requirements.

Participation on this team allows GPS to be at the forefront of regulatory development, helping guide changes in a way that strengthens and enhances pipeline safety codes for the benefit of all stakeholders—from regulators to industry, and ultimately to residents and the general public. Public awareness and damage

prevention are areas in which GPS currently holds strong subject matter expertise (SME).

In addition, GPS is actively working to further develop expertise in other areas of pipeline safety, including welding, leak surveys, jurisdictional determinations, and operator qualifications. Expanding subject matter expertise (SME) in these areas not only strengthens GPS's ability to perform thorough and technically sound inspections but also allows the Division to help guide regulatory development based on real-world application and field experience. This level of expertise supports more consistent enforcement, improves communication with operators, and ensures that evolving regulations are both practical and effective.

UTILITY ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Mrs. Amanda Shehane reported from the Utility Enforcement Division's report describing the major tasks, inspections and activities accomplished by its staff during the month of February 2026.

Railway Safety

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

Rail Carriers Visited	Regular Track Inspections	Track Defects Identified	Violations Recommended	Track Miles Inspected	Track Turnouts Inspected
3	17	25	0	125	48

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

Railroad Bridge Observations	Roadway Worker Protection	Roadway Maintenance Machines	Bridge Worker Safety
6	13	11	0

The table below shows the Operating Practices (OP) inspections performed on railroad operations.

Rail Carriers Visited	Regular OP Inspections	Defects Identified	Violations Recommended	Eqpt. Securement Observed
4	4	0	0	5

The National Response Center (NRC) reported five incidents in February:

1. A 5-car derailment with no injuries or releases in Dothan on BAYL.
2. An unoccupied vehicle strike with no injuries in Bessemer on NS.
3. A vehicle strike with unknown injuries in Mobile on CSX.
4. A 1-car yard derailment with an electric arc dust release in Birmingham on NS.
5. A vehicle strike with unknown injuries in Chelsea on CSX.

There were also three accidents/complaints reported via telephone or email in February.

1. A rough crossing complaint was reported in Tuscaloosa.
2. A blocked crossing complaint was reported in Attalla.
3. A crossing gate malfunction in Theodore on CSX.

The rough crossing complaints were investigated and substantiated by RWS staff. Staff met with railroad officials to discuss the rough highway-grade crossing conditions and seek a resolution. The rail carrier made temporary repairs to the crossing on the day of the complaint. The crossing gate malfunction was reported to the rail carrier for investigation and repairs. The blocked crossing complainant was referred to the FRA blocked crossing complaint online portal.

Staff delivered presentations to approximately 20 railroad employees and contractors in Tennessee at a Railway Education Seminar. The presentations covered bridge worker safety, roadway worker protection, and proper remedial action application.

Interviews were conducted to fill the vacant motive power & equipment inspector position. A selection was made, and the candidate accepted the offer of employment.

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 Registrati on Numbers	Intrastate Applications		NOL Processed/ Closed Intra Applications	Under Legal Division Review	New Authority Approved	Motor Carrier Authority Inquiries		
	Processed	Returned				Phone	E-mails	Others
26	6	3	3	5	6	52	54	48

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

Insurance Filings Received	Revocation Orders	Reinstatement Orders	Miscellaneous Actions	Letters Sent	Insurance Inquiries	
					Phone	E-mails
281	23	25	3	23	67	91

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

UCR Applications		UCR Mailouts for 2025/2026	UCR Audit Correspondence	UCR Inquiries	
Received	Returned			Phone	E-mail
6	3	132	42	84	24

As of February 28th, there were 7,379 Alabama carriers (83%) registered for the 2026 UCR, leaving 1,467 unregistered. Our office received funds from the UCR Depository for January online payments processed through the National Registration System (NRS) from 1,286 carriers domiciled in Alabama and non-participating states.

The staff also assisted motor carriers in making necessary changes to their operating status with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). Seventeen MCS-150 forms were processed. Nine motor carriers had their USDOT numbers deactivated, and eight forms contained updates to the motor carriers' USDOT number data.

Staff participated in the UCR Board call and UCR Finance Subcommittee call during the month.

A total of 160 household goods and passenger carrier annual reports for the year ending 2025 were mailed in February.

Our office received four For Non-Profit (FNP) quarterly reports for the fourth quarter of 2025 during the month.

In February, a passenger tariff for Alabama Capital Group, LLC dba Reserve Black (C4195) and a household goods supplement for Macon Trading Post, Inc. dba Trading Post (C3199) were accepted.

During the month, a passenger carrier audit was completed for David L. Grimes, Jr. dba Ace Limousine (C3865). The carrier advised that they are currently operating solely within the city limits but wish to keep their authority with the Commission.

Staff participated in three passenger carrier hearings held during February for:

- People's Ride Transit Services LLC
- Lake Martin Lift, LLC
- Keys Party & Luxury Transportation LLC

ELECTRICITY POLICY DIVISION

Mrs. Patricia Smith reported on Alabama Power Company's Weighted Return on Average Retail Common Equity Calculation for the 12 Months Ended February 28, 2026.

Mrs. Smith reported on Formal Dockets 18117 and 18416; 18148 Division Report on Rate RSE and Rate ECR as of February 28, 2026. The Electricity Policy Division performed the regular monthly examination of the books and records of Alabama Power Company and found a 6.10% Weighted Return on Average Retail Common Equity for the 12 months ending December 31, 2026, and Energy Cost Under recovered by \$366,440 for February 2026.

Mr. John Free reported on Docket U-5502, On March 6, 2026, and consistent with the requirements of Alabama Code § 37-4-22, Alabama Power Company ("the Company") proposed a twenty-year Energy Supply Agreement between itself and The Brewer-Garrett Company and a corresponding contract for electric service between the Company and the United States Air Force, as Ordering Agency for electric service to the Gunter Annex of Maxwell Air Force Base.

As explained more fully in the Company's filing, the purpose of the contracts is to facilitate an energy resiliency and conservation project that is being constructed at the Gunter Annex. The Alabama Public Service Commission Staff has reviewed the detailed project information provided by the Company and determined that these contracts are in the public interest. The Project is expected to commence commercial operation in the Fall of 2027 and recommended approval.

Upon being motioned by Commissioner Oden and seconded by Commissioner Beeker, the Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the recommendation.

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LEGAL DIVISION

Judge Chad Mason reported on the following dockets from the Legal Division Agenda:

DOCKET 33670, Unopposed common carrier application of M.E.R.C.Y Int LLC, of Dothan, Alabama, for a certificate to transport passengers. Hearing was held on March 24, 2026, in which staff participated. The Applicant waived its right to a Report and Recommended Order at the hearing and recommended approval,

DOCKET 33662, Unopposed common carrier application of TrueCare Transportation Inc., of Mobile, Alabama, for a certificate to transport passengers. Hearing was held on March 24, 2026, in which staff participated. The Applicant waived its right to a Report and Recommended Order at the hearing and recommended approval,

DOCKET C-21456, Petition of Howard Tire and Automotive Services, Inc., of Columbiana, Alabama, for approval of cargo self-insurance and recommended approval,

DOCKET C-21399, Petition of Harbaugh & Sons Construction Co., Inc., of Huntsville, Alabama, for reinstatement of Motor Carrier Certificate F3385 which was revoked due to Petitioner's failure to maintain proper proof of liability insurance coverage. Petitioner submitted documentation that showed their liability insurance coverage required by law is now in effect and recommended reinstatement of certificate,

Upon being motioned by Commissioner Beeker and seconded by Commissioner Oden, the Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the recommendations.

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Judge Chad Mason reported on DOCKET 33664, Petition of Wire 3 LLC, of Rochester, New York, for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide telecommunications services. A hearing was held on March 11, 2026, in which Commission Staff participated and recommended approval.

Upon being motioned by Commissioner Oden and seconded by Commissioner Beeker, the Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the recommendations.

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Judge Luke Bentley reported on Docket 33525, Petition of Alabama Water Utilities, Inc. and Shelby Ridge Utility Systems, LLC for the issuance of certificates of public convenience and necessity. Alabama Water Utilities, Inc. also filed a notice pursuant to Ala. Code § 37-4-161, electing Commission jurisdiction for affiliated wastewater systems, and requesting that such election be addressed in this proceeding. A hearing was held on March 10, 2026, in which Petitioners, the Office of the Attorney General, and Commission Staff appeared and participated.

Recommend: Grant the Petition for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for Alabama Water Utilities, Inc., authorizing the operation of the wastewater systems identified in the Petition, including facilities operated through its subsidiary, Shelby Ridge Utility Systems, LLC, and those affiliated systems for which the Notice of Election was filed under Ala Code § 37-4-161.

Notify Alabama Water Utilities, Inc. that if it does not initiate a general rate proceeding on or before June 1, 2026, the Commission will initiate an investigation into the rates and charges. Pursuant to Ala Const. § 58-11.21 and Ala Code § 37-4-161, until the Commission determines applicable rates and charges to be imposed on these customers, the rates and charges shall be the utility's most recent published rate. Alabama Water Utilities, Inc. also holds a certificate of financial viability for systems formerly owned and operated by Community Utilities of Alabama, Inc. The rates and charges for the former Community Utilities of Alabama, Inc. customers remain in place.

Upon being motioned by Commissioner Beeker and seconded by Commissioner Oden, the Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the recommendation.

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Judge Bentley recommended approval of all items listed on the administrative agenda.

Upon motion by Commissioner Oden and seconded by Commissioner Beeker, the Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the recommendation.

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There being no further business, Commissioner Almond adjourned the meeting at 10:37 a.m.


Devon D. Beaty

Commission Acting Secretary