

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE
ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

HELD Tuesday, May 5, 2026

The April 2026 meeting of the Alabama Public Service Commission was held on Tuesday, May 5, 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; Samantha Sizemore, Attorney; Amanda Shehane, Utility Enforcement Division Director; Jonathan Kimbril, PSC Gas Pipeline Safety Division Director; John Free, Electricity Policy Division Director; Patricia Smith, Public Utility Analyst Manager; Jeffery Johnston, Utility Services Division Director; Caleb Hicks, Communications and PR Manager; Aisha Smith, Technical Assistant to Commissioner Oden; Tanya Champion, Matthew Singleton, and Stacie Berry, Public Analysts; Aquilla Spivey, Consumer Service Manager; 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, 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 led by Commissioner Jeremy H. Oden followed by leading 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 April 7, 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. Jeff Johnston reported for the Utility Services Division on Consumer Service Complaint Inquiries for the period of April 2026 as follows: Alabama Power Company had twenty-four residential and zero business inquiry, Spire Alabama had four residential inquiries and zero business inquiry, and Spire Gulf had zero residential inquiries and zero business inquiries. There was a total of twelve telecommunication inquiries, consisting of five under Public Service Commission Complaint jurisdiction, five were referred to the companies since the complaint jurisdiction was waived, and two were not under Public Service Commission jurisdiction.

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Mr. Johnston reported on Formal Dockets 18046 and 18328, Spire Alabama Inc., Division Report on Rate RSE as of March 31, 2026. Mr. Johnston reported on Rate RSE for Spire Alabama Inc., based on preliminary figures as of March 31, 2026, the projected RSE return on average common equity for the rate year ending September 30, 2026, was 9.94 percent. The authorized return on average common equity is 9.50 to 9.90 percent.

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Mr. Johnston reported on Formal Docket 28101, Spire Gulf Inc., Division Report on Rate RSE as of March 31, 2026. Based on preliminary figures as of March 31, 2026, the projected RSE return on average common equity for the rate year ending September 30, 2026, was 9.05 percent. The authorized return on average common equity is 9.70 to 10.30 percent.

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Mr. Johnson reported on the following Dockets:

Docket U-4680, AT&T ALABAMA AND BCN TELECOM, INC -- Approval of an Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Alabama or AT&T Southeast and BCN Telecom, Inc. pursuant to Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and recommended approval,

Docket U-4849, AT&T ALABAMA AND PINE BELT BROADCASTING LLC -- Approval of an Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Alabama or AT&T Southeast and Pine Belt Broadcasting, LLC pursuant to Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and recommended approval,

Docket U-4891, AT&T ALABAMA AND BANDWIDTH.COM CLEC, LLC -- Approval of an Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Alabama or

AT&T Southeast and Bandwidth.com CLEC, LLC pursuant to Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and recommended approval,

Docket U-5104 AT&T ALABAMA AND PARKER FIBERNET LLC -- Approval of an Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Alabama or AT&T Southeast and Parker FiberNet, LLC pursuant to Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and recommended approval,

Docket U-5114 AT&T ALABAMA AND ZAYO GROUP LLC -- Approval of an Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between BellSouth Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Alabama or AT&T Southeast and Zayo Group, 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 recommendations for approval.

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

GAS PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION

Mr. Jonathan Kimbril reported for the Gas Pipeline Safety (GPS) Division Agenda on the following inspections during the month of March 2026.

Inspections

During the month of March, a total of fifty-eight (58) inspections were conducted utilizing one hundred and nineteen (119) 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	TOTAL	
GAS PIPELINE SYSTEMS	PRIVATE		6							2	3		
	MUNICIPAL	6	10	1		2				3	12		
	MASTER METER	5		1									
	LIQUID PROPANE (LP)												
	LIQUIFIED NATURAL GAS (LNG)		1										
	INTRASTATE TRANSMISSION	1									1		
	GAS GATHERING										3		
	OFFSHORE GAS												
LIQUID PIPELINE SYSTEMS	REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS	1											
	CRUDE OIL												
	HVL FLAMMABLE / TOXIC												
	CARBON DIOXIDE												
	BIOFUEL												
TOTALS		13	17	2		2				5	19	58	

Enforcement Actions

From the fifty-eight (58) inspections shown above, seven (7) enforcement letters of notification were issued citing thirty-four (34) non-compliance items. There were six (6) non-compliance items corrected during the month of March.

Training

One (1) operator/contractor training session was conducted in March, covering possible variations of combinations of the following: polyethylene (PE) plastic fusion, fire response (FR), and regulatory (CFR) training.

➤ 3/18/2026 Southern Directional PE 43 Personnel Trained

Incidents/Accidents

There were eight (8) state reportable incidents, and zero (0) federal incidents reported during the month of March.

- 3/12/2026 Huntsville Utilities - A contractor struck a 2-inch natural gas service line, damaging approximately four feet of pipe, which required replacement. There was no active 811 locate ticket at the time of the incident.
- 3/18/2026 Florence Gas - A structure fire caused a wall to collapse onto a gas meter, resulting in damage. The origin of the fire was determined not to be related to a gas leak.
- 3/24/2026 Florence Gas - A natural gas farm tap was discovered on fire. The fire was determined to have originated at the farm tap. A gas company employee, along with the fire department, used water suppression to control the situation and shut off the gas flow. The employee sustained first-degree burns to the wrist but did not require medical attention. Repairs have since been completed.
- 3/24/2026 Marshall County Gas District - A contractor struck a 10-inch transmission main during directional boring. Marshall County Gas District installed a welded repair sleeve to restore the line. The contractor had an active 811 locate ticket but failed to pothole utilities to confirm depth prior to excavation.
- 3/2/2026 East Central AL Gas District - A leak was discovered on a main within the system. The damage appeared to have been caused by a previously unreported line strike. The leak required multiple days to locate and repair. The incident was reported following media coverage.
- 3/7/2026 Spire AL - Montgomery - A gas leak was reported to Spire. The fire department arrived on scene prior to Spire personnel and began excavation efforts until Spire crews arrived to perform repairs. The leak was successfully repaired, and the area was made safe for residents to return. The incident was considered reportable due to media presence.

- 3/13/2026 Southeast Gas - A concerned citizen reported the smell of gas to the Gas Pipeline Safety division. Southeast Gas dispatched a crew to perform a leak survey; however, no leaks were identified on their system in the reported area.
- 3/25/2026 Southeast Gas - A contractor struck a gas main during directional boring operations while pulling back. The strike created a hole approximately the size of a quarter in the main. Southeast Gas reduced system pressure and completed a welded repair.

Miscellaneous

The Gas Pipeline Safety (GPS) Division received its annual audit from the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration State Programs group. The audit process spans two weeks. During the first week, auditors conduct a comprehensive review of records and documentation obtained from required inspections performed throughout the previous year. This review also includes the program's annual progress report, which is evaluated as part of the overall records and documentation assessment and showed no deficiencies. This portion of the audit accounts for approximately 50% of the total score for both the hazardous liquid and natural gas programs.

The second week of the audit is conducted in the field, where auditors observe inspectors performing both natural gas and hazardous liquid inspections. This allows auditors to verify that inspectors are asking appropriate questions, reviewing the correct documentation, and thoroughly evaluating areas of concern or potential noncompliance.

At the conclusion of the audit, it was determined that the Alabama program would receive full marks, losing zero points. The natural gas program achieved a score of 100 out of 100 possible points, while the hazardous liquid program scored 96 out of 96 possible points.

Additionally, the Gas Pipeline Safety Division attended the National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives Regional Meeting held in Savannah. This meeting provides an opportunity for state programs to share efforts to improve inspections and regulatory processes, as well as to discuss strategies for adapting to potential future regulations proposed by PHMSA. Alabama entered the meeting as Vice Chair and has since assumed the role of Chair

for the upcoming year. In this capacity, Alabama will host the NAPS Regional Meeting in 2027.

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 March 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
7	26	85	0	332	163

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
16	14	10	0

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

Rail Carriers Visited	Regular Eqpt. Inspections	Defects Identified	Violations Recommended	Number of Units Inspected
1	3	71	0	113

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
5	12	2	0	5

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

Air Brake Tests	Blue Flag Protection	End of Train Devices
0	1	0

The National Response Center (NRC) reported two incidents in March.

1. An unoccupied vehicle strike with no injuries in York on NS.
2. A cement truck strike with no injuries in Phenix City on CCHA.

There was also one accident and two complaints reported via telephone or email in March.

1. Two unoccupied ATVs were struck by a train on BNSF in Adamsville.
2. A blocked crossing complaint was reported in Trussville.
3. A blocked crossing complaint was reported in Birmingham.

The blocked crossing complaints were referred to the FRA blocked crossing complaint online portal.

Mr. Jeremy Echols filled the vacancy of the MP&E inspector position on March 16th. He immediately started training in an effort to attain his FRA certification. He started by accompanying other inspectors on our staff, and began accompanying federal inspectors the following week.

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 Nos.	Intrastate Applications		NOL Processed/ Closed Intra Applications	Under Legal Divisi on Review	New Authority Approved	Motor Carrier Authority Inquiries		
	Processed	Returned				Phone	E-mails	Others
26	16	1	3	12	11	61	78	14

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
311	21	14	3	34	51	122

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

UCR Applications		UCR Mailouts for 2026	UCR Audit Correspondence	UCR Inquiries	
Received	Returned			Phone	E-mail
1	0	158	36	39	18

As of March 31st, 7,675 Alabama carriers (85%) were registered for the 2026 UCR, leaving 1,373 unregistered. Our office received funds from the UCR Depository for February online payments processed through the National Registration System (NRS) from 736 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). Two MCS-150 forms were processed to deactivate motor carriers' USDOT numbers.

Staff participated in the UCR Board call during the month.

A total of twelve 2025 annual reports were received from household goods and passenger carriers.

In March, a passenger tariff for People's Ride Transit Services LLC (C4197) and a household goods tariff for 1st Choice Trucking LLC (NEW) were rejected due to formatting and rate issues. A passenger tariff for People's Ride Transit Services LLC (C4197) and a household goods supplement for Macon Trading Post, Inc. d/b/a Trading Post (C3199) were received and accepted.

Staff participated in two passenger carrier hearings held during March for:

- M.E.R.C.Y Int LLC
- Truecare Transportation Inc.

Uzurv Holdings, Inc. (Uzurv), a regulated transportation network company, closed its records review audit, confirming operations have not started in Alabama.

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 March 31, 2026.

Mrs. Smith reported on Formal Dockets 18117 and 18416; 18148 Division Report on Rate RSE and Rate ECR as of March 31, 2026. The Electricity Policy Division performed the regular monthly examination of the books and records of Alabama Power Company and found a 6.17% Weighted Return on Average Retail Common Equity for the 12 months ending December 31, 2026, and Energy Cost Over recovered by \$6,639,968 for March 2026.

LEGAL DIVISION

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

DOCKET 33687, Application of A&J Management Group, Inc. d/b/a Pink Zebra Moving of Huntsville, of Huntsville, Alabama, for a Certificate to transport household goods and recommended approval,

DOCKET 33660, Unopposed application of People's Ride Transit Services LLC, of Montgomery, Alabama, for contract carrier authority, and to extend an existing common carrier operation under Motor Carrier Certificate 4197. Hearing was held on April 21, 2026, in which staff participated. The Applicant waived its right to a Report and Recommended Order at the hearing and recommended approval,

DOCKET 33680, Unopposed common carrier application of Reach Auto Shop Mid-South Apparel & Bargain Barn Inc., of Eutaw, Alabama, for a certificate to transport passengers. Hearing was held on April 21, 2026, in which staff participated. The Applicant waived its right to a Report and Recommended Order at the hearing, and recommended approval,

DOCKET 33682, Unopposed common carrier application of Sweetie's Homecare Inc, of Huntsville, Alabama, for a certificate to transport passengers. Hearing was held on April 21, 2026, in which staff participated. The Applicant waived its right to a Report and Recommended Order at the hearing, and recommended

approval,

DOCKET 33619, Petition of Navicare LLC, of Loganville, Georgia, for an extension of time to make the required filings. This is the Petitioner's second request for an extension and recommended approval for an additional 90 days to allow applicant to make the required filings,

DOCKET C-21489, Petition of Maverick Transportation, LLC, of North Little Rock, Arkansas, for approval of liability self-insurance and recommended approval,

DOCKET C-21476, Petition of Richardson and Sons Trucking LLC d/b/a Richardson and Sons Trucking, of Ethelsville, Alabama, for reinstatement of Motor Carrier Certificate F4726 which was revoked due to Petitioner's failure to maintain proper proof of liability and cargo insurance coverage. Petitioner submitted documentation that showed their liability and cargo insurance coverage required by law is now in effect and recommended reinstatement,

DOCKET C-21472, Petition of Smitherman Brothers Construction Company, Inc., of Selma, Alabama for reinstatement of Motor Carrier Certificate F551 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.

DOCKET C-21471, Petition of Stone Construction, L.L.C., of Attalla, Alabama for reinstatement of Motor Carrier Certificate F5254 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,

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 Off Agenda Items:

DOCKET C-21467, Petition of July Enterprises, Inc d/b/a Coastal Express Shuttle, of Mobile, Alabama, for reinstatement of Motor Carrier Certificate C4130 and Permit 652 which were 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.

DOCKET 32983 & C-21481, Petition of H Sims Trucking LLC, of Pisgah, Alabama, for cancellation of Motor Carrier Certificate

F5192 and recommended cancellation as requested.

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 33668, (B) - Alabama Public Service Commission ("APSC") v. Delinquent Companies. Show cause proceeding established to address the failure of numerous entities to pay Inspection and Supervision fees for FY2025 despite numerous notices. A show cause hearing was held on April 14, 2026, in this matter to give those entities an opportunity to appear and show cause why their respective certificates of public convenience and necessity should not be revoked for their failure to pay the required fees.

Recommend: Issuance of an order revoking certificates of the entities that have not paid the required Inspection and Supervision fees and did not appear at the April 14, 2026, show cause hearing. Said entities may achieve reinstatement upon payment of \$100 for each month the required fees are delinquent. Further recommend that all entities that have now paid the Inspection and Supervision fees be dismissed from this proceeding.

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

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Judge reported on DOCKET 33642, (B) - Petition of Pinnacle Wastewater Systems, LLC for approval of tariff revision adjusting rates. The Commission suspended the tariffs effective date from January 1, 2026, to June 30, 2026, to allow for an investigation. The Office of the Attorney General filed a notice of intervention. Prior to the scheduled hearing, the parties conferred and reached an agreement on changes to the tariff.

A hearing was held on April 14, 2026, in which Petitioners, the Office of the Attorney General, and Commission Staff appeared and participated. At the hearing, the parties presented the following agreed-upon, phased-in changes to the tariff: 1) an increase in monthly residential sewer rates from \$49.50 to \$54.59, effective June 1, 2026; and 2) a further increase in monthly sewer rates to \$59.67, effective January 1, 2027. Recommended: Approval of the agreed-upon tariff revisions.

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 10:30 a.m.


Devon D. Beaty
Commission Secretary