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TWINKLE ANDRESS CAVANAUGH

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ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION BEGINS PUBLIC HEARINGS ON MOBILE GAS

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Montgomery – Public Service Commission President Twinkle Cavanaugh on Wednesday announced that the commission has officially begun public hearings to investigate all regulated aspects of Mobile Gas including the rates currently being charged to customers. This is the first of many public hearings that will examine Mobile Gas and then proceed to other regulated utilities in Alabama, as well.

"Our commission is committed to looking into the utilities we regulate and ensuring the rates they charge are fair to customers," Cavanaugh said. "These proceedings will be thorough, they will be transparent, and, most of all, they will invite full public input, involvement and scrutiny."

She noted that in December the full commission unanimously voted to hold a series of public proceedings to examine all aspects including the rates being charged by Mobile Gas. Wednesday's meeting marked the official commencement of that effort.

Our first commitment is to the consumers who elected us, and their needs and finances will be foremost in our minds, but, at the same time, we have a duty to allow Mobile Gas and other utilities a level playing field upon which to operate," Cavanaugh said. "These proceedings are being conducted publicly and in full light of day, and we encourage public participation."

Once proceedings involving the Mobile Gas rates have concluded, Cavanaugh said the commission will quickly follow with equally thorough looks into the other utilities that fall under the agency's jurisdiction.