

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE

COMMISSION

THE COMMISSION'S OCTOBER 2024 **ISSUE #2**

In a statewide press conference on September 20th, the Mississippi Public Service Commissioners announced the establishment of a strategic alliance with law enforcement agencies and utility organizations to provide additional resources for the state's AMBER Alert program. Through this innovative partnership, the MPSC, the Mississippi Department of Public Safety, the Attorney General's Office, electric cooperatives, water companies, and natural gas providers will collaborate to educate utility employees on the state's AMBER Alert program and train them to recognize the signs of child abduction. By equipping this extensive network of utility workers with the necessary knowledge and tools, the MPSC hopes to create a vigilant network of additional watchful eyes across Mississippi, ultimately strengthening the safety net for all citizens. READ MORE



Your Commissioners would like to give a huge shoutout and thank you to all the utility companies, state agencies and law enforcement entities who have supported our Amber Alert Initiative! Your collaboration is crucial in helping us keep our children in our communities safe. Together, we are making a real difference!

UNDERSTANDING YOUR UTILITY BILL:

low the MPSC can help:

Power bills and gas bills can be complicated. **IF YOU NEED HELP DECIPHERING YOUR**

BILLS. EMAIL US OR GIVE US A CALL.

Contact Us

NORTHERN DISTRICT northern.district@psc.ms.gov 1-800-356-6428

central.district@psc.ms.gov 1-800-356-6430

SOUTHERN DISTRICT southern.district@psc.ms.gov 1-800-356-6429

FORM

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The Commission conducted their October Open Meeting last Tuesday, October 1. Two significant resolutions approved include:



- <u>Resolution</u> recognizing October as National Co-Op Month celebrating the amazing impact that co-ops have on our state and economy.
- **Resolution in support of a Low-Income Household Water** Assistance Program (LIHWAP) with an initiative designed to assist low-income households with their water and wastewater bills, ensuring that every Mississippian has access to safe and affordable water services.

Upcoming at the Commission

MPSC Attends MAS 2024 Fall Educational Workshop 29-31 OCT

6-8 NOV

MPSC Hearing with Great NOV River More information TBA

MPSC Host 22 Nuclear Summit 201 Click for more information OCT

Mississippi Public Service Commissioners Host Nuclear Summit



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Mississippi Public Service Commission

Commissioner Chris Brown Chairman Northern District

> De'Keither A. Stamps Commissioner **Central District**

> > Wayne Carr Commissioner Southern District

Mississippi Public Service **Commissioners Hosted** Propane Summit 🕞 WATCH NOW

The Commission's Propane Summit provided valuable insights into the propane industry, focusing on regulatory practices and operational perspectives. The Commissioners and attendees heard from those who oversee the industry as well as those who operate within it, fostering a comprehensive understanding of the propane landscape in Mississippi.

A special thanks to our presenters: Scottie Cuevas (Insurance Department, LC Gas Director), Rob Love (State Liquefied Compressed Gas Board), and Braxton Coombs (Owner, Coombs Gas).



Protect Yourself from Cyber Threats Your Commissioners remind you to stay vigilant online all year round, not just during October's Cybersecurity Month. Check out these tips to keep you safe online. WATCH NO

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Mississippi Public Service Commission











Dear Northern Mississippi Residents.

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COMMISSION

NORTHERN

Since our last update, I wanted to take a moment to share some recent activities and updates that reflect our commitment to serving the ratepayers of Mississippi. These are some highlights that I want to share with you:

- Amber Alert Partnership: This important partnership, led by Southern District Commissioner Carr, provides support for the state's AMBER Alert program. In situations where every second can make the difference in the safety of our most vulnerable, it is pivotal that all facets of our community contribute to ensuring their safety. We are confident that the resources of the Public Service Commission can contribute greatly to this end, and we are proud to participate.
- Propane Summit: I was happy to have presided as Chairman over another one of our statewide summits for the Public Service Commission, this time on the topic of Propane in Mississippi. With presentations from Insurance Department LC Gas Inspector Scottie Cuevas, State Liquified Gas Board member Rob Love, and Coombs Gas owner Braxton Coombs, we gained valuable insights into this important industry, and I believe we all walked away with a greater understanding of its impact.
- In-District Solar Hearing: In fulfilling another of the key functions of a Public Service Commissioner, I presided over a hearing in Pontotoc County for the proposed Fiddle Falls Solar Project on September 23 at the Pontotoc County Courthouse. This indistrict hearing was very well attended, having over 42 people actively asking questions and participating in the discussion. This was a great example of the purpose of these hearings, with members of the community showing up and taking part in the process. Your thoughts and opinions on proposed projects are vital to the exploratory process while the Commission considers sustainable energy options for our region.
- Great River Town Hall Meetings: I had the opportunity to participate in two town hall meetings in Lafayette County at the beginning of October. It was a productive evening filled with insightful questions. A special thank you goes to all attendees—your feedback is invaluable and helps us serve you more effectively.

As we continue to seek ways to engage with our community, as always, I encourage you to reach out with any questions or concerns. We look forward to the opportunity to help you.

Warm regards,

Commissioner Chris Brown. Chairman





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Chris Brown Mississippi Public Service
Commissioner Northern District

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Mississippi Public Service Commission



s part of their Critical Power Grid Network Securit Initiative supporting advancements in energy security and innovation in our communities! **Congrats JSU Tigers!**





Recognizing and Honoring October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month



The MPSC passed a resolution designating October as National **Co-op Month**

I am also pleased to announce that in the coming months, we will see several large-scale utility projects across the Central District. These projects are not just about improving our utilities, but also about laying the foundation for long-term economic development. By investing in reliable and sustainable utility services, we are creating the conditions for new jobs, attracting businesses, and providing our citizens with the resources they need to

Commissioner De'Keither A. Stamps

I've also had the opportunity to visit several Board of Supervisors meetings across the Central District, where we engaged in important discussions about economic development and utilities. These meetings allowed for valuable collaboration with local leaders, reinforcing our shared commitment to improving infrastructure and growth.

This month has been one full of accomplishments, and I wanted to take a moment to share with you some of the progress we've made. One of the highlights has been the successful passing of the Low-Income Housing Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)

resolution. This critical initiative will help ensure that every Mississippian has access to

safe and affordable water services, which addresses one of the most pressing needs in our

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CENTRAL

Dear Central Mississippi Residents.

In addition, I had the privilege of representing the Public Service Commission at multiple conferences this month and witnessed Entergy awarding a \$2 million grant to Jackson State University as part of their Critical Power Grid Network Security initiative. These experiences have furthered both my knowledge and my ability to serve the people of Mississippi effectively.

Looking ahead, I remain dedicated to continuing this work and advancing the initiatives that benefit our communities. Thank you for placing your trust in me. It is an honor to serve as your Public Service Commissioner, and I look forward to continuing our work together.

Sincerely,

community.

succeed.

Commissioner De Keither A. Stamps



Signing of the MPSC's Low-Income Housing Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) resolution



Rethinking Water Conference 2024. New York, NY September 24

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Commissioner **De'Keither A. Stamps**

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September 23



Jones County Board of Supervisors Laurel, MS September 16



Lamar County Board of Supervisors Purvis, MS September 19



Interview with MS Today's Alex Rozier Jackson, MS September 19

Dear Southern Mississippi Residents.

September seemed to fly by - from hosting press conferences to announce the MPSC's new AMBER Alert initiative to visiting several county Boards of Supervisors within our district, I am extremely proud of the work that was accomplished this past month.

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Although the month consisted of diligent efforts by the MPSC to keep moving Mississippi forward and of countless opportunities for myself to continue serving the people of this district, September was also marked by two natural disasters: Hurricane Francine, which made landfall in Louisiana in early September and affected South Mississippi, and Hurricane Helene, which landed in Florida and caused devastating damage to areas of Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, and North Carolina. I want to extend my gratitude towards Mississippi electric cooperatives for traveling long miles and working long days to aid affected communities during both natural disasters - Mississippians are known for their willingness to lend a helping hand to their neighbors, and our linemen have certainly demonstrated that over the past few weeks. We continue to pray for their safety and for the residents of Florida, Georgia, East Tennessee, and North Carolina, who have lost everything in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene.

Commissioner Wayne Carr

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As we have wrapped up the month of September, there's a few district-specific matters that I'd like to bring to your attention:

- Lamar & Jones County Board of Supervisors: This month, I had the honor of attending the September Board Meetings of the Lamar County Board of Supervisors and the Jones County Board of Supervisors. I enjoyed meeting all board members and having the opportunity to speak at both meetings thank you for having me!
- AMBER Alert Initiative: On September 20 and September 23, we held press conferences to announce the MPSC's partnership with statewide utility organizations and law enforcement agencies, which will include AMBER Alert and child abduction training programs for participating utility organizations. I am excited to take the lead on this initiative and look forward to advancing the initiative's partnership.
- National Co-op Month: The MPSC has passed a resolution designating October as National Co-op Month in order to recognize our utility cooperatives. As October progresses, follow me on social media as I share weekly highlights of our district's hardworking cooperatives.
- Hurricane Helene Donations: As residents of South Mississippi, we understand how critical donations to relief funds are in the wake of a hurricane. To help victims of Hurricane Helene, visit the American Red Cross's website or follow your local news outlets for local donation centers.

Thank you for another wonderful month of serving the Southern District. Don't hesitate to contact my offices in Biloxi or Jackson - we are here for the people of Mississippi!

click here!

Sincerely,

Commissioner Wayne Carr

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT

Mississippi Public Service Commissioner Wayne Carr