



Exchange



September 2026

Issue #25



WORKING FOR YOU:

MPSC'S PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION WRAPS UP OPERATOR SEMINAR IN FLOWOOD

More than 100 gas pipeline operators from every corner of Mississippi spent two days in Flowood in September for the Mississippi Public Service Commission's (MPSC) Pipeline Safety Division 2026 Operator Seminar, hosted in partnership with the Mississippi Natural Gas Association (MNGA). Brandon Lee of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) led much of the training, walking operators through gas requirements for gas reporting, operations and maintenance, emergency response, line markers, design and construction, and maximum allowable operating pressure. Additional presenters included Brandi Murriell of RussMar Utility Management and MNGA's Cherrell Grogan of MNGA also presented, with Grogan covering PHMSA drug and alcohol program updates. Mississippi 811, Inc. rounded out the seminar with a session on damage prevention, and MPSC Pipeline Safety Director Kaleb Gibson briefed attendees on the Commission's latest pipeline safety updates. The MPSC oversees natural gas pipeline systems across the state to help ensure they're operated safely and reliably. "This seminar is one of the most valuable resources we have for keeping Mississippi's natural gas systems safe," said Director Gibson. "Getting more than 100 operators from across the state in one room to learn, ask questions and sharpen their skills is a real investment in the safety of the communities they serve. We're glad to bring PHMSA and other industry experts to the table so our operators have the most current information available."

The Commission's Pipeline Safety Division joined Mississippi 811, Inc. and partners in Forest to discuss dig law updates and underground fiber projects in Leake, Scott, and Jasper Counties, so please remember to always call 811 before you dig!

[READ MORE](#)

MISSISSIPPI 811 TELCOM STAKEHOLDERS MEETING

WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT MISSISSIPPI'S UNDERGROUND INFRASTRUCTURE



Upcoming at the Commission

OCT 8

MPSC's "From Recovery to Resilience – Mississippi Coastal Hurricane Preparedness Summit"

MS Gulf Coast Community College, Hospitality Resort Management Center, 420 Debuys Road, Biloxi

[REGISTER NOW](#)

SEPTEMBER OPEN MEETING

The Commission conducted its September Open Meeting Tuesday, September 1 to consider items on the docket.

**AGENDA****WATCH NOW**

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FUNCTIONS OF THE MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



De'Keither A. Stamps
Commissioner
Central District

Chris Brown
Chairman
Northern District

Wayne Carr
Commissioner
Southern District



Chris Brown

Northern District



Highlights from the Northern District:



➤ August 31 — Pontotoc Fire Department Grand Opening

I was glad to join local leaders and members of the community for the grand opening of the Pontotoc Fire Department's new fire station. This facility represents an important investment in public safety and in Pontotoc's continued growth. Congratulations to the department and everyone who helped make this new station a reality.

➤ September 9–10 — RNC Midterm Convention

It was an honor to serve as a delegate for Mississippi at the Republican National Committee's Midterm Convention in Dallas. The convention brought together representatives from across the country for discussions surrounding the work ahead and the 2026 midterm elections. I am always proud to represent Mississippi whenever and wherever I have the opportunity.

➤ September 14 — PSC Update in Starkville

I recently joined the Oktibbeha County Republican Party in Starkville to discuss reliability, growing electricity demand, infrastructure needs, and the importance of keeping utility costs reasonable for customers. I appreciated the opportunity to share what we are working on and hear directly from people in the area.

➤ September 21 — Attala County Community Meeting

Thanks to Speaker Jason White for organizing a community meeting in Attala County to hear directly from Entergy customers and for inviting me to participate. Entergy Mississippi President and CEO Haley Fisackerly was also there, giving residents the opportunity to share their concerns directly with company leadership.

Customers described repeated outages, power surges, damaged appliances, and service interruptions even during clear weather. Those concerns deserve serious attention, and my office will continue working to make sure these reliability problems are addressed in a lasting way.

➤ September 22 — Southern States Energy Board Annual Meeting

I was honored by the invitation to moderate a nuclear energy panel during the Southern States Energy Board's Annual Meeting in Biloxi. Our discussion focused on the role nuclear energy can play as electricity demand continues to grow across the South and the need for dependable generation that supports growth while keeping reliability and affordability at the forefront.

I appreciated the invitation to moderate the panel and the opportunity to hear from industry leaders about the technologies and opportunities shaping the future of energy.

➤ September 23 — MidDays with Gerard Gibert

I was glad to join Gerard Gibert on MidDays while SuperTalk was broadcasting from the Tallahatchie River Festival in New Albany. We discussed the work of the Public Service Commission, the importance of reliable and affordable utility service, and some of the opportunities ahead for Mississippi's energy future.

As I told Gerard, public service has to begin with the people we serve. Whether we are addressing service problems today or preparing for the energy needs of tomorrow, my goal remains the same: dependable utilities, affordable energy, and infrastructure that allows Mississippi communities to grow.



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De'Keither Stamps

Central District



Highlights from the Central District:

➤ **Mississippi Book Festival — Turn the Page Initiative | Press Conference**

Commissioner Stamps joined Atmos Energy and the Mississippi Book Festival at the Mississippi State Capitol to celebrate a \$10,000 investment in youth literacy programming through the festival's Turn the Page initiative. He emphasized the importance of reading in sparking curiosity, imagination and lifelong learning while applauding efforts to expand young people's access to books and enriching experiences across Mississippi.

➤ **Mississippi Data Center Development Information Convening**

Commissioner Stamps joined local leaders, industry professionals and stakeholders to discuss Mississippi's growing data center landscape, including infrastructure, utilities, water and economic development. In his remarks, he stressed the importance of reading agreements carefully, knowing what's at stake and never being afraid to walk away from the negotiation table. He also highlighted growing support for SNAP H₂O, his proposed water affordability initiative. Learn more and join the conversation at www.SNAPH2O.com.

➤ **National Association of Water Companies 2026 Water Summit**

Commissioner Stamps attended the National Association of Water Companies (NAWC) 2026 Water Summit in Austin, engaging in conversations centered on water access and practical solutions for communities. He also shared SNAP H₂O and expressed appreciation for the support the initiative received as efforts continue to keep water affordability at the forefront.

➤ **SuperTalk Mississippi — Middays with Gerard Gibert**

Commissioner Stamps joined Dave Hughes on SuperTalk Mississippi to discuss the proposed SNAP H₂O initiative and address questions surrounding the use of existing SNAP benefits for residential water bills. He emphasized that household needs vary and that the proposal does not increase benefits, but would provide eligible Mississippians an additional option to help maintain access to an essential need—water.

➤ **Supporting Local & Black-Owned Businesses | Sipp Station**

Continuing his commitment to supporting local and Black-owned businesses, Commissioner Stamps stopped by Sipp Station at PYP Studios while grabbing some healthy fuel on the go. The visit highlighted the importance of supporting entrepreneurs and keeping dollars circulating within Mississippi communities—earning Sipp Station the Commissioner's "Stamp of Approval!"

➤ **SNAP H₂O Radio Tour | 99 Jams WJMI & KIXIE 107.5**

Commissioner Stamps took the SNAP H₂O conversation to the airwaves, visiting Connoisseur Media sister stations 99 Jams WJMI (Middays with BIG Baby Alice Marie) and KIXIE 107.5 (Afternoon Drive with Stan "Da Man" Branson) to discuss the proposed water affordability initiative. Across both interviews, he explained how SNAP H₂O would give eligible Mississippians the option to use a portion of their existing SNAP benefits toward qualifying residential water bills—without adding new dollars.

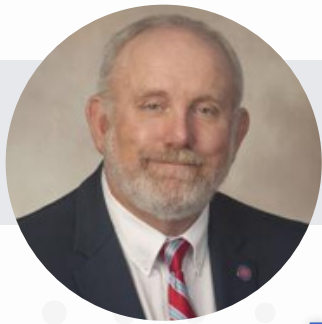


#DeKeitherStamps #ManOnAMission #CommissionerDeKeitherStamps

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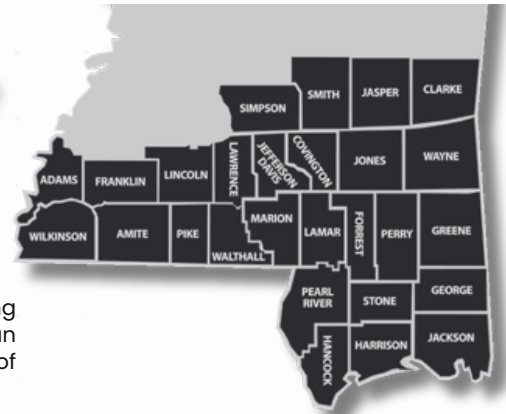




Wayne Carr

Southern District

Highlights from the Southern District:



September Docket Meeting

During the September docket meeting, the Commission addressed several matters affecting Mississippi's utilities and the customers they serve. These monthly meetings give us an opportunity to review important issues before the Commission and continue our work of ensuring reliable and affordable utility service.

From Recovery to Resilience: Mississippi Coastal Hurricane Preparedness Summit

September has also been a busy month preparing for our upcoming From Recovery to Resilience: Mississippi Coastal Hurricane Preparedness Summit on October 8 in Biloxi. As we approach the summit, I've been working to bring together utilities, emergency managers, local officials and other community partners to have important conversations about preparing for hurricanes and strengthening our ability to recover when severe weather strikes. Preparedness is something we have to work on before a storm arrives, and I'm looking forward to bringing these groups together to share ideas and resources.

MISO Board Week

Staying engaged with regional energy issues is an important part of my work. MISO Board Week was hosted in Arkansas September 15th through 17th. These meetings provide an opportunity to stay informed on regional energy issues and discussions that can have an impact on Mississippi's electric utilities and the customers they serve.

Harrison County Republican Club Luncheon

The Harrison County Republican Club luncheon gave me an opportunity to briefly explain the role of the Mississippi Public Service Commission and the work we do for utility customers across the state. I also shared information about our upcoming From Recovery to Resilience: Mississippi Coastal Hurricane Preparedness Summit and encouraged members to attend.

George County Groundbreaking

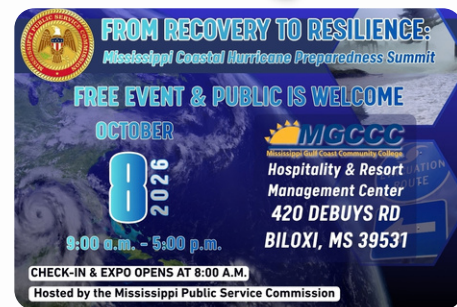
A major highlight of the month was the groundbreaking in George County, celebrating an important step forward for economic development in the area. I was glad to play a small role in helping George County Economic Development and George County Board of Supervisors communicate with utility companies to remove potential obstacles and to keep the project of expanding the railroad system moving forward. Projects like this are a great example of what can happen when local economic development efforts, utilities, and community leaders work together to find solutions.

Southern States Energy Board Annual Meeting

I attended the Southern States Energy Board's 66th Annual Meeting at the Hard Rock in Biloxi. Our Mississippi Governor Tate Reeves serves as the Chairman of the Board and hosted this year's meeting. The meeting brought together energy leaders from across the South to discuss issues affecting the region's energy future.

Reapportionment and Redistricting Public Hearing

I also attended the legislative public hearing on reapportionment and redistricting in Biloxi. The Legislature is currently holding public hearings across the state as part of the redistricting process. This is an important issue for the Public Service Commission because changes to legislative and district boundaries could affect the areas represented by the Commission's Southern District.



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