



**STATE OF ALABAMA**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**STATEMENT BY**

Twinkle Andress Cavanaugh, President, Alabama Public Service Commission

In the face of an unprecedented global health crisis, President Trump and Governor Ivey have declared a state of emergency for response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The first case of the virus was reported in Alabama on March 13. I and my colleagues on the Commission have been working with Alabama Power and Spire to ensure that those whose jobs are affected by COVID-19 do not face the added hardship of interruption of utility services. I am gratified that as a result of our quietly working with utility leaders, not a single customer whose income has been affected by this health crisis has had their utility service discontinued. Without politicizing this human tragedy by seeking attention for their actions, Alabama Power and Spire have simply done what is in the best interest of their customers. I am confident that none of these company's customers whose livelihood is affected by COVID-19 will experience an interruption in service while the crisis continues. Utility leaders have assured the Commission that after this crisis period, the companies will assist customers in handling past-due obligations.

Further, it cannot be ignored that in the midst of the apparent fear, panic and confusion taking place in our country, the men and women working the power and gas lines are keeping the lights on, the gas flowing and the wheels of industry turning and are not sheltering in place, they are doing whatever is necessary to meet the demands and needs of their neighbors. These people are true heroes.

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