



NATIONAL OFFICE
P.O. Box 613
Oakton, VA 22124
703-785-9570
djenkins@conservativestewards.org

CONSERVATIVES FOR RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP

conservativestewards.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 5, 2025

Contact: David Jenkins
703-785-9570

Ratepayers Strike Back!

Georgia Utility Commission Election is a Foreboding Sign for ACC Commissioners

In the clearest sign yet that utility customers fed up with skyrocketing gas and electric bills are placing the blame squarely on the complicit utility commissioners who rubber stamp rate hikes, two Georgia Public Service Commission seats flipped to Democrats on Tuesday.

It marks the first time the Democratic Party has won a statewide constitutional office in Georgia since 2006, and the margins were not even close with each winner garnering more than 60% of the vote.

The defeated incumbents had approved six rate increases over the last two years, increasing electric bills roughly \$500 per year for the average household.

Arizona utility customers have a similarly hike happy Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC). Arizona Public Service (APS) received an 8% rate hike just last year along with a \$12 per month fuel surcharge in 2023, and Tucson Electric Power (TEP) was granted a 10% hike in 2023. Now, both utilities are asking for an additional 14% hike.

If the ACC grants these monopoly utilities' proposed rate increases, customers are looking at a **25-30% increase on their electric bills** in less than three years. This at a time when overall inflation sits at around 3%.

"Utility customers in Georgia and Arizona are figuring out who's to blame for their ever-increasing energy bills, and that's the elected bureaucrats on utility commissions who have become way too cozy with the monopolies they are supposed to regulate," said David Jenkins, president of Conservatives for Responsible Stewardship (CRS).

"ACC commissioners seem to have forgotten that their job is to be an agency watchdog, not a utility lapdog. It seems to me that they can either take a lesson from Georgia, or learn the hard way next November," Jenkins added.

Conservatives for Responsible Stewardship (CRS), an organization with 24,000 members nationwide and 1,200 in Arizona, is currently running a campaign to educate Arizonans about the ACC's role in their ever-increasing utility bills.

###