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September 13, 2011

For Immediate Release

Maryland Public Service Commission Welcomes New Commissioners

(Baltimore)—On Monday, September 12, 2011, the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) officially welcomed two new Commissioners, Kelly Speakes-Backman and Kevin Hughes. Governor Martin O'Malley swore in the new Commissioners at a ceremony held in downtown Baltimore in the William Donald Schaefer Tower.

"Our Commission has made tremendous progress these past few years, and I'm confident that Kevin and Kelly have the knowledge and experience to continue to lead the PSC to even greater heights," the Governor said during his remarks.

The new Commissioners were joined by their families at the afternoon ceremony, along with their new PSC colleagues and other government staff.

"I am thrilled to be entrusted with this opportunity by Governor O'Malley to serve Marylanders. I look forward to working with the Commission in the best interest of ratepayers and our State," says Commissioner Speakes-Backman.

"I want to thank Governor O'Malley for the great honor of appointing me to the Maryland Public Service Commission. I look forward to working on behalf of the citizens of Maryland to ensure that all Marylander's receive affordable and reliable utility services," says Commissioner Hughes.

"We are excited about having Kevin Hughes and Kelly Speakes-Backman join the Commission. Not only do they bring us back to full strength, they'll bring unique experiences and knowledge of key energy issues to bear on behalf of Maryland citizens," says PSC Chair Douglas Nazarian.

Speakes-Backman and Hughes will assume the vacant seats left by former Commissioners Therese Goldsmith and Susanne Brogan, respectively. Commissioners are appointed to five-year terms. Hughes' term ends in 2016 and Speakes-Backman's term will expire in 2014.

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