

Georgia District 3

Public Service Commission 2026

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HUBBARD

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Why your November 3 vote matters

The [election](#) on November 3 will decide the District 3 seat on the Georgia Public Service Commission. Incumbent Democrat Peter Hubbard and Republican Fitz Johnson are running for a six-year term. The Commission [currently has](#) a partisan makeup of 3 Republicans and 2 Democrats. There is also an election this year for District 5.

The Georgia Public Service Commission regulates state utilities

The Commission [is composed](#) of five members who serve staggered six-year terms. Although the commissioners [are elected](#) by a statewide vote, the state is divided into five districts and commissioners represent the district in which they reside. The Commission [is tasked](#) with regulating rates for electric and natural gas utilities, as well [as promoting](#) competitive markets for landline telecommunications services and monitoring service quality. It [is required](#) to “balance Georgia citizens’ need for reliable services and reasonable rates with the need for utilities to earn a reasonable return on investment.” The Commission [sets](#) rates only for investor-owned electric and natural gas utility companies while regulating some aspects of municipally owned services, including monitoring the safety of natural gas services. The Georgia Public Service Commission [is established](#) by Article IV, Section 1 of the Georgia Constitution.

In recent years the Public Service Commission has taken many significant actions. The Commission [voted](#) to authorize the construction of nuclear power reactors at Plant Vogtle, [authorized](#) two rate increases for Georgia Power customers in 2022 and 2023, [voted](#) to freeze rates in 2025, [voted](#) to lower rates in 2026, [approved](#) an investigation into whether data centers are shifting some costs to residential customers, and [rejected](#) a plan to expand net-metering, which would have incentivized more solar panel installation.

To help you decide

Here’s background on the candidates’ public statements, actions, and experience. Follow our links to get more information.

PETER HUBBARD

peterforgeorgia.com

- **On company accountability**, [seeks](#) “state legislation to protect consumers.”
- **On data centers**, is [concerned](#) about whether or not data centers “pay their fair share.” [Supports](#) an “opportunity for public input” before Georgia Power signs contracts with large-load customers that use over 100 megawatts.
- **On infrastructure**, as a commissioner [filed](#) a motion for the Commission to reconsider its approval of Georgia Power’s 10,000-megawatt electric grid expansion, intended to serve data centers.

FITZ JOHNSON

friendsforfitz.com

- **On company accountability**, [says](#) that “you deserve clear, honest information about the decisions that affect your power bill.”
- **On data centers**, [says](#) that Commission has already sufficiently protected ratepayers from data center costs. “When it comes to the data centers and the large loads, we put the ratepayers first...we’re not going to put any burden on our ratepayers.”

PETER HUBBARD

- **On new energy sources,** [says](#), “I’m not simply anti fossil, in the sense that I recognize that there is some benefit to it, but I’m deeply concerned that we’re not truly accounting for all of the costs of public health and to the climate of fossil fuel infrastructure.” [Says](#) that while he sees a benefit from having “nuclear units come online,” the costs of nuclear plant construction should not have been “borne by the rate payers.” [Says](#) he needs more time on the Commission to expand renewable energy in Georgia. [Says](#) “I’d like to see us get to 30, 40, or 50% solar before we start thinking about some of the other more expensive resources.”

- **On utility rates,** as a commissioner [proposed](#) an amendment to an agreement with Georgia Power that would require investigation of Georgia Power’s costs and practices before certification of a new rate agreement between the Commission and the utility.

Peter Hubbard is [currently](#) the Georgia Public Service Commissioner for district 3 where he has served since January 2026. He earned two bachelor of science degrees in physics and mathematics from the University of Memphis and a master’s degree in international affairs from Johns Hopkins University. He has worked in the energy industry for 16 years, most recently founding the Georgia Center for Energy Solutions in 2019.

Hubbard’s endorsements include: Senator [Raphael Warnock](#), the [Georgia](#) Democratic Party, [Fair Fight](#) Action, [Georgia](#) Conservation Voters, and [Georgians](#) for Affordable Energy, among others.

FITZ JOHNSON

- **On infrastructure,** [says](#) that the state’s stable grid will prevent power outages. [Says](#) that during heat waves, users should “set your AC to whatever makes you cool, and don’t worry about shutting off lights or unplugging electronics.” About grid expansion, as a commissioner [voted](#) to approve a nearly 10,000 megawatt expansion of Georgia Power’s grid capacity through a mix of natural gas, battery storage, solar, and power purchase agreements. [Opposes](#) “costly climate mandates.”

- **On new energy sources,** [says](#) that fossil fuels should remain part of Georgia’s energy mix. [Voted](#) to increase Georgia Power’s rates by 6% to fund construction costs of the Vogtle Plant’s new nuclear power units.

- **On utility rates,** [says](#) “reliable, affordable power is not a luxury. It’s the backbone of family budgets, job growth and Georgia’s economic future.” [Voted](#) in 2022 to increase Georgia Power rates by 12% over three years. [Voted](#) in 2023 for another increase at 12%. [Voted](#) in 2025 to freeze Georgia Power’s base power rates.

Fitz Johnson most recently [served](#) on the Georgia Public Service Commission from district 3 from 2021 until 2025. He earned a bachelor’s degree from The Citadel, a master’s degree in education from Troy University and a J.D. from the University of Kentucky. He served 21 years in the United States Army, worked as a businessman, and is a former owner of the Atlanta Beat, of the Women’s Professional Soccer league.

Johnson’s endorsements include: Governor [Brian Kemp](#), Georgia [Association](#) of College Republicans, the Free Enterprise [Fund](#), and [Regulators](#) Roundtable PAC, among others.

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