



# THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

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BY THE GOVERNOR:

**WHEREAS:** The waters of the Nation are a finite and valuable natural resource, and an adequate supply of high quality water is essential to the health, safety, welfare and quality of life of the citizens of South Carolina and Georgia; and

**WHEREAS:** Water is vital for individual, agricultural, industrial, commercial and recreational uses, and is essential for fish and wildlife; and

**WHEREAS:** The Savannah River forms the state boundary between South Carolina and Georgia for almost 200 miles and the states share significant water resources of the Savannah River Basin; and

**WHEREAS:** Growth and development on both sides of the Savannah River are driving demand for finite water resources; and

**WHEREAS:** South Carolina and Georgia lack a formal bi-state context to address demand related issues including water supply, wastewater disposal, flood control, economic development and recreation;

**NOW THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY**

**ORDERED:** That the Governor's Savannah River Committee of Georgia (the Committee) is hereby established to work in conjunction with the Governor's Savannah River Committee of South Carolina.

The Committee and their counterparts from the Governor's Savannah River Committee of South Carolina shall convene a bi-state forum to identify and discuss issues of mutual interest related to the water resources of the Savannah River Basin.

The respective Committees shall correspond and meet as required in their function as the official forum for engaging water issues between the State of Georgia and the State of South Carolina.

The Committee shall be comprised of the Governor or his designees, the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources, the Director of the Environmental Protection Division, Gus Bell, Joe Tanner, and Braye Boardman and such members to serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

The Committee shall be authorized in the furtherance of its mission to hold public hearings and take such other actions as it deems necessary and advisable.

The Governor's Office shall provide staff support as necessary to assist the Committee in carrying out the directives of this Executive Order. The Committee may also receive staff support and technical assistance from the Department of Natural Resources and the Environmental Protection Division as deemed appropriate. The Committee shall be assigned to the Office of Planning and Budget for purposes of administration and reimbursement of expenses as authorized by law.

THIS 21<sup>st</sup> DAY OF June, 2005.

  
GOVERNOR