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## NEWS RELEASE

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# **PSC's Gardner Named to Natural Gas Research Panel** *Vice chairman to advise Gas Technology Institute*

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (Dec. 17, 2010)** – Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) Vice Chairman Jim Gardner has been named to the Public Interest Advisory Committee of the Gas Technology Institute (GTI), which does research and development for the natural gas industry.

“Dramatic increases in domestic natural gas production, both in Kentucky and other states, are changing the shape of our nation’s energy sector,” Gardner said. “Working with GTI offers me an opportunity to help our state keep pace with the latest developments in technology and policy related to natural gas.”

GTI sponsors research into all aspects of natural gas production and utilization, as well as trends that affect the industry. The advisory committee helps set GTI’s research and development priorities.

The group includes utility regulators, consumer advocates, environmental representatives, researchers and others with specific expertise in the natural gas industry. It meets twice a year.

Governor Steve Beshear appointed Gardner as vice chairman of the PSC on June 16, 2008. His term will expire on July 1, 2012.

Gardner also serves as Co-Vice Chair of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment and is a member of the NARUC-Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Smart Grid Collaborative.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics from Georgetown College and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Kentucky College of Law.

The PSC is an independent agency attached for administrative purposes to the Energy and Environment Cabinet. It regulates more than 1,500 gas, water, sewer, electric and telecommunication utilities operating in Kentucky and has approximately 100 employees.