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Attorneys and Counselors at Law
123 South Calhoun Street
P.O. Box 391 32302
Tallahassee, FL 32301

P: (850) 224-9115
F: (850) 222-7560

ausley.com

May 16, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Mr. Adam J. Teitzman
Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 20230023-GU; Petition for Rate Increase by Peoples Gas System, Inc.

Docket No. 20220219-GU; Peoples Gas System's Petition for Rate Approval of 2022 Depreciation Study

Docket No. 20220212-GU; Peoples Gas System's Petition for Approval of Depreciation Rate and Subaccount for Renewable Natural Gas Facilities Leased to Others

Dear Mr. Teitzman:

Attached for filing in the above docket is Peoples Gas System, Inc.'s Motion for Temporary Protective Order pertaining to Peoples' Response to Office of Public Counsel's Fourth Set of Interrogatories (Nos. 180-210) and Fourth Request for Production (Nos. 70-85).

Thank you for your assistance in connection with this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'V. Ponder'.

Virginia Ponder

VLP/ne
Attachment

cc: All parties of record (w/att.)

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Petition for Rate Increase by Peoples Gas System, Inc.	DOCKET NO. 20230023-GU
Peoples Gas System’s Petition for Rate Approval of 2022 Depreciation Study	DOCKET NO. 20220219-GU
Peoples Gas System’s Petition for Approval of Depreciation Rate and Subaccount for Renewable Natural Gas Facilities Leased to Others	DOCKET NO. 20220212-GU FILED: May 16, 2023

**PEOPLES GAS SYSTEM INC.’S
MOTION FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTIVE ORDER**

Peoples Gas System, Inc. (“Peoples” or “the company”), pursuant to Rule 25-22.006(6)(c), Florida Administrative Code, hereby requests that the Commission issue a preliminary temporary protective order exempting from Section 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, certain information specified herein as requested by the Office of Public Counsel (“OPC”) through discovery, and for the protection of that information against public disclosure pending OPC’s review of it. In support of its Motion, the company states:

1. On April 26, 2023, OPC served on Peoples its Fourth Set of Interrogatories (Nos. 180-210) and Fourth Request for Production of Documents (Nos.70-85) (“OPC’s Discovery Requests).
2. On this date, Peoples has served its response to OPC’s Discovery Requests by posting its answers, responses, and responsive documents (collectively, “Response”) on a virtual SharePoint site that is accessible by both OPC and FIPUG. The company believes that all or portions of its Responses to the discovery requests specified on Exhibit A constitute “proprietary confidential business information” and has designated it as such by placing it in a segregated area of the SharePoint

site for confidential information. Peoples considers the designated information in its Response to be “proprietary confidential business information” that is entitled to protection against public disclosure pursuant to Section 366.093, Florida Statutes.

3. Proprietary confidential business information includes but is not limited to: (a) trade secrets; (b) internal auditing controls and reports of internal auditors; (c) security measures, systems, or procedures; (d) information concerning bids or other contractual data, the disclosure of which would impair the efforts of the public utility or its affiliates to contract for goods or services on favorable terms; (e) information relating to competitive interests, the disclosure of which would impair the competitive business of the provider of the information; and (f) employee personnel information unrelated to compensation, duties, qualifications, or responsibilities. §366.093(3)(a)-(f), Florida Statutes. The confidential information that is the subject of this Motion falls within one or more of these statutory categories and, thus, constitutes proprietary confidential business information.

4. Exhibit A identifies OPC’s Discovery Requests to which the company’s Responses are considered confidential.

5. Public disclosure of the company’s Responses to the identified requests in Exhibit A would adversely affect the economic interests of Peoples and its customers.

6. Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code, provides for protection of this type of information when a utility allows OPC to inspect or take possession of such information in the course of discovery. Subsection (6)(c) of this rule states:

(c) When a utility or other person agrees to allow Public Counsel to inspect or take possession of utility information for the purpose of determining what information is to be used in a proceeding before the Commission, the utility may request a temporary protective order exempting the information from Section 119.07(1), F.S. If the information is to be used in a proceeding

before the Commission, then the utility must file a specific request for a protective order under paragraph (a) above. If the information is not to be used in a proceeding before the Commission, then Public Counsel shall return the information to the utility in accordance with the record retention requirements of the Department of State.

7. Peoples requests a temporary protective order to allow OPC access to Peoples' confidential information that is posted on the SharePoint site as part of its Response while protecting the economic interests of Peoples and its customers from the harm that would result from public disclosure of the above-referenced confidential information. Peoples will work cooperatively with the parties to this proceeding to identify confidential information to be used at the final hearing in this docket and to request confidential classification as specified in the rule. To the extent that pre-filing of confidential documents is required, Peoples and the parties to this proceeding have further committed to work out a process to maintain both confidentiality of the information and preservation of the litigation rights of the respective parties consistent with Commission precedent. Furthermore, the parties have both agreed that the efficiency underlying this arrangement is not expected to require the closure of public access to hearings and that they will vigorously preserve confidentiality in accordance with applicable law while taking all reasonable steps to accomplish necessary litigation in a manner that does not require closure of hearings.

8. Peoples maintains the confidential information in a confidential form and has not disclosed it publicly.

WHEREFORE, Peoples requests that the Commission issue a Temporary Protective Order allowing it to provide OPC with the confidential information described above while maintaining the confidential nature of that information.

DATED this 16th day of May, 2023

Respectfully submitted,



J. JEFFRY WAHLEN
MALCOLM N. MEANS
VIRGINIA PONDER
jwahlen@ausley.com
mmeans@ausley.com
vponder@ausley.com
Ausley McMullen
Post Office Box 391
Tallahassee, Florida 32302
(850) 224-9115

ATTORNEYS FOR PEOPLES GAS SYSTEM, INC.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Preliminary Motion for Temporary Protective Order, filed on behalf of Peoples Gas System, Inc., has been furnished by electronic mail on this 16th day of May 2023 to the following:

Major Thompson
Ryan Sandy
Austin Watrous
Daniel Dose
Chasity Vaughan
Danyel Sims
Office of General Counsel
Florida Public Service Commission
Room 390L – Gerald L. Gunter Building
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
rsandy@psc.state.fl.us
mthompso@psc.state.fl.us
awatrous@psc.state.fl.us
ddose@psc.state.fl.us
dsims@psc.state.fl.us
cvaughan@psc.state.fl.us

Amber Norris
Dylan Andrews
Division of Accounting and Finance
Florida Public Service Commission
Room 160B – Gerald L. Gunter Bldg.
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
amnorris@psc.state.fl.us
dandrews@psc.state.fl.us

Jon C. Moyle, Jr.
Karen A. Putnal
Moyle Law Firm, P.A.
118 North Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
jmoyle@moylelaw.com
kputnal@moylelaw.com

Walter L. Trierweiler
Charles J. Rehwinkel
Patricia A. Christensen
Mary A. Wessling
Danijela Janjic
Office of Public Counsel
111 West Madison Street – Room 812
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400
trierweiler.walter@leg.state.fl.us
rehwinkel.charles@leg.state.fl.us
christensen.patty@leg.state.fl.us
wessling.mary@leg.state.fl.us
janjic.danijela@leg.state.fl.us



ATTORNEY

Exhibit A

OPC'S FOURTH SET OF INTERROGATORIES	
198.	RNG. Provide the costs by component and FERC account/subaccount included in rate base and in operating expenses, ADIT included in capitalization used to calculate the capital structure ratios, operating revenues, and the net revenue requirement for each of the projects in the test year. Provide this information in live Excel format with all formulas intact, including all assumptions and all support, including calculations in live Excel format with all formulas intact for inputs into the rate base, operating expense, operating revenues, and ADIT components.
203.	Labor. Describe in detail how many actual and projected reductions were made to the number of contractors separately for 2022, 2023 and 2024.
209.	Mergers & Acquisitions. Are there any current and/or planned internal discussions for the Company to potentially merge or to acquire all or part of another company? If so, provide a detailed discussion on the status of those negotiations.
210.	Mergers & Acquisitions. Has the Company had any discussions with another party regarding a potential full or partial merger or acquisition by the Company? If so, provide a detailed summary of any such discussions.

OPC'S FOURTH REQUEST FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS	
74.	Work and Asset Management (WAM). Please provide a copy of each document in your possession, custody, or control describing, analyzing, proposing or recommending the implementation of the WAM Project described in the direct testimony of Timothy O'Connor. This request includes, but is not limited to, all documents evaluating options for the timing of implementation of the capital expenditure(s) by year and the impact on return on equity and earning per share (EPS), as well as expected or potential productivity gains/cost savings identified and broken down by the 2024 test year and years beyond the test year.
75.	LNG. Please provide a copy of each document produced in response to discovery in Docket 20200093-GU (LNG Tariff).
76.	AMI Pilot. Please provide a copy of each document in your possession, custody or control describing, analyzing, proposing or recommending the AMI Pilot project described in the direct testimony of Timothy O'Connor. This request includes, but is not limited to, all documents evaluating options for the timing of implementation of the AMI project and all potential or expected cost savings and all potential or expected cost savings from implementation of the AMI proposal.
77.	Mergers & Acquisitions. Please provide a copy of each document in your possession, care, or control discussing, analyzing, evaluating, or recommending acquisitions of local distribution company assets or territories or facilities. This request includes but is not limited to documents (including drafts) prepared by you for management, executive, or board approval.

79. Major Projects. Please provide a copy of all documents in your possession, custody, or control discussing, analyzing, evaluating or recommending each of the several major projects referred to in the direct testimony of Helen Wesley at page 47, lines 13-14. This request includes, but is not limited to, the documents prepared for management, executive, or board approval for expenditure authorization, pilot projects, or phased implementation.
82. Please provide all documents identified in OPC's Fourth Set of Interrogatories, No. 197.
83. Please provide all documents identified in OPC's Fourth Set of Interrogatories, No. 200.