

MACFARLANE FERGUSON & McMULLEN

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

900 HIGHPOINT CENTER
106 EAST COLLEGE AVENUE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32301
(850) 681-7381 FAX (850) 681-0281

400 NORTH TAMPA STREET, SUITE 2300
P.O. BOX 1531 (ZIP 33601)
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33602
(813) 273-4200 FAX (813) 273-4396

625 COURT STREET
P. O. BOX 1669 (ZIP 33757)
CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33756
(727) 441-8966 FAX (727) 442-8470

April 27, 2000

IN REPLY REFER TO:
Ansley Watson, Jr.
P.O. Box 1531
Tampa, Florida 33601
e-mail: aw@macfar.com

ORIGINAL
RECORDS AND
REPORTING

APR 28 AM 11:47

RECEIVED-FPSC

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Blanca S. Bayo, Director
Division of Records & Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
Capital Circle Office Center
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

000502 - GV

Re: Petition for approval of special contract with Max-Pak Corporation by Peoples Gas System

Dear Ms. Bayo:

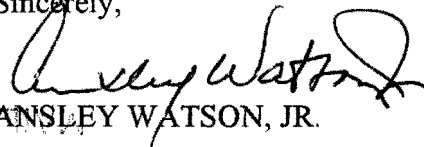
By letter dated April 26, 2000, we forwarded to you for filing in connection with the above matter, the petition referenced above (and requested confidential treatment of a portion of Exhibit 1 thereto), together with other documents and a computer diskette containing the petition and the Request for Confidential Treatment. You have advised that the documents on the diskette were not readable.

Enclosed please find another diskette containing the documents referenced above and in our April 26 letter. Hopefully, the documents thereon will be readable.

Please acknowledge your receipt of the enclosure by stamping the duplicate copy of this letter and returning the same to me in the accompanying preaddressed envelope.

Our apologies for the difficulty with the diskette sent with our letter of April 26.

Sincerely,



ANSLEY WATSON, JR.

RECEIVED & FILED

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FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

AWjr/a
Enclosure

00 APR 28 AM 10:29

DOCUMENT NO. DATE

05176-00 4/27/00
FPSC - COMMISSION CLERK

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Petition for approval of special)
contract with Max-Pak Corporation)
by Peoples Gas System)
_____)

Docket No. 000502-GU
Submitted for Filing:
4-27-00

**PEOPLES GAS SYSTEM'S REQUEST
FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT**

Pursuant to Section 366.093, *Florida Statutes*, Peoples Gas ("Peoples" or the "Company"), submits the following Request for Confidential Treatment of a portion of the Negotiated Contract for Gas Service between Peoples and Max-Pak Corporation ("Max-Pak"), a petition for approval of which is submitted for filing in the above docket concurrently herewith:

1. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a detailed justification for the requested confidential treatment of the highlighted portions of the Negotiated Contract for Gas Service (the "special contract").

2. The material for which confidential classification is sought is intended to be and is treated as private by both Peoples and Max-Pak, and has not been disclosed. Peoples and Max-Pak have entered into a confidentiality agreement which prohibits the disclosure of such material by either party to such agreement.

3. Peoples requests that the information for which it seeks confidential classification not be declassified until two months after the expiration of the term of the special contract. The detailed justification for non-disclosure of the highlighted portions of the special contract (see Exhibit A attached hereto) also establishes good cause for the Commission's finding that the protection from disclosure should extend for a period longer than 18 months (see Section 366.093(4), *Florida Statutes*). The time period requested is necessary to protect the competitive information (*i.e.*, the

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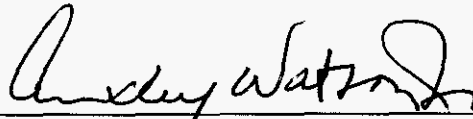
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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

level of the reduced rate at which service will be provided to Max-Pak under the special contract) from disclosure to Peoples' competitors and to other customers in order to allow Peoples, should it become necessary, to negotiate future gas service arrangements with other customers on favorable terms based on the specific factual circumstances of such customers. The period of time requested will ultimately protect Peoples and its customers by any such future arrangements being entered into based only on the facts and circumstances then applicable.

WHEREFORE, Peoples submits the foregoing as its request for confidential treatment of the information identified in Exhibit A.

Respectfully submitted,



Ansley Watson, Jr.
Macfarlane Ferguson & McMullen
P. O. Box 1531
Tampa, Florida 33601-1531
Telephone: (813) 273-4200 or -4321
Facsimile: (813) 273-4396 or -4397
Attorneys for Peoples Gas System

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true copy of the foregoing Request for Confidential Treatment, filed on behalf of Peoples Gas System, has been furnished by regular U.S. Mail, to the Office of Public Counsel, 812 Claude Pepper Building, 111 W. Madison Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1400, this 26th day of April, 2000.



Ansley Watson, Jr.

NEGOTIATED CONTRACT FOR GAS SERVICE

The only information in the special contract for which Peoples seeks specified confidential treatment, and non-disclosure pursuant to Chapter 119, *Florida Statutes*, is highlighted on Appendix A to the special contract.

This information is the reduced rate at which Peoples will provide gas service to Max-Pak Corporation under the special contract. It is information directly relating to Peoples' competitive interests which, if made public, "would impair the competitive business" of Peoples in the event it should become necessary to negotiate similar arrangements with other customers or potential customers in the future. Section 366.093(3)(d), *Florida Statutes*. Disclosure of the specific level of the rate at which Peoples will provide gas service to Max-Pak Corporation would give other customers or potential customers a benchmark or target toward which to negotiate in dealing with Peoples, notwithstanding that their particular circumstances may not be the same as, or even similar to, those of Max-Pak (which prompted Peoples to enter into the special contract for which the Commission's approval is sought in this docket).

Disclosure of this information - which consists of the rate offered by Peoples to Max-Pak to ensure that, during the term of the special contract, the customer will burn natural gas at its manufacturing facility (in lieu of its alternate fuel) - would damage Peoples in its ability to engage in possible future negotiations with this customer on rates and terms of service which are most favorable to Peoples and its ratepayers, and hamper the Company in its ability to negotiate in the future with other customers and potential customers who may be contemplating either the bypass of Peoples' distribution system or switching to a fuel other than natural gas, or never choosing to use the Peoples' distribution system at all. It is reasonably likely that the end result of disclosing this information would be, at best, a reduction in revenues to Peoples and, at worst, a loss of future customers or potential customers to alternative suppliers, including those of an alternate fuel.