

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition for approval of firm service agreement with Peoples Gas System, Inc. in Lee and Collier Counties, by SeaCoast Gas Transmission, LLC.

DOCKET NO. 20260088-GU
ORDER NO. PSC-2026-0338-CFO-GU
ISSUED: September 23, 2026

ORDER GRANTING SEACOAST GAS TRANSMISSION, LLC'S
REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION AND
TEMPORARY PROTECTIVE ORDER (DOCUMENT NO. 04733-2026)

On July 28, 2026, pursuant to Section 366.093, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), SeaCoast Gas Transmission, LLC (SeaCoast) filed a Request for Confidential Classification and Request for Temporary Protective Order (Request) of portions of its response to Staff's Second Data Request Nos. 3(g)(i) and 3(g)(ii) (Document No. 04733-2026).

Request for Confidential Classification

SeaCoast contends that portions of the information contained in its response to Staff's Second Data Request Nos. 3(g)(i) and 3(g)(ii) constitute proprietary confidential business information entitled to protection under Section 366.093, F.S., and Rule 25-22.006, F.A.C. SeaCoast asserts that this information is intended to be and is treated by SeaCoast as private and has not been publicly disclosed.

The information contained in response to Staff's Second Data Request Nos. 3(g)(i) and 3(g)(ii) for which confidentiality is requested, consists of bids and price comparison spreadsheets generated by or for People Gas System regarding alternative rates for the proposed gas transmission lines. SeaCoast argues that this information, if disclosed, could impair SeaCoast's competitive business and is protected by Section 366.093(3)(e), F.S. Further, SeaCoast argues that this information is contractual data, the disclosure of which could impair the efforts of SeaCoast to contract for goods or services on favorable terms and is protected under Section 366.093(3)(d), F.S.

Ruling

Section 366.093(1), F.S., provides that records the Florida Public Service Commission (Commission) has found to contain proprietary business information shall be kept confidential and shall be exempt from Chapter 119, F.S. Section 366.093(3), F.S., defines proprietary confidential business information as information that is intended to be and is treated by the company as private, in that disclosure of the information would cause harm to the company's ratepayers or business operations, and has not been voluntarily disclosed to the public. Section 366.093(3), F.S., provides that proprietary confidential business information includes, but is not limited to:

(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.

Upon review, it appears the information and data provided in this request satisfies the criteria set forth in Section 366.093(3), F.S., for classification as proprietary confidential business information. The information provided appears to be “information relating to competitive interests, the disclosure of which would impair the competitive business of the provider of the information” and contractual data the disclosure of which would impair the efforts of Peoples and SeaCoast to contract for goods or services on the most favorable terms. Thus, the information identified in Document No. 04733-2026 shall be granted confidential classification.

Pursuant to Section 366.093(4), F.S., the information for which confidential classification is granted herein shall remain protected from disclosure for a period of up to 18 months from the date of issuance of this Order. At the conclusion of the 18-month period, the confidential information will no longer be exempt from Section 119.07(1), F.S., unless SeaCoast or another affected person shows, and the Commission finds, that the records continue to contain proprietary confidential business information.

Request for Temporary Protective Order

Section 367.156(2), F.S., directs that all records produced pursuant to a discovery request for which proprietary confidential status is requested shall be treated by any party subject to the public records law as confidential and exempt from the public records law, Section 119.07(1), F.S. Rule 25-22.006(6)(a), F.A.C., codifies the Commission’s policy regarding the protection of confidential information from public disclosure during the discovery process in a manner that is not overly burdensome to both parties. Rule 25-22.006(6)(a), F.A.C., in pertinent part, states:

In any formal proceeding before the Commission, any utility or other person may request a protective order protecting proprietary confidential business information from discovery. Upon a showing by a utility or other person and a finding by the Commission that the material is entitled to protection, the Commission shall enter a protective order limiting discovery in the manner provided for in Rule 1.280, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure.

In addition, Rule 25-22.006(6)(c), F.A.C., states that if a party allows OPC to inspect or take possession of utility information, then that “utility may request a temporary protective order exempting the information from Section 119.07(1), F.S.” The rule further requires the utility to file a specific request for a protective order under paragraph (a) of the rule if the information is to be used in the proceeding before the Commission.

Ruling

Upon consideration of SeaCoast's assertions of the confidential nature of the information contained in its responses to Staff's Second Data Request Nos. 3(g)(i) and 3(g)(ii), SeaCoast's Request for Temporary Protective Order, is hereby granted. As a result, this information shall be protected from disclosure pursuant to Rule 25-22.006(6), F.A.C.

Based on the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED by Commissioner Mike La Rosa as Prehearing Officer, that SeaCoast Gas Transmission, LLC's Request for Confidential Classification and Request for Temporary Protective Order of Document No. 04733-2026, is granted, as set forth herein. It is further

ORDERED that the information in Document No. 04733-2026, for which confidential classification has been granted, shall remain protected from disclosure for a period of up to 18 months from the date of issuance of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that this Order shall be the only notification by the Commission to the parties of the date of declassification of the materials discussed herein.

By ORDER of Commissioner Mike La Rosa, as Prehearing Officer, this 23rd day of September, 2026.



MIKE LA ROSA
Commissioner and Prehearing Officer
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Copies furnished: A copy of this document is provided to the parties of record at the time of issuance and, if applicable, interested persons.

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

Any party adversely affected by this order, which is preliminary, procedural or intermediate in nature, may request: (1) reconsideration within 10 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.0376, Florida Administrative Code; or (2) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court, in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility, or the First District Court of Appeal, in the case of a water or wastewater utility. A motion for reconsideration shall be filed with the Office of Commission Clerk, in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.0376, Florida Administrative Code. Judicial review of a preliminary, procedural or intermediate ruling or order is available if review of the final action will not provide an adequate remedy. Such review may be requested from the appropriate court, as described above, pursuant to Rule 9.100, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.