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(Decision No. C93-320)

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

* * *

IN THE MATTER OF THE INTEGRATED)	
RESOURCES PLAN OF PUBLIC)	DOCKET NO. 93I-098E
SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO,)	
1225 - 17TH STREET, DENVER,)	ORDER ADOPTING PROTECTIVE
COLORADO 80202.)	PROVISIONS

Mailed Date: March 26, 1993
Adopted Date: March 24, 1993

STATEMENT

BY THE COMMISSION:

On March 15, 1993, Public Service Company of Colorado ("PSCo" or "Company") filed its Motion for Order Regarding Confidential Information and for Waiver of Response Time. The Company requests entry of an order adopting the protective provisions attached as Appendix A to the motion. Those provisions, in large part, are the standard protective provisions commonly adopted by the Commission. In addition, the Company requests waiver of response time to the motion, since, according to the Company, several parties have already raised issues regarding confidentiality, necessitating quick resolution of the motion.

Now being duly advised in the matter, we grant the motion. The provisions contained in Appendix A attached to this order, are hereby adopted as the protective order in this matter. In order to expedite the exchange of information in this proceeding, we waive response time to the motion. However, any party may request modifications to the protective provisions now adopted by the filing of an appropriate motion.

THEREFORE THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

The Motion for Order Regarding Confidential information and for Waiver of Response Time is granted. The provisions contained in Appendix A, attached to this Order, are adopted as the Protective Order in this matter.

This Order is effective on its Mailed Date.

ADOPTED IN OPEN MEETING March 24, 1993.

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Bruce N. Smith
Bruce N. Smith
Executive Secretary

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

ROBERT E. TEMMER

VINCENT MAJKOWSKI

Commissioners

COMMISSIONER CHRISTINE E. M.
ALVAREZ ABSENT.

TM:srs

Protective Provisions Relating to Confidential Information

1. Confidential Information: All documents, data, information, studies, computer programs, and other matters furnished in any form in response to any interrogatories or requests for information, subpoenas, depositions, or other modes of discovery that are claimed to be a trade secret or confidential in nature shall be furnished under the terms of this Order, and shall be treated by all persons accorded access pursuant to this Order as constituting trade secret, confidential, commercial, and financial information (here referred to as "confidential information"), and shall neither be used or disclosed except for the purpose of this proceeding, and solely in accordance with this Order.

To the extent there may be information which a party believes requires extraordinary protection beyond that provided for in this Order, the party shall file the information with the Commission, only, under seal together with a motion seeking such extraordinary protection. The motion shall state the grounds for seeking the relief and advise all other parties of the request and the subject matter of the material at issue.

In addition to information furnished pursuant to discovery requests, information provided by parties in response to solicitations for information, proposals, etc., issued by Public Service Company, shall also be covered by these protective provisions. Furthermore, such information shall not be disclosed, even to parties which have executed nondisclosure agreements, without the prior written consent of the party which originally provided the information.

2. Use of Confidential Information and Persons Entitled to Review. All confidential information made available pursuant to this Order shall be given solely to the Commission or counsel for the parties and shall not be used or disclosed except for purposes of this proceeding; provided, however, that access to any specific confidential information may be authorized by counsel, solely for the purpose of this proceeding, to those persons indicated by the parties as being their experts or advisors in this matter. With the exception of the Office of Consumer Counsel, no expert may be an officer, director, or employee concerned with marketing or strategic planning of directly competitive products and services of the party or of any subsidiary or affiliate of the party. Any member of the Staff of the Commission may have access to any confidential information made available under the terms of this Order.

3. Nondisclosure Agreement. No access to confidential information shall be authorized under the terms of paragraph 2 of this Order until the person authorized by counsel to have access signs a nondisclosure Agreement in the form that is attached and incorporated as Attachment 1. The Nondisclosure Agreement shall require the persons to whom disclosure is to be made to certify in writing that they have read this Order and agree to be bound by its terms. The agreement shall contain the signatory's full name, permanent address, and employer, and the name of the party with whom the signatory is associated. This agreement shall be delivered to counsel for the providing party and the Commission at the time of review of the documents, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

4. Delivery of Documentation. Where feasible, confidential information will be marked as such and delivered to counsel. In the alternative the confidential information may be made available for inspection and then reviewed by counsel and experts, as defined in paragraph 2 of this Order, in a place and time mutually agreed on by the parties, or as directed by the Commission.

5. Challenge to Confidentiality. This Order establishes a procedure for the expeditious handling of information that a party claims is confidential; it shall not be considered as an agreement or ruling on the confidentiality of any document.

(a) A party seeking to challenge the confidentiality of any materials pursuant to this Order shall first contact counsel for the providing party and attempt to resolve any differences by stipulation.

(b) In the event that the parties cannot agree as to the character of the information challenged, any party challenging the confidentiality shall do so by advising all parties and the Commission, in writing, that it deems material nonproprietary and outside the scope of any Protective Order. This notice shall designate the material challenged in a manner that will specifically isolate the challenged material from other material claimed as confidential.

(c) The providing party shall, within ten days of the notice, file appropriate pleadings stating grounds upon which challenged data is deemed to be confidential. The challenging party shall have ten days to respond to the pleading. In the event the providing party fails to file

appropriate pleadings within ten days, any challenged material shall be removed from the provisions of the Protective Order.

(d) When the Commission receives a pleading asserting confidentiality by the providing party regarding any items claimed as proprietary under the terms of this Order, the Commission will enter an order resolving the issue.

(e) In the event the Commission should rule in response to a pleading that any information should be removed from the protective requirements of this Order or from the protection of the sealed record, the parties, at the request of the providing party and to enable the providing party to seek a stay or other relief, shall not disclose the information or use it in the public record for five business days.

6. Receipt into Evidence. Provision is made here for receipt of evidence in this proceeding under seal. At least ten days prior to the use of or substantive reference to any confidential information as evidence at hearing, the party intending to use the information shall make that intention known to the providing party unless the usage could not be reasonably anticipated. The burden to demonstrate that the usage could not be reasonably anticipated shall be upon the party seeking to use the information. This notice requirement may be met where the confidential information is cited or used in prefiled testimony or in prefiled exhibits. If used in prefiled testimony or in a prefiled exhibit, that portion of the prefiled material which is confidential shall be filed under seal. The requesting party and the providing party shall make a good faith effort to reach an agreement so the confidential information can be used in a manner which will not reveal its trade secret, confidential, or proprietary nature. If these efforts fail, the providing party shall separately identify, within two business days, which portions, if any, of the documents or transcripts to be offered or referenced on the record containing confidential information shall be placed in the sealed record. Six copies of the document shall be filed under seal with the Commission. In the event any person reviews a copy of a document filed under seal, that person (including Counsel and Staff advisors to the Commission), shall first have signed a nondisclosure agreement. The six copies filed under seal shall be numbered serially. Otherwise, parties shall make only general references to confidential information in these proceedings.

(a) Seal. While in the custody of the Commission, these materials shall be marked "CONFIDENTIAL--SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER IN DOCKET NO. 93I-098E."

(b) Appeal. Sealed portions of the record in this proceeding may be forwarded to any court of competent jurisdiction on appeal in accordance with applicable rules and regulations, but under seal as designated here for the information and use of the Court.

(c) Data Requests. This procedure shall apply to data requests made during hearing and received thereafter. Resolution of disputes shall be by hearing thereafter, upon notice.

7. Use in Pleadings. Where reference to confidential information is required in pleadings, cross-examinations, briefs, arguments, or motions, it shall be by citation of title or exhibit number, or by some other description that will not disclose confidential information. Any further use of or substantive references to confidential information shall be placed in a separate section of the pleading or brief and submitted to the Commission under seal.

8. Segregation of Files. Those parts of any writing, depositions reduced to writing, written examinations, interrogatories and answers, or other written references to confidential information in the course of discovery, if filed with the Commission, will be sealed by the Executive Secretary of the Commission, segregated in the files of the Commission, and withheld from inspection by any person not bound by the terms of this Order, unless the confidential information is released from the restrictions of this Order either through agreement of the parties and the providing party or, after notice to the parties and providing party, and hearing, pursuant to the Order of the Commission or final order of a Court having jurisdiction.

9. Preservation of Confidentially. All persons who are afforded access to any confidential information by reason of this Order shall neither use nor disclose the confidential information for purposes of business or competition, or any other purpose other than the purposes of preparation for and conduct of this proceeding, and then solely as contemplated here, and shall take all reasonable precautions to keep the confidential information secure and in accordance with the purposes and intent of this Order. No party receiving confidential information pursuant to this Order may copy, microfilm, microfiche, or otherwise reproduce

such confidential information without the written consent of the providing party.

10. Reservation of Rights. The parties and non-parties further retain the right to question, challenge, and object to the admissibility of any and all data, information, studies, and other matters furnished under the terms of the Protective Order on the grounds of relevancy or materiality.

11. Non-Waiver. This Order shall in no way constitute a waiver of the rights of any party or person to contest any assertion or finding of trade secret, confidentiality, or privilege, or to appeal any determination of the Commission or assertion by a party.

12. Scope. The provisions of this Order are specifically intended to apply to information supplied by any party to this proceeding, and any nonparty that supplies documents, testimony, or other information pursuant to process issued by this Commission.

13. Retention of Documents. Upon request of the entity providing confidential information, at the conclusion of these proceedings, all documents and information subject to this Order, including any copies or extracts or summaries, or documents containing information from them, shall be returned to the party or person producing them. No copy shall be retained, except the original shall be maintained in the Commission files. Copies of briefs and pleadings prepared by counsel for a party or by a pro se party may be retained.

14. Remedies. Any person or party to this Order retains all remedies existing at civil or criminal law for breach of this Protective Order, and no provision here shall be construed to be a waiver of those rights.

Appendix A
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ATTACHMENT 1

NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

I hereby agree that I have read the PROTECTIVE PROVISIONS RELATING TO CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION entered in Docket No. 93I-098E and agree to be bound by its terms.

(NAME)

Employer or Firm

Business Address

Party in Case

Date

Signature