BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN RE: PETITION OF ATMOS August	t 23, 3007	
ENERGY CORPORATION FOR)	
APPROVAL OF A GENERAL RATE)	DOCKET NO. 07-00105
INCREASE)	

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR ACCESS TO CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

This matter came before the Hearing Officer upon the filing of a Motion by Stand Energy Corporation ("Stand Energy" or "Stand") on August 17, 2007 seeking access to confidential information filed in this docket pursuant to the Protective Order that was issued in this docket on or about June 25, 2007. The matter was heard by Chairman Eddie Roberson, as hearing officer, on August 21, 2007. All parties appeared through counsel and participated in the hearing. In light of the fact that Stand is a competitor, Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos Energy" or "Atmos") opposed Stand's motion to the extent that Stand seeks to allow any Stand employee, including Stand's inside counsel, John Dosker, Esq., access to confidential information.

Based upon the motion filed by Stand, the arguments of counsel at the hearing, the agreement by counsel for Stand Energy in this matter, Ms. Sanders and Mr. Dosker to be bound by the terms of this Order and the Protective Order previously entered in this case, and further based upon the entire record in this case, the undersigned Hearing Officer finds that Stand's motion should be granted in part and denied in part as follows:

- 1. On August 21, 2007 Stand Energy shall provide A. Scott Ross, Esq., Counsel for Atmos Energy, a list of discovery questions for which Stand Energy seeks to receive the confidential responses.
- 2. On the day following entry of this Order, Atmos Energy's Counsel shall serve upon John Dosker, Esq. and D. Billye Sanders, Esq., Counsel for Stand Energy a CD containing the confidential portion of the responses to the questions on the list provided by Stand Energy.
- 3. Stand Energy shall have at least two (2) business days after receiving the confidential responses to file its pre-filed testimony, if any. If John Dosker receives the confidential responses by the morning of Friday, August 24, 2007, then Stand Energy's pre-filed testimony shall be due on Tuesday, August 28, 2007 at 12 noon Central Time. If receipt of the confidential responses is delayed, the deadline for Stand Energy's pre-filed testimony shall be extended accordingly, to allow two business days after receipt.
- 4. On the day following entry of this Order, any testimony that is filed by other intervenors, which contains references to confidential information provided by Atmos Energy shall be served upon D. Billye Sanders. Ms. Sanders shall review the information and shall provide a listing of those confidential documents that she wishes to share with Mr. Dosker pursuant to the provisions of this order. After such a listing of the documents to be provided to Mr. Dosker has been received by Atmos counsel, Ms. Sanders may then provide such information to Mr. Dosker pursuant to the provisions of this Order.

- 5. None of the confidential information that is shared with Mrs. Sanders or Mr. Dosker shall be shared with anyone else, including without limitation other employees, officers, directors, or owners of Stand Energy, except that Ms. Sanders may share the information with other lawyers within her firm, and secretaries, or paralegals employed by her firm who are actively engaged in assisting counsel of record in this docket and any appeals thereof on a need to know basis only.
- 6. Stand Energy and its counsel shall use the confidential information obtained in this docket for this proceeding only and it shall not be used for other purposes or in other proceedings without approval of the TRA.
- 7. Within 30 days of the conclusion of this case and all appeals, all copies of such information shall be returned to counsel for Atmos or shall be destroyed. Within 45 days of the conclusion of this matter, Mr. Dosker and Ms. Sanders shall file sworn certifications regarding their compliance with all provisions of this Order and disclosing the identity of all persons to whom confidential information produced under the provisions of this order is believed to have been disclosed.
- 8. In addition to the restrictions imposed herein, Stand Energy and its counsel shall abide by the provisions of the Protective Order previously entered in this docket. Nothing in this Order shall be interpreted to lessen the protections afforded to Confidential or Confidential No Earl Burton materials that would otherwise be afforded by the Protective Order previously entered in this case.

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It is therefore ORDERED that the Motion for Stand Energy for Access to Confidential Information is granted on a limited and conditional basis as set forth in paragraphs 1 through 8 above.

> Eddie Roberson, Chairman **Hearing Officer**

Approved As to Form:

D. Billye Sanders, BPR # 005631

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