



Blanket General Protective Order

FACT SHEET

The Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) has adopted a blanket [General Protective Order](#) (GPO) that parties can use to produce confidential information under. Information produced under the GPO may also only be used for purposes of the proceeding in which it is produced.

In order to use the GPO to for a docket, you need to file a notice with the Commission. You can see an [updated sample notice in Appendix D of the GPO](#). The notice must:

- Reference the GPO, including where it may be accessed (either as an attachment or a link to the PUC's website).
- Describe the information that you seek to protect.
 - In order to be protected, the information must fall within the scope of ORCP 36(C)(1) (e.g., it is a trade secret or confidential commercial information) or the exemptions to Oregon Public Records Law, ORS 192.345 and 192.355.
 - It must also not be otherwise publicly available.
- List those of your employees who you designate to have access to protected information in the PUC's system in this proceeding. This list should be kept updated over the course of the proceeding as necessary.

You must file a new notice for each proceeding in which you seek to protect confidential information and it must be filed in the docket for that proceeding.

Once a notice has been filed in a docket, any party may use the GPO to produce protected information. But another party may file its own notice to designate employees to have access to its own information in the PUC's system.

In order to access other parties' protected information under the GPO, each party must sign the GPO. All persons receiving information under the GPO must take reasonable precautions to keep the information secure. There are three types of persons qualified to receive information under the GPO:

- Commission employees and Assistant Attorneys General assigned to represent the Commission, who are automatically bound by the GPO.
- Persons qualified under paragraph 10 of the GPO who must sign the Consent to be Bound section of the GPO: counsel for the party and their employees and certain employees of the Oregon Citizens' Utility Board.
- Persons who the party seeks to qualify under paragraph 11 of the GPO, which is all other persons and to whom other parties may object.