

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc.
Access Service
Price Schedule**

Case No. PU-12-262

ORDER GRANTING TRADE SECRET PROTECTION

June 20, 2012

Preliminary Statement

1. AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc., (AT&T) applied for trade secret protection on June 8, 2012, pursuant to N.D. Admin. Code § 69-02-09-01 and requested a protective order in accordance with the provisions of the N.D. Admin. Code.
2. The information identified by their application includes financial and rate information requested to be submitted with the filing of the AT&T Access Tariff, and reflects detailed financial, minutes-of-use, demand, revenue, and rate design information related to intrastate switched access service that is not publicly disclosed. This information could have economic value to potential competitors and is highly sensitive.
3. Commission staff as required by N.D. Admin. Code § 69-02-09-03 have on June 13, 2012, made a prima facie recommendation that the information is trade secret as defined by N.D.C.C. § 47-25.1-01(4).
4. The information for which trade secret protection is sought is highly confidential and of a propriety and financial nature and as provided in N.D.C.C. § 44-04-18.4, has been kept confidential by AT&T and would be of advantage to competitors if not protected.
5. If competitors had access to such confidential information, it could adversely affect prices all to the ultimate disadvantage of consumers and customers of AT&T.
6. The Commission, in consideration of Staff's prima facie recommendation, determines that the information is a trade secret as defined by N.D.C.C. ch. 47-25.1 and

N.D. Admin. Code ch. 69-02-09;

IT IS, THEREFORE,

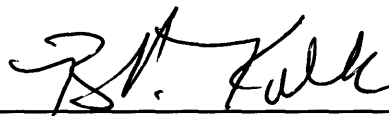
ORDERED AT&T is hereby granted trade secret protection pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of N.D.C.C. ch. 47-25.1 and N.D. Admin. Code ch. 69-02-09 for the information identified by the application; and it is further

ORDERED that this order shall not constitute precedent for a determination of entitlement to trade secret protection for any information upon any subsequent application.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



**Kevin Cramer
Commissioner**



**Brian P. Kalk
Chairman**

Vacant