

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**  
**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Missouri Valley Communications, Inc.**  
**Williston Rate Center**  
**Numbering Resources**

**Case No. PU-12-685**

**ORDER GRANTING TRADE SECRET PROTECTION**

On October 4, 2012, Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. (MVCI or Applicant) filed an application for a trade secret protective order under North Dakota Administrative Code section 69-02-09-01 for protecting against public disclosure trade secret information as defined by North Dakota Century Code section 47-25.1-01(4).

On October 10, 2012, North Dakota Public Service Commission Staff filed its response to the request, recommending the Commission approve the request.

The information sought to be protected includes a confidential request to MVCI for 1000 sequential telephone numbers, MVCI's application to NeuStar for numbering resources which was denied, and the required supporting documentation.

The information at issue is proprietary to MVCI and its customer. It is available from MVCI only to those employees and representatives of MVCI who need to know the information to perform their duties and responsibilities. MVCI does not disclose this information outside the company except pursuant to the terms of strict agreements or orders to maintain the confidentiality of the information. Both NANPA and the Pooling Administrator, NeuStar affiliates treat such information as confidential.

Competitors and potential competitors of MVCI in North Dakota include Midcontinent, Verizon, and any other provider of telecommunications services in North Dakota.

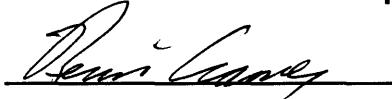
North Dakota Century Code § 44-04-18.4(2) authorizes protection for commercial, financial, proprietary, and trade secret information if privileged and if the information has not been previously publically disclosed. N.D.C.C. § 44-04-18.4(1). Commercial and financial information can be protected from disclosure if the information has not been previously disclosed and disclosure would impair the Commission's ability to obtain similar information in the future or would cause competitive injury to the person providing the information. N.D.C.C. §§ 44-04-18.4(2)(a) and 44-04-18.4(2)(b). Proprietary and trade secret information can be protected when the information derives independent economic value from not being generally known to or readily ascertainable by other persons, and is the subject of reasonable efforts to maintain its secrecy. N.D.C.C. §§ 44-04-18.4(2)(c) and 44-04-18.4(2)(d).

**Order**

The Commission orders:

The October 4, 2012, application of Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. for protection of information is GRANTED;

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**



**Kevin Cramer  
Commissioner**



**Brian P. Kalk  
Chairman**



**Bonny M. Fetch  
Commissioner**