

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

**Telrite Corporation  
Designated Eligible Carrier  
Application**

**Case No. PU-13-51**

**STAFF RESPONSE TO APPLICATION FOR PROTECTION OF INFORMATION**

On 16 July 2013, Telrite Corporation (Telrite) submitted an application for protection of information. Telrite asserts that the information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to N.D.C.C. § 44-04-18.4 and 44-04-19.1.

Telrite asserts that the information is Commercial Information and active investigatory work product. The information relates to audits and investigations detailing various aspects of how Telrite has in the past and will in the future provide its products and services including in-depth data validations (IDV), payment quality assurance (PQA) reviews conducted by the Universal Service Administrative Company, and information regarding federal investigations. To the best of Telrite's knowledge, the information has not been previously publicly disclosed and Telrite asserts that disclosure of this information would impair the Commission's future ability to obtain necessary information. Telrite also asserts that the information is treated as confidential by federal agencies.

Information that is exempt from disclosure may be protected by the Commission. Although the application fails to explain why the information derives independent economic value from being generally known to other persons, or a generation description of other entities that would obtain independent economic value from disclosure or use of the information (See N.D. Admin. Code § 69-02-09-01), Staff believes that Telrite's information is the type of information which has previously been

granted protection, and may be protected by the Commission. The Commission's process provides a means for interested parties to review protected documents upon signing a nondisclosure agreement.

For reasons set forth above, Staff recommends that the Commission grant the application of Telrite to protect certain information filed in this case.

Dated this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018.



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John Schuh  
Legal Counsel  
North Dakota Public Service Commission