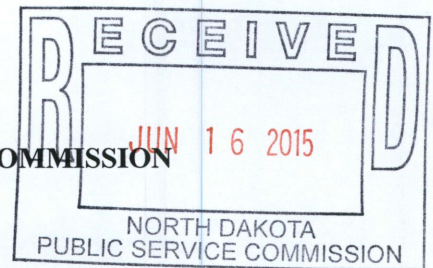


BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



In re Application of West River )  
Telecommunications Cooperative Requesting )  
Trade Secret Protection Pursuant to North Dakota )  
Administrative Code 69-02-09-01 for Confidential )  
CAF ICC Replacement Mechanism and Detail )  
Access Line Information )

Application No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Application for Trade Secret Protection for Confidential Financial Information**

West River Telecommunications Cooperative (“West River”) hereby files this Application requesting Trade Secret Protection for the submission of required Confidential CAF ICC Replacement Mechanism and Detail Access Line Information with the North Dakota Public Service Commission (“Commission”) and in support thereof, states as follows:

1. To comply with the Federal Communication Commission’s (“FCC”) annual reporting requirements in 47 C.F.R. §54.304, West River is required to provide to the FCC, the Universal Service Administrative Company (“USAC”) and the relevant state commission, a copy of the company’s NECA Connect America Fund (CAF) data request, including access lines by type and by exchange. West River requests the Commission grant trade secret protection to the information submitted to the Commission within the company’s NECA CAF data request. West River’s CAF ICC replacement and detailed access line information is confidential and competitively sensitive business information that is not otherwise available from public sources.

2. NECA files this same information with the FCC under confidential cover.

3. West River has properly stamped all documentation as confidential.

4. The CAF ICC replacement and detailed access line information submitted to NECA is confidential and competitively sensitive business information that is not otherwise available from public sources. Disclosure of this information to competitors or other parties with whom West River does business may allow those parties to gain a significant advantage in the marketplace or may adversely impact West River in the course of business negotiations. This information is not readily ascertainable by

proper means by other persons because it prepared and maintained in a confidential nature and disclosure of this information could harm the commercial and business interests of West River.


5. 69-02-09-01(5) is not germane to West River's Application.

6. West River employs measures both internally and externally to keep all detailed access line information confidential. Only authorized employees, board members and other authorized third parties, such as the consultants have the authority to view the detailed access line information as provided to NECA.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, West River Telecommunications Cooperative requests that the Commission approve the request for trade secret protection for the included financial information stamped confidential.

Dated: June 16, 2015

Respectfully submitted,  
West River Telecommunications Cooperative

By:   
Bonnie Krause  
CEO/General Manager  
West River Telecommunications Cooperative