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October 19, 2016



Mr. Darrell Nitschke
Executive Secretary
Public Utilities Division
Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Ave, Dept 408
Bismarck ND 58505-0480

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed is the application for Trade Secret Protection for West River Telecommunications Cooperatives filing of the F.C.C. Form 481, which was submitted to the ND PSC in June, 2016 with confidential information.

West River requests trade secret protection for the confidential information in that filing.

Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Beverly Huber
Accounting Manager

lab

Enclosures

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Application for Protection of Information

West River Telecommunications Cooperative
Beverly Huber, Accounting Manager

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BEFORE THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re Application of West River)
Telecommunications Cooperative Requesting) Application No. _____
Trade Secret Protection Pursuant to North Dakota)
Administrative Code 69-02-09-01 for Confidential)
Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection)

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 Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection Form 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”) reporting requirements in 47 C.F.R. §54.313 and 54.422, West River is required to provide to the FCC, the Universal Service Administrative Company (“USAC”) and the relevant state commission and Tribal Government, a copy of the company’s FCC Form 481, including details of how universal funds were spent and will be spent to upgrade and maintain West River’s network. West River requests the Commission grant trade secret protection to the information submitted to the Commission within the company’s FCC Form 481. West River’s financial information is confidential and competitively sensitive business information that is not otherwise available from public sources.

2. West River files this same information with the FCC and USAC under confidential cover.

3. West River has properly stamped all documentation as confidential. 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 is prepared and maintained in a confidential nature and disclosure of this information could harm the commercial and business interests of West River.

4. 69-02-09-01(5) is not germane to West River’s Application.

5. West River employs measures both internally and externally to keep all detailed financial information confidential. Only authorized employees, board members and other authorized third parties, such as the consultants have the authority to view the detailed financial information provided on FCC Form 481.

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: October 19, 2016

Respectfully submitted,
West River Telecommunications Cooperative

By:



Troy Schilling
CEO/GM

West River Telecommunications Cooperative