

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

**Inter-Community Tel. / Absaraka Cooperative  
Local Exchange  
Public Convenience & Necessity**

**Case No. PU-19-224**

**ORDER ON PROTECTION OF INFORMATION**

**December 18, 2019**

Preliminary Statement

July 1, 2019, Inter-Community Telephone Company, L.L.C. and Absaraka Cooperative Telephone Company, Inc. (together, the Company) filed an Application for Protection of Information to protect certain information in the captioned case.

On November 4, 2019, staff reviewed the request of the Company for protection of information.

Discussion

The information for which the Company seeks protection includes financial statements of the Company.

The confidentiality of this information has been maintained by the Company. The information is not disclosed to the public or to persons other than employees or authorized agents who need to know the information to fulfill their responsibilities in connection with the subject matter of the information.

The Company has requested that this, and similar types of this information, be treated as trade secret.

North Dakota Administrative Code section 69-02-09-03 provides "the commission staff shall examine the information and application, and file and serve a response that includes a recommendation on whether the information qualifies for protection."

Staff believes that the application satisfies the requirements of the law, which allows the Commission to grant protection of information in this proceeding.


The Commission concludes the Company's application satisfies the requirements of the North Dakota Century Code for protection of the information, which is the subject of this request.

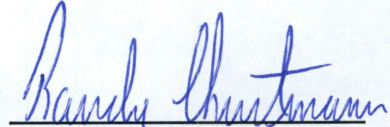
**Order**

The Commission orders the July 1, 2019, application of Inter-Community Telephone Company, L.L.C. and Absaraka Cooperative Telephone Company, Inc. for protection of information is GRANTED.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

  
Julie Fedorchak  
Commissioner

  
Brian Kroshus  
Chairman  
Commissioner

  
Randy Christmann  
Commissioner