

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Red River Rural Telephone Association
2022 High Cost Universal Service Support
Annual Report

Case No. PU-22-40

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY CERTIFIED MAIL

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH

Geralyn R. Schmaltz deposes and says that:

she is over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action and, on the **24th day of February 2023**, she deposited in the United States Mail, at Bismarck, North Dakota, **one** envelope with certified postage, return receipt requested, fully prepaid, securely sealed and containing a photocopy of:

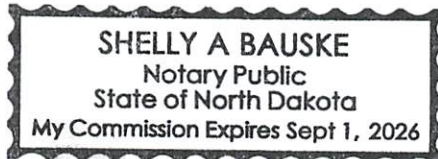
- **Order on Protection of Information**

The envelope was addressed as follows:

Thomas Campbell
Olsen Thielen
2675 Long Lake Road
St. Paul, MN 55113-1117
Cert. No. 7021 2720 0000 4438 6897

The address shown is the respective addressee's last reasonably ascertainable post office address.

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this **24th day of February 2023**.



Notary Public

SEAL

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**Red River Rural Telephone Association
2022 High-Cost Universal Service Support
Annual Report**

Case No. PU-22-40

ORDER ON PROTECTION OF INFORMATION

February 22, 2023

Preliminary Statement

On July 27, 2022, Red River Rural Telephone Association filed an Application for Protection of Information to protect certain information in the captioned case.

On January 3, 2023, Staff reviewed the request of Red River Rural Telephone Association for protection of information.

Discussion

The information which the Company requests be considered trade secret/confidential is a description and the amount of high-cost universal service support received by the company in 2021 and how that support is projected to be used, an estimate of the amount of federal high-cost universal support the company anticipates receiving in 2023 and how that support is projected to be used, detailed information regarding telecommunications infrastructure projects completed in 2021 and those forecasted in 2021, and detailed outage information for outages over 30 mins in 2018, filed with the North Dakota Public Service Commission ("Commission"). North Dakota Administrative Code Section 69-02-09-03 requires that Commission staff examine the information and application and make a recommendation to the Commission.

Under N.D.C.C. 44-04-18.4(2)(d) the information which the company is requesting protection for qualifies as "trade secret" as it is information that is compiled that would derive independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons that can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use; and is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain the secrecy of the information.

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 Red River Rural Telephone Association'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 27, 2022, application of Red River Rural Telephone Association, for protection of information is GRANTED.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Sheri Haugen-Hoffart

Sheri Haugen-Hoffart
Commissioner

Randy Christmann

Randy Christmann
Chair

Julie Fedorchak

Julie Fedorchak
Commissioner