

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Midcontinent Communications
2022 High-Cost Universal Service Support
Annual Report

Case No. PU-22-41

ORDER ON PROTECTION OF INFORMATION

February 22, 2023

Preliminary Statement

On July 1, 2022, Midcontinent Communications filed an Application for Protection of Information to protect certain information in the captioned case.

On January 3, 2023, Staff reviewed the request of Midcontinent Communications for protection of information.

Discussion

The information which the Company requests be considered trade secret/confidential is Operations Expenses and Capital Expenditures 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.

Additionally, 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 Midcontinent Communication'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, 2022, application of Midcontinent Communications, 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