

Service Date: August 31, 2000

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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| IN THE MATTER of |) | UTILITY DIVISION |
| U S WEST Communications, Inc. |) | DOCKET NO. D2000.2.21 |
| Tariff Transmittal 00-04, |) | |
| “Competitive Response Tariff”. |) | ORDER NO. 6250a |

PROTECTIVE ORDER

On August 28, 2000, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed a Motion for Protective Order and supporting brief to govern certain information expected to be filed in the above-entitled proceeding. Qwest requests protection of information relating to financials of the competitive response program and other responses to future discovery which require production of trade secret or private information. Qwest argues that the identified information is trade secret in accordance with § 30-14-402, MCA.

The Public Service Commission (Commission) determines that the identified information could be confidential and subject to protection from public disclosure pursuant to § 69-3-105, MCA , and Art. II, § 10, Mont. Const. Therefore, the Commission grants Qwest's request and hereby orders that information submitted in accordance with this Order be treated as "confidential information" under the terms of this Order and Commission protective order rules, ARM 38.2.5001 through 38.2.5030.

DONE AND DATED this 29th day of August, 2000, by a vote of 5 - 0.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DAVE FISHER, Chair

NANCY MCCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

GARY FELAND, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: Reconsideration of this order is not allowed. ARM 38.2.5008(2); ARM 38.2.4806(7). A challenge to this order may be made pursuant to ARM 38.2.5008(3).

Montana Public Service Commission
Protective Orders and Protection of Confidential Information

Nondisclosure Agreement

(7-26-00)

ARM 38.2.5012

Docket No. D2000.2.21, Order No. 6250a
Order Action Date: August 29, 2000

I understand that in my capacity as counsel or expert witness for a party to this proceeding before the commission, or as a person otherwise lawfully so entitled, I may be called upon to access, review, and analyze information which is protected as confidential information. I have reviewed ARM 38.2.5001 through 38.2.5030 (commission rules applicable to protection of confidential information) and protective orders governing the protected information that I am entitled to receive. I fully understand, and agree to comply with and be bound by, the terms and conditions thereof. I will neither use nor disclose confidential information except for lawful purposes in accordance with the governing protective order and ARM 38.2.5001 through 38.2.5030 so long as such information remains protected.

I understand that this nondisclosure agreement may be copied and distributed to any person having an interest in it and that it may be retained at the offices of the provider, commission, consumer counsel, any party and may be further and freely distributed.

Typed or Printed Name

Signature

Date of Signature

Business Address:

Employer

Party Represented