

ORIGINAL

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO 97 SEP -8 AM 9:37

In the Matter of the Application of Ameritech Ohio for Approval of a Contract Between Itself and Kelly Services

Case No. 96-403-TP-AE

AMERITECH OHIO'S MOTION TO EXTEND PROTECTIVE ORDER

Ameritech Ohio, by its attorneys and pursuant to

Section 4901-1-24(F) of the Commission's rules, Ohio Admin. Code

§ 4901-1-24(F), moves to extend the protective order in this

case. Ameritech Ohio's original motion for a protective order

was filed, along with the redacted version of the subject

contract, on April 26, 1996. This motion is being filed at least

forty-five days in advance of the expiration of the existing

protective order. As was the case when the contract was

initially filed, the prices, the quantities, the term of the

contract, and the billed telephone numbers is information which

Ameritech Ohio considers to be, and has treated as, trade secret

information. The need for continued protection of this

information from disclosure is as stated in Ameritech Ohio's

memorandum in support of its original motion, which is

incorporated herein by reference.

In addition, the Ohio General Assembly amended R. C. §§ 4901.12 and 4905.07 after the original motion was filed in this case in order to facilitate the protection of trade secrets in the Commission's possession. In Am. Sub. H. B. 476, effective September 17, 1996, the General Assembly carved out an exception

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to the general rule in favor of the public disclosure of information in the Commission's possession. By referencing R. C. § 149.43, the Commission-specific statutes now incorporate the provision of that statute that excepts from the definition of "public record" records the release of which is prohibited by state or federal law. R. C. § 149.43(A)(1). In turn, state law prohibits the release of information meeting the definition of a trade secret. R. C. §§ 1333.61(D) and 1333.62. The amended statutes also reference the purposes of Title 49 of the Revised Code. The protection of trade secret information from public disclosure is consistent with the purposes of Title 49 because the Commission and its Staff have access to the information; in many cases, the parties to a case may have access under an appropriate protective agreement. The protection of trade secret information as requested herein will not impair the Commission's regulatory responsibilities.

For the foregoing reasons, Ameritech Ohio requests that designated information be protected from public disclosure indefinitely.

Respectfully submitted,

AMERITECH OHIO

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