

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Preferred )  
Long Distance, Inc., for a Certificate of Public )  
Convenience and Necessity to Provide Local ) Case No. 08-230-TP-ACE  
Exchange Service and Interexchange Telecom- )  
munications Services Within the State of Ohio. )

ENTRY

The attorney examiner finds:

- (1) On March 6, 2008, the applicant, Preferred Long Distance, Inc., (Preferred) filed an application in this case seeking a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide local exchange service in telephone exchanges identified in the application and interexchange services throughout the state of Ohio.
- (2) On April 1, 2008, counsel for Preferred filed a motion for protective order by which the applicant seeks to protect the confidentiality of the financial information set forth in Exhibit C to its certification application, which has been marked confidential and filed under seal. The information for which protective treatment is sought consists of the applicant's 2007 income statement and balance sheet. Preferred is privately held, rather than a publicly traded company. In its motion for a protective order, the applicant indicates that the involved financial information is not otherwise available to the applicant's competitors. Further, the applicant submits that disclosure of this information could be competitively damaging to the applicant.
- (3) Under certain limited circumstances, the Commission has been willing to grant motions of telephone companies who seek to protect the confidentiality of the financial information they are required to submit as part of their certification applications. To date, such protection has been granted for periods of up to 18 months, where the company seeking the protective order can show that:
  - (a) It is privately held, or is a company that as a wholly owned subsidiary of a public traded

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.

Technician                     

Date Processed 4-24-08

company, does not routinely publicly report its financial status.

- (b) The information for which protective status is sought represents recent historical, contemporaneous, or projected details about the operations and/or finances of the company seeking the protective order that are competitively sensitive and have never previously been made available to the general public or filed with any other public agency.
- (4) Each of the above criteria has been met in this case with respect to Exhibit C of Preferred's certification application. Accordingly, Preferred's motion for protective order filed in this docket should be granted, such that, unless and until specifically ordered otherwise, public disclosure of Exhibit C to Preferred's certification application that was filed under seal shall occur for the first time on October 24, 2009, i.e., the date 18 months from the date of the issuance of this protective order. In the event that Preferred should desire to seek continued protective treatment for this information beyond this 18-month period, it must make application for such continued protection in compliance with Rule 4901-1-24(F), Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.).

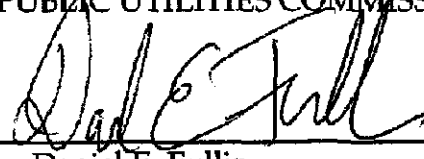
It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That Preferred's motion for protective order is granted. Accordingly, unless and until specifically ordered otherwise, public disclosure of the Exhibit C to Preferred's certification application shall occur for the first time on October 24, 2009, i.e., the date 18 months from the date of the issuance of this protective order. In the event that Preferred should desire to seek continued protective treatment for this information beyond this 18-month period, it must make application for such continued protection in compliance with Rule 4901-1-24(F), O.A.C. It is, further,

ORDERED, That this entry shall not be binding upon the Commission in any subsequent investigation or proceeding involving the justness or reasonableness of any rate, charge, rule, or regulation. It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this entry be served upon Preferred, and all interested persons of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO



By: Daniel E. Fullin  
Attorney Examiner

geb

Entered in the Journal

APR 24 2008



Renee J. Jenkins  
Secretary