#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Commission's Investigation into Intrastate Carrier Access Reform Pursuant to Sub. S.B. 162

RECEIVED-DOUXETING SIL ) Case No. 10 - 2387 - TP - CO

### MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

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Pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-24(D), The Ottoville Mutual Telephone Company ("Ottoville") hereby moves the Commission for a protective order regarding the confidential information that it is filing contemporaneously with this Motion, specifically the unredacted version of its calculations supporting the mandated reductions in its intrastate access rates (the "Confidential Information"). Specifically, Ottoville seeks to protect its FY 2011 Intrastate Demand figures (the "MOU") and related revenues derived from the MOU.

Ottoville requests that the Commission issue such order as is necessary to protect the Confidential Information. Non-disclosure of the information is not inconsistent with the purposes of Title 49 of the Revised Code because the Commission and its Staff will have full access to the Confidential Information in order to fulfill their statutory obligations.

The bases for this Motion may be found in the attached Memorandum of Support.

Respectfully submitted,

THE OTTOVILLE MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY

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Carolyn S. Flahive By: (0072404)THOMPSON HINE LLP 41 S. High Street, Suite 1700 Columbus, Ohio 43215 Telephone: (614) 469-3200 Facsimile: (614) 469-3361

Its Counsel

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### MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

In accordance with the Commission's March 20, 2012 Entry in this proceeding, Ottoville is concurrently filing its calculations supporting the mandated reductions to its intrastate access rates. One element of the calculations is Ottoville's FY 2011 Intrastate Demand (the "MOU"), which Ottoville considers to be confidential and proprietary data. Further, the calculations include related revenue information that is derived from the MOU (together, the MOU and the related derived revenues shall be referred to herein as the "Confidential Information"). Because Ottoville considers the MOU and derived revenues to be confidential, the unredacted version of the calculations has been filed under seal as required by Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-24(D).

The Confidential Information includes detail about Ottoville's finances and operations that would be of significant interest to competitors. Consequently, that data constitutes confidential information that should not be disclosed in the public record.

The Confidential Information constitutes trade secrets as defined in Revised Code §1333.61(D). The information (1) derives economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use, and (2) is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy.

The Ohio Supreme Court adopted six factors to be used in determining whether a trade secret claim meets the statutory definition:

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1) The extent to which the information is known outside the business;

2) The extent to which it is known to those inside the business, i.e., by the employees;

3) The precautions taken by the holder of the trade secret to guard the secrecy of the information;

4) The savings effected and the value to the holder in having the information as against competitors;

5) The amount of effort or money expended in obtaining and developing the information; and

6) The amount of time and expense it would take for others to acquire and duplicate the information.

State ex rel. The Plain Dealer v. Ohio Dept. of Ins., 80 Ohio St.3d 513, 524-525 (1997).

With the exception of Ottoville's billing vendor, the Confidential Information is not known outside of Ottoville and is known within Ottoville only to senior managers and a limited number of employees with a particular need to know. Ottoville has taken precautions to guard the secrecy of the Confidential Information by limiting its dissemination. Disclosure of the Confidential Information would harm Ottoville's competitive position in the marketplace. (See attached Affidavit of Donald Hoersten, General Manager.)

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. Granting protection of the Confidential Information requested herein will not impair the Commission's regulatory responsibilities.

Confidential treatment of the calculations is therefore both appropriate and required by Ohio law and the Commission's rules. For the foregoing reasons, Ottoville prays that its Motion for Protective Order be granted.

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Respectfully submitted,

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THE OTTOVILLE MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY

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Its Counsel

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In the Matter of the Commission's Investigation ) into Intrastate Carrier Access Reform Pursuant ) Case No. 10 - 2387 - TP - COI to Sub. S.B. 162 )

# **AFFIDAVIT OF DONALD HOERSTEN**

STATE OF OHIO

# COUNTY OF PUTNAM

NOW COMES Donald Hoersten, being first duly cautioned and sworn, deposes and says as follows:

- I am General Manager of The Ottoville Mutual Telephone Company ("Ottoville"); 245
  W. Third Street, PO Box 427, Ottoville, OH 45876. I am authorized to make this Affidavit on behalf of Ottoville, and do so in the ordinary discharge of my responsibilities.
- I have personal knowledge of all relevant matters pertaining to the calculations that Ottoville filed with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio on April 10, 2012, including the MOU and related revenue data.
- 3. Ottoville considers the MOU and related revenue data (together, the "Confidential Information") to be confidential.
- 4. The Confidential Information is not otherwise available to the general public, and includes detail about Ottoville's finances and operations that would be of significant interest to competitors. Consequently, Ottoville is requesting that the Confidential Information not be disclosed to the public.

- 5. The Confidential Information derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means, by other persons who can derive economic value from its disclosure or use.
- 6. With the exception of Ottoville's billing vendor, the Confidential Information is provided only to Ottoville's senior management and a restricted list of employees who have a particular need to know the Information.
- The Confidential Information is indicative of Ottoville's operations and, therefore, public disclosure of the Confidential Information would place Ottoville at a competitive and economic disadvantage.
- The Confidential Information is the subject of efforts by Ottoville that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

Konald J Housten Donald Hoersten

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this  $\underline{\mathcal{G}}$  day of April, 2012.

Mayou L. M Notary Pablic 10)

MARJORIE L. RICKER Notary Public, State of Ohio My Commission Expires May 30, 2016

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

It is hereby certified that a true copy of the foregoing was served via electronic mail to

the persons listed below this 10th day of April, 2012.

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