

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
August 20, 2010**

**ORDER GRANTING CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT  
UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

**Penwest Pharmaceuticals Co.**

**File No. 001-34267 - CF# 25552**

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Penwest Pharmaceuticals Co. submitted an application under Rule 24b-2 requesting confidential treatment for information it excluded from the Exhibits to a Form 10-Q filed on August 6, 2010.

Based on representations by Penwest Pharmaceuticals Co. that this information qualifies as confidential commercial or financial information under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(4), the Division of Corporation Finance has determined not to publicly disclose it. Accordingly, excluded information from the following exhibit(s) will not be released to the public for the time period(s) specified:

Exhibit 10.1	through December 31, 2016
Exhibit 10.4	through June 8, 2020

For the Commission, by the Division of Corporation Finance, pursuant to delegated authority:

Craig E. Slivka  
Special Counsel