Notice of Ex Parte Contact





On January 17, 2006 I received the attached letter from Representative Rob Schaaf regarding the Aquila rate increase. The Commission is currently considering the issues discussed in this document in case **ER-2005-0436** which is a contested case. In contested cases, the Commission is bound by the same *ex parte* rule as a court of law.

Although communications from members of the public and members of the legislature are always welcome, those communications must be made known to all parties to a contested case so that those parties have the opportunity to respond. According to the Commission's rules (4 CSR 240-4.020(8)), when a communication (either oral or written) occurs outside the hearing process, any member of the Commission or Regulatory Law Judge who received the communication shall prepare a written report concerning the communication and submit it to each member of the Commission and the parties to the case. The report shall identify the person(s) who participated in the *ex parte* communication, the circumstances which resulted in the communication, the substance of the communication, and the relationship of the communication to a particular matter at issue before the Commission.

Therefore, I submit this report pursuant to the rules cited above. This will ensure that any party to this case will have notice of the attached information and a full and fair opportunity to respond to the comments contained therein.

cc: Commissioners Executive Director Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge General Counsel CAPITOL OFFICE State Capitol Room 111 201 West Capitol Avenue Jefferson City, MO 64101-6806 Tele: (573) 751-2183 Fax: (573) 526-9851

> DISTRICT OFFICE 1331 Village Drive Saint Joseph, MO 64506 Tele: (816) 233-0300 Fax: (816) 676-1311



ROB SCHAAF State Representative District 28

January 11, 2006

COMMITTEES

•Vice-Chairman: Health Care Policy

- •Appropriations: Public Safety
- Professional Registration and Licensing

Legislative Aide: Jaimi Voss

E-Mail: rob@schaaf.com

Mr. Jeff Davis, Chairman Missouri Public Service Commission 200 Madison Street P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

Dear Mr. Davis:

It has come to my attention that Aquila has filed a rate increase of \$7 million dollars for the customers of the former St. Joseph Light and Power Company. This will have a very detrimental effect on many of my constituents. I would like to see the Missouri Public Service Commission deny most, if not all of this requested increase.

If my information is correct, in September of 2005, bonuses of \$3.3 million were paid to the Aquilla executives who sold off assets to pay down debt. I see no good reason for the consumers to pay for these hefty bonuses.

Again, it is my hope that the Missouri Public Service Commission denies this rate increase. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at one of the numbers listed above.

Respectfully, Rob Schaaf

Proudly Serving the Citizens of the 28th District.