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OF COUNSEL  
RICHARD T. CIOTTONI

September 3, 2003

Secretary  
Public Service Commission  
P. O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

**FILED<sup>3</sup>**

SEP 03 2003

**RE: Case No. GR-2004-0072**

Missouri Public  
Service Commission

Dear Mr. Roberts:

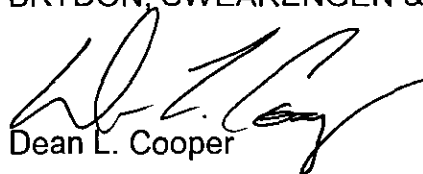
Enclosed please find an original and eight copies of Aquila Networks - MPS's Recommendation Concerning Proper Test Year and, in the Alternative, Motion for True-Up Hearing. Please stamp the enclosed copy filed and return same to me.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, then please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C.

By:

  
Dean L. Cooper

DLC/tli

Enclosures

cc: Tim R. Schwarz, Jr.  
Douglas Micheel  
Stuart W. Conrad  
James M. Humphrey  
Mark Comley

FILED<sup>3</sup>

SEP 03 2003

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Missouri Public  
Service Commission

In the Matter of Aquila, Inc. d/b/a )  
Aquila Networks - L&P and Aquila ) Case No. GR-2004-0072  
Networks - MPS to Implement a )  
General Rate Increase in Natural Gas Rates )

**RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING PROPER TEST YEAR  
AND, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, MOTION FOR TRUE-UP HEARING**

COMES NOW Aquila, Inc., d/b/a Aquila Networks - MPS and Aquila Networks - L&P ("Aquila" or "Company") and, as its recommendation concerning the proper test year for use in this case and, in the alternative, its motion for true-up hearing, states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"):

1. For purposes of the instant case, the Company proposes a test year consisting of the twelve months ended December 31, 2002. This test year has been addressed in the Company's prepared direct testimony and schedules.

2. Aquila further recommends that this test year be updated, to include known and measurable changes, through September 30, 2003.

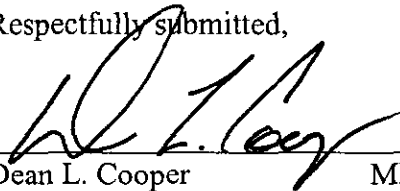
3. In the alternative, should the Commission decide to not allow for an update through September 30, 2003, Aquila proposes a true-up audit and hearing for the following items as of September 30, 2003:

- Plant in service and other rate base items
- Customers/Revenues
- Rate case expenses
- Employee Levels and Wage Rates and related benefits

4. The Company is of the opinion that a test year, as proposed herein, including either an update, including known and measurable changes, or a true-up hearing as proposed in the alternative, will reflect a proper matching of revenues, expenses and rate base and, thus, better reflect the Company's true cost of service at the time the rates to be set in this proceeding become effective.

WHEREFORE, Company respectfully requests the Commission to issue its order adopting a test year for use in this case comprised of the twelve months ended December 31, 2002, updated, to include known and measurable changes, through September 30, 2003, or in the alternative, the use of a true-up hearing as described above.

Respectfully submitted,



Dean L. Cooper MBE#36592  
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ATTORNEYS FOR AQUILA, INC. D/B/A  
AQUILA NETWORKS - MPS AND  
AQUILA NETWORKS - L&P

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was hand-delivered on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2003, to the following:

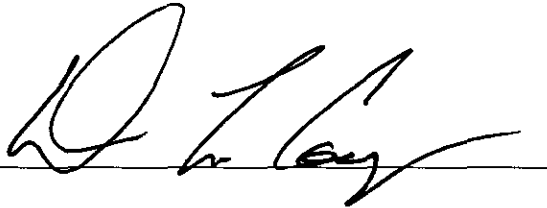
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Mark Comley  
Newman, Comley & Ruth P.C.  
P.O. Box 537  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0537



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Comley', is written over a horizontal line.