BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Tariff Filing of Aquila, Inc.)	
d/b/a KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations)	
Company, to Implement a General Rate Increase)	Case No. HR-2009-0092 Tariff No. YH-2009-0195
for Retail Steam Heating Service Provided to)	
Customers in its Missouri Service Area it formerly)	
served as Aquila Networks—L&P)	

LIST OF ISSUES, ORDER OF WITNESSES AND ORDER OF CROSS-EXAMINATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff") and states:

- 1. On September 5, 2008, Aquila d/b/a KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company ("GMO") filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") tariff sheets designed to implement a general steam heating rate increase for service it provides to its Missouri customers. The Commission opened Case No. HR-2009-0092 to address that filing.
- 2. On November 20, 2008, the Commission issued an *Order Setting Procedural Schedules* in which it stated the parties shall file a joint list of issues and that "[a]ny issue, or sub-issue, not included in the issues list will be presumed to not require determination by the Commission." In its order the Commission also stated that each party is to file a list of witnesses to appear on each day of the hearing, the order in which they are called, and that the parties are to file a joint pleading proposing the order in which witnesses are to be cross-examined. In the ordered schedule, as proposed by the parties, the Commission set April 10, 2009, as the filing date for the list of issues, order of witnesses [and] order of cross-examination.
- 3. The Parties to this proceeding are: GMO, Staff, the Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC"), and Ag Processing, Inc. ("AGP").
- 4. In its November 20, 2008, *Order Setting Procedural Schedules* the Commission, at the parties' request, waived the requirements of Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-

2.080(21) regarding the format of the list of issues.

5. The Staff consulted with the parties in an effort to obtain a consensus as to the wording of the issues, list of witnesses and order of cross-examination. However, such consensus was not reached, and the listing of issues below is not an agreement by any party that any particular listed issue is, in fact, a valid or relevant issue. Indeed, in their position statements, some parties may state that they consider a particular listed issue to not be a valid issue. This "non-binding" listing of issues is not to be construed as impairing any party's ability to argue about any of these issues or related matters, or to restrict the scope of its response to arguments made by other parties.

LIST OF ISSUES

REVENUE REQUIREMENT

RATE BASE

1. <u>Cash Working Capital—Imputed AR Program in Lead Lag Study</u>: Should the cost related to the termination of GMOs accounts receivable sales program caused by the loss of investment grade status be passed on to its customers?

2. Accumulated Depreciation:

- a. Should the reserve deficiency related to plant retired prematurely as a consequence of GPE's acquisition of Aquila be added back to the respective ECORP reserve account?
- b. Should the reduction of reserve overstatement currently assigned to the two divisions as UCU Common General Plant be assigned on a weighted average per reserve account to the ECORP accumulated reserve for depreciation?
- c. Should GMO maintain separate accounting of amounts accrued for recovery of its initial investment in plant and the amounts accrued for the cost of removal?
- d. Is Commission authorization required for GMO to change its depreciation rate to zero (0)?
- e. Should the accumulated depreciation for ECORP common plant asset

accounts reflect depreciation accrual of approximately \$4.2 million more than on GMO's books because the authorized depreciation rates for the ECORP common asset accounts are not zero?

f. Has GMO properly accounted for ECORP common plant asset retirements caused by Great Plains Energy's acquisition of GMO?

COST OF CAPITAL

- **Return on Common Equity:** What return on common equity should be used for determining GMO's rate of return?
- **2.** <u>Capital Structure:</u> What capital structure should be used for determining GMO's rate of return?
- 3. Cost of Debt (MPS and L&P): What cost of debt should be used for determining GMO's rate of return?

REVENUES

AGP Special Contract: For ratemaking purposes, should revenues forgone by GMO pursuant to an agreement with AGP be imputed into test-year revenues? If "yes" to the above, should such imputation include revenues forgone as a result of the billing treatment called for in the March 22, 2004 agreement between GMO and AGP?

EXPENSES

- 1. <u>Short-term Incentive Compensation</u>: Should the costs of short-term incentive compensation plans be included in GMO's revenue requirement for setting GMO's rates?
- 2. <u>Supplemental Executive Retirement Pension (SERP) Costs</u>: Should the costs of the SERP payments related to former Saint Joseph Light and Power Company officers be included in GMO's revenue requirement for purposes of setting GMO's rates?
- **3.** <u>Payroll Overtime</u>: What level of payroll overtime should be included in GMO's revenue requirement for purposes of setting GMO's rates?
- **4.** <u>Fuel Expense</u>: What level of fuel and purchased power expense should be included in GMO's revenue requirement for purpose of setting GMO's rates?

Merger Transition Costs:

a. Has the Company satisfied its commitment to only seek recovery of transition costs if its synergy tracker indicates overall savings equal to or greater than the level of transition costs being sought to be included in rates.

b. What are the appropriate levels of merger transition costs that should be included in the revenue requirements of MPS and L&P for setting the rates of MPS and L&P?

DEPRECIATION:

- **1.** <u>Depreciation Rates (MPS and L&P)</u>: What are the appropriate levels of depreciation rates to be established in this case?
- **2.** Should life-span method be rejected for developing depreciation rates for the Company's production plant accounts?
- **3.** Should establishment of GMO's depreciation rates be postponed until completion of a consolidated KCPL and GMO depreciation study?
- **4.** If establishment of GMO's depreciation rates is postponed until completion of a consolidated KCPL and GMO depreciation study, does that delay constitute an acquisition detriment?
- **5.** Should the Company review its unit property catalog for proper and consistent placement of Combustion Turbine units?

RATE DESIGN

1. How should the rate increase be applied to the rate components?

Should the Company's proposal to increase each rate component on an equal percentage basis for the non-fuel portion of the increase, and rebase the fuel costs on an equal cents per MMBTU basis, or should the Staff's proposal to increase each rate component on an equal percentage basis be used?

QUARTERLY COST ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE

- 1. QCA Revisions:
 - **a.** Should the QCA be continued?
 - **b.** If so, should or may modifications be made?

ORDER OF WITNESSES AND ORDER OF CROSS-EXAMINATION

1. In its *Order Setting Procedural Schedule*, as requested by the parties, the Commission scheduled the evidentiary hearings in this case for May 4-8, 2009. Following is the hearing schedule the parties propose:

ORDER OF ISSUES AND WITNESSES

Following are known witness conflict dates: Mike Ensrud is not available May 5^{th} and 6th

Monday, May 4, 2009 8:30 a.m.

Make Entries of Appearance Take Up Outstanding Matters Opening Statements

GMO

Staff

Public Counsel

AGP

Overview and Policy

Rush (GMO)

Featherstone (Staff)

Cost of Capital

Return on Common Equity

Capital Structure

Hadaway (GMO)

Cline (GMO)

Murray (Staff)

Cash Working Capital—Imputed AR Program in Lead Lag Study

Cline (GMO)

Klote (GMO)

Herrington (Staff)

Tuesday, May 5, 2009 8:30 a.m.

Short-Term Incentive Compensation

Curry (GMO)

Klote (GMO)

Majors (Staff)

Supplemental Executive Retirement Pension (SERP) Costs

Curry (GMO)

Hyneman (Staff)

Overtime Costs

Klote (GMO)

Majors (Staff)

Fuel

Nelson (GMO) Harris (Staff) Elliott(Staff)

Wednesday, May 6, 2009 8:30 a.m.

Depreciation

White (GMO) Klote (GMO) Schad (Staff)

Merger Synergy Tracking and Transition Cost Recovery

Ives (GMO) Hyneman (Staff)

Thursday, May 7, 2009 8:30 a.m.

Revenues

Ensrud(Staff) Rush (GMO)

Rate Design

Rush (GMO) Ross (Staff) Johnstone (AGP)

Quarterly Cost Adjustment Clause

Rush (GMO) Mantle (Staff) Johnstone (AGP)

ORDER OF CROSS-EXAMINATION

While for specific issues a different order of cross-examination may be more appropriate, generally, the order of cross-examination, based on adversity, is the following:

GMO witnesses

AGP, Public Counsel, Staff

Staff witnesses

AGP, Public Counsel, GMO

AGP witness

Public Counsel, Staff, GMO

WHEREFORE, the Staff submits the foregoing list of issues, order of witnesses and order of cross-examination in response to the Commission's November 20, 2008 *Order Setting Procedural Schedule*.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Nathan Williams_

Nathan Williams Deputy General Counsel Missouri Bar No. 35512

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or emailed to all counsel of record this 14th day of April, 2009.

/s/ Nathan Williams