BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

)

)

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Aquila, Inc., d/b/a Aquila Networks – MPS and Aquila Networks – L&P ("Aquila"), The Empire District Gas Company ("EDG") and The Empire District Electric Company ("EDE") for an Order Authorizing the Sale, Transfer and Assignment of Certain Assets and Liabilities from Aquila to EDG and in Connection Therewith Certain Other Related Transactions.

Case No. GO-2006-0205

ORDER SETTING SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE

Issue Date: November 10, 2005

Effective Date: November 10, 2005

On September 28, 2005, Aquila, Inc. d/b/a Aquila Networks – MPS and Aquila Networks – L&P, The Empire District Gas Company and The Empire District Electric Company filed, with the Missouri Public Service Commission, an application seeking authority to sell, transfer and assign certain assets and liabilities from Aquila to The Empire District Gas Company.

This matter is now at issue and a settlement conference is appropriate to ensure its prompt resolution. At the conference, the parties or their representatives should be prepared to discuss the nature of any discovery each will conduct and the interval necessary for its completion. If the parties anticipate the necessity of an evidentiary hearing, then they should be prepared to propose a procedural schedule.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That a prehearing conference shall be held on December 7, 2005, beginning at 10:00 a.m., in the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Room 305,

Jefferson City, Missouri. This hearing will be held in a building that meets accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need additional accommodations to participate in this public hearing, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 prior to the hearing.

2. That this order shall become effective on November 10, 2005.

BY THE COMMISSION

Colleen M. Dale Secretary

(SEAL)

Kennard L. Jones, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 10th day of November, 2005.