

FILED³
FEB 07 2003

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of Aquila Networks - MPS')	
Purchased Gas Adjustment factors to be)	Case No. GR-2001-461
reviewed in its 1999-2000 and 2000-2001)	(Consolidated)
Actual Cost Adjustment.)	

**AQUILA'S RESPONSE TO STAFF'S SUGGESTIONS IN SUPPORT OF
UNANIMOUS STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT**

COMES NOW Aquila, Inc. d/b/a Aquila Networks - MPS ("MPS"), and, in response to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") Staff's ("Staff") Suggestions in Support of Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement, states as follows:

1. On January 29, 2003, the Parties to this case filed a Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement ("Stipulation"). The Stipulation, among other things, provided that the Staff would, "within seven days of the filing of [the Stipulation], file with the Commission suggestions or a memorandum in support of [the Stipulation]. . . ." The Stipulation further provided that "the other parties shall have the right to file responsive suggestions within five (5) days of receipt of Staff's memorandum."

2. On February 5, 2003, Staff filed its suggestions, wherein it indicated its support for the Stipulation, as well the underlying basis for its support.

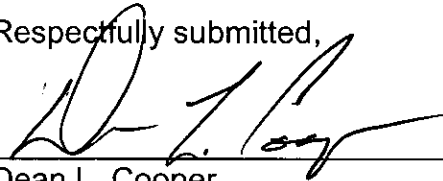
3. Aquila agrees with the primary conclusion drawn by the Staff. That is, that the Parties reached a resolution and settlement of the remaining issues that is "reasonable and beneficial to ratepayers in this case" and that the Commission should "approve this Stipulation and Agreement as being in the public interest."

4. However, this does not indicate agreement with the entirety of the Staff's Suggestions. A Stipulation may be reached based upon many different conclusions and

motivations. Consequently, while Aquila supports the Stipulation that has been filed in this matter and recommends that the Commission approve that Stipulation, Aquila reiterates that the Staff's Suggestions in Support of Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement are Staff's own and are not acquiesced in or otherwise adopted by Aquila, whether or not the Commission approves and adopts this Stipulation.

WHEREFORE, Aquila respectfully submits this response and requests that the Commission approve all of the specific terms and conditions of the Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement.

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTORNEYS FOR AQUILA, INC. D/B/A
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was hand-delivered on February 6, 2003, to the following:

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