

**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

MOTION TO SUSPEND PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

COMES NOW the Staff ("Staff") of the Missouri Public Service Commission in the above-captioned matter and requests that the Commission suspend the procedural schedule but maintain the hearing dates previously set by the Commission. In support of this request Staff states:

1. Pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.110 (1) and on the behalf of the parties to this case, the Staff requests that the Commission suspend the procedural schedule events leading up to the hearing dates of March 29 and 30, 2006 as those dates were recently modified by the Commission's Order Changing Hearing Dates issued on February 22, 2006.
2. On Friday evening February 24, 2006, the parties have concluded their discussions and have reached an agreement in principle settling the issues of this case. The parties intend within the week to submit for Commission approval a proposed unanimous stipulation and agreement.
3. Accordingly, the parties intend to present the proposed agreement to the Commission for their approval during the hearing dates of March 29 and 30, 2006.

WHEREFORE, the Staff, on behalf of the parties, respectfully requests the Commission suspend the procedural schedule events leading up to the March 29 and 30, 2006 hearing dates as indicated above.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Robert S. Berlin

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or e-mailed to all counsel of record 27th day of February 2006.

/s/ Robert S. Berlin