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September 9, 2002

FILED³

SEP 09 2002

Missouri Public
Service Commission

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Executive Secretary
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street, PO Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

RE: In the Matter of the Tariff Filing Of Aquila, Inc.,
d/b/a/ Aquila Networks-L&P - Case No. GT-2003-0038
Tariff No. 200300096 - **CONSOLIDATED**

RE: In the Matter of the Tariff Filing Of Aquila, Inc.,
d/b/a/ Aquila Networks-MPS - Case No. GT-2003-0039
Tariff No. 200300095 - **CONSOLIDATED**

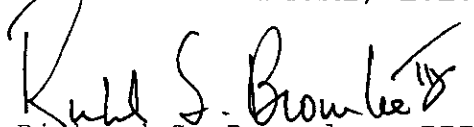
Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed please find for filing the original plus eight (8) copies of the Direct Testimony of Louie R. Ervin to be filed on behalf of Missouri School Boards' Association in the above-captioned matter.

If you should have any questions concerning the enclosed filing, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

HENDREN AND ANDRAE, L.L.C.


Richard S. Brownlee, III

RSB\s
Enclosures
All Counsel of Record
Melissa Randol

Exh. No. _____
Louie R. Ervin - Direct
MSBA
Case No. GT-2003-0038
Case No. GT-2003-0039

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Tariff)
Filing Of Aquila, Inc. d/b/a)
Aquila Networks-L&P)
Case No. GT-2003-0038
Tariff No. 200300096

In the Matter of the Tariff)
Filing of Aquila, Inc., d/b/a)
Aquila Networks-MPS.)
Case No. GT-2003-0039
Tariff No. 200300095

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

LOUIE R. ERVIN

FILED³
SEP 09 2002
Missouri Public
Service Commission

Exh. No. _____
Louie R. Ervin - Direct
MSBA
Case No. GT-2003-0038
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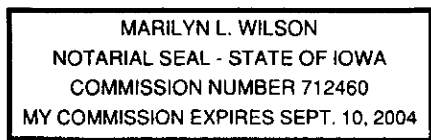
AFFIDAVIT OF LOUIE R. ERVIN

STATE OF IOWA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF LINN)

Louie R. Ervin, of lawful age, on my oath states, that I have participated in the preparation of the foregoing direct testimony in question and answer form, consisting of 17 pages, to be presented in this case; that the answers in the foregoing testimony were given by me; that I have knowledge of the matters set forth in such answers; and that such matters are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Louie R. Ervin
Louie R. Ervin

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 3 day of September, 2002.



Marilyn L. Wilson
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 9/10/04

STATE OF MISSOURI
BEFORE THE MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN RE:	Aquila, Inc. , d/b/a	)	CASE NOs.	GT-2003-0038, 39
	Aquila Networks-L&P and		TARIFF NO.	JG-2003-0095, 96
	Aquila Networks-MPS			

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF LOUIE R. ERVIN

1 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

2 A. My name is Louie R. Ervin and my business address is 150 First Avenue, NE, Suite 300,
3 Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52401.

4 **Q. By whom are you presently employed and in what capacity?**

5 A. I am a partner in the firm of Latham & Associates, Inc., Cedar Rapids, Iowa and hold the
6 position of Executive Vice President.

7 **Q. Please describe your educational background.**

8 A. My academic background includes a B.S. and M.S. in Electrical Engineering from the
9 University of Missouri-Columbia and an M.B.A. from the University of Iowa. I have also taken
10 executive utility management courses at the University of Michigan and other utility-related
11 courses at Indiana University, University of Wisconsin and Iowa State University.

12 **Q. Please describe your professional experience.**

13 A. Since July 1996, I have been employed as an energy advisor with Latham & Associates.
14 Prior to joining Latham & Associates, I was employed from June 1985, to July 1996, by IES
15 Utilities Inc. (IES) in a number of executive positions with responsibilities including rates,
16 engineering and operations. While employed at IES Utilities, I received Gas Industries magazine
17 1993 Outstanding Manager of the Year Award. Before my employment with IES, from January

1 1983 to July 1985, I was Associate Director of Utilities for the Lafayette Utilities System, a
2 Louisiana municipal utility. From June 1971 to January 1983, I was employed by Missouri
3 Utilities Company, a natural gas and electric utility, which is now part of the AmerenUE system.
4 My responsibilities at Missouri Utilities included rates, engineering and operations.

5 **Q. Please describe your experience as an expert utility witness.**

6 A. While employed at the Missouri Utilities Company, I testified on rate design matters in a
7 number of natural gas, water and electric cases before the Missouri Public Service Commission
8 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. I have testified in federal and state court
9 regarding electric utility matters. While employed at IES Utilities, I testified on rate design
10 matters in natural gas and electric cases before the Iowa Utilities Board.

11 **Q. Please describe your business.**

12 A. Latham & Associates is an independent adviser to primarily midwestern purchasers of
13 natural gas and electricity. Our clients include schools, colleges, universities, industrials,
14 hospitals, smaller municipal electric utilities and associations. Our primary activities are the
15 negotiation of short-term and long-term electric supply and natural gas supply agreements,
16 preparation of class cost of service studies and rate designs, aggregation of clients into larger
17 purchasing pools, oversight of the administration of energy supply contracts, advice on strategic
18 energy investments in electric generation capacity, consultation on general energy strategies, and
19 energy policy advice on legislative and regulatory affairs. In this business, we are constantly
20 involved in energy pricing and cost of service issues, energy market transactions and advice
21 based on market conditions. We are independent consultants to school natural gas aggregation
22 programs in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas and Missouri. Our firm bids energy supply for clients and is
23 not a supplier.

1 **Q. On whose behalf do you present this testimony?**

2 A. This testimony is prepared on behalf of the Missouri School Boards Association (MSBA)
3 and the Cooperating School Districts of St. Louis (CSD).

4 **Q. Please describe MSBA's and CSD's interest in this docket.**

5 A. MSBA's membership consist of approximately 400 public school districts with
6 approximately 2,000 individual school locations throughout the State of Missouri. CSD's
7 membership consists of 51 school districts with 900 individual school locations in the St. Louis
8 area. The MSBA and the CSD are not-for-profit corporations, which serve as trade associations
9 for the member school districts. They also sponsor and organize joint purchasing of numerous
10 school commodities, from school busses to floor wax. The MSBA and CSD are interested in
11 aggregating natural gas purchases for schools.

12 **Q. Please describe the purpose of your testimony.**

13 A. The purpose of this testimony is to recommend tariff requirements, which will satisfy the
14 subject statute and will provide a reasonable opportunity for schools to successfully aggregate
15 natural gas purchases. My testimony will address:

- 16 1. Schools' experience with and the legislative history regarding natural gas aggregation.
- 17 2. Implementation of the proposed tariff will not have a negative financial impact on the
18 gas corporation, its other customers, or local taxing authorities.
- 19 3. The aggregation charge in the tariff is sufficient to generate revenue at least equal to
20 incremental costs caused by the experimental program.
- 21 4. The proposed tariff meets the legislative requirements, including: aggregate
22 purchasing, opportunities for schools to purchase supplies through a not-for-profit

1 school association, purchasing of utility pipeline capacity at utility's cost, and no
2 telemetry except for school meters using over 100,000 therms annually.

3 5. Other tariff requirements necessary for aggregate purchasing of natural gas by
4 Missouri schools.

5 **Q. Has Missouri previously had any program dealing with aggregate natural gas**
6 **purchasing for schools?**

7 A. Yes. Beginning in 1999, the MSBA and the CSD began jointly sponsoring aggregate
8 natural gas purchasing for Missouri schools. The MSBA and CSD aggregate purchasing
9 program is very similar to school programs in Kansas, Iowa and Illinois, with one major
10 difference. Adjacent states have natural gas utility transportation tariffs that are designed for
11 smaller users. Missouri transportation tariffs, for the most part, were designed over fifteen years
12 ago for the industrial and larger user. While school programs in adjacent states have grown
13 significantly over the past few years, the MSBA and CSD school program remains at less than 10
14 % of its potential because of tariff barriers for smaller users.

15 **Q. Could you describe the legislative history behind this current tariff filing?**

16 A. Beginning as early as 1999, the MSBA and CSD made requests to every Missouri
17 investor-owned utility to file experimental small volume natural gas transportation tariffs for
18 schools with the Commission. Ameren did receive Commission approval for a tariff change,
19 which allowed smaller users to pay a monthly telemetry charge in lieu of an initial expenditure.
20 The Missouri Public Service Company, now Aquila, received Commission approval for a small
21 volume transportation tariff. The MSBA and CSD program currently has some schools
22 transporting on the systems of Ameren, Aquila and the Missouri Gas Energy Company (MGE)
23 system. However, neither the Ameren nor the Aquila tariffs fully meet the needs of Missouri

1 schools for small volume aggregation and the MGE large volume tariff is prohibitive for all but
2 the largest school facilities. The MSBA and CSD proposed legislation and the Missouri 91st
3 General Assembly, 2nd Regular Session, passed CCS for SCS for HB 1402 which provided, inter
4 alia, that gas corporations certificated by the Missouri Public Service Commission are required to
5 file experimental tariffs, which allow the aggregate combination of natural gas supply and
6 transportation services, including balancing. The MSBA, as agent for schools, is offering
7 aggregate natural gas purchasing to all eligible Missouri schools under the experimental tariffs.

8 **Q. Please describe the structure of the MSBA and CSD aggregate natural gas**
9 **purchasing program.**

10 A. With regard to natural gas purchases, the MSBA is the contracting entity on behalf of the
11 CSD and MSBA and is agent for participating school districts. Latham & Associates bids natural
12 gas supply for schools to all known interested marketers. Daily operations and administration of
13 the joint school natural gas purchasing program is currently contracted to a third-party
14 administrator, TXU Energy Services (formerly Enserch Energy Services) with offices in Kansas
15 City, Mo. Only the larger school facilities on MGE, AmerenUE and Aquila systems are currently
16 jointly purchasing natural gas through the CSD and MSBA consortium.

17 **Q. Please describe barriers for smaller users in Missouri transportation tariffs.**

18 A. Because large users, particularly industrial process users, can create large unpredictable
19 swings in flows on natural gas systems, special expensive telemetry is usually a standard
20 provision in large volume transportation tariffs to record daily usage. Standard small-user
21 meters are typically very low cost, do not have a phone connection and are read by the utility
22 monthly. Initial installation costs for telemetry and a phone line are generally from \$2,000 to
23 \$5,000 and the monthly phone charge is normally in the range of \$50.00 per month. Over the

1 past few years, it has been successfully demonstrated in adjacent states and in other states around
2 the country, that telemetry is unnecessary for smaller users with essentially only heating
3 requirements. Forecast algorithms, based on weather and historic usage, have been developed to
4 accurately determine daily usage for small users. Thus, a tariff requirement for telemetry is
5 unnecessary for smaller weather-sensitive users.

6 **Q. What other small-user barriers exist in current Missouri tariffs.**

7 A. Conventional transportation tariffs typically require each meter to stand alone. Large
8 user tariffs normally require individual nominations in advance for each meter as to volumes to
9 be delivered each day of the month. If actual daily or monthly usage is out of balance with the
10 volumes of natural gas nominated and delivered by a third-party marketer or supplier, then the
11 customer is subject to penalties, which can be tremendously expensive. Within each utility
12 natural gas system and on the same pipeline, small user tariffs typically allow multiple meter
13 aggregate nomination and balancing. Although, projection of small weather-sensitive usage can
14 be very accurate, there remains some over or under delivery, or imbalance, which the utility
15 system must handle. Pipelines have some ability to absorb imbalances within acceptable
16 operating pressures. Larger imbalances are generally handled through use of utility storage gas.
17 Because there is some costs associated with the administration and balancing, small-users tariffs
18 typically have an administration or aggregation charge and a balancing charge, or an "aggregation
19 and balancing fee."

20 **Q. What benefits are expected from this experimental natural gas aggregation**
21 **program?**

22 A. Benefits from this experimental program are expected for Missouri schools, other small
23 natural gas consumers, utilities, natural gas marketers, regulators and legislators. The primary

1 benefit is for all to learn what works and what doesn't work with regard to small volume natural
2 gas transportation in Missouri. As an experimental program, it is neither necessary nor desirable
3 for all utility experimental tariffs to be identical. All tariffs can meet the legislated requirements
4 while reflecting differences in utility systems. Of particular concern to schools are the utility
5 costs to implement this experimental program. Utility costs can be minimized by working within
6 existing utility procedures and systems, to the extent practical and in conformity with legislated
7 directives. Existing nomination procedures and billing systems vary by utility and Missouri
8 schools are prepared to work with utilities to minimize utility incremental program costs.

9
10 Certainly, the Missouri schools objective includes achieving aggregate purchasing savings
11 similar to what schools are receiving in Kansas, Iowa and Illinois. Missouri schools also want to
12 achieve greater budget certainty. Typically, schools under utility sales service have no ability to
13 lock-in a price for natural gas. Although the utility PGA commodity price for sales service is
14 fixed for specified periods, there is a true-up ACA factor, which effectively creates significant
15 budget uncertainty for schools on prior period utility costs under recoveries.

16 **Q. Please address how the proposed tariff will not have a negative financial impact on**
17 **local taxing authorities.**

18 A. Local taxing authorities establish franchise taxes as a percentage of the actual total bill.
19 The total bills, whether from utilities or from others, are always variable and depend on usage
20 and price. Usage can vary significantly with weather, conservation efforts and other factors.
21 Utility price varies depending on the PGA. The Act eliminates the potential of avoiding a
22 franchise tax on the commodity because the natural gas supplier may be an out-of-state entity. It
23 was not the intent to create a tax on an artificial bill, as if the utility were the supplier. To the

1 extent the tariff provides that the not-for-profit school association will collect the prescribe local
2 tax percentage on the participating schools' actual total bill, including the commodity supply, and
3 remit said taxes collected to the utility for payment to the respective local taxing authorities,
4 there will be no negative impact to the local taxing authority.

5 **Q. Are there generally tax and/or Purchase Gas Adjustment (PGA) differences between**
6 **large and small volume transportation tariffs?**

7 A. No, generally small and large volume transportation tariffs are the same with regard to
8 taxes and PGA charges. However, because third-party out-of-state suppliers to transportation
9 customers may not have a Missouri nexus, local taxing authorities may not collect franchise taxes
10 on the commodity, as they do on utility sales service. Frequently, large-user transport customers
11 are able to avoid local franchise taxes on all but the utility delivery service charges. With regard
12 to Missouri PGAs, the ACA component is a true-up or reconciliation factor to collect or return
13 previous period under or over collections for utility sales service customers. It is neither
14 MSBA's nor CSD's objective to avoid local franchise taxes or charges associated with sales
15 service to participating schools for the previous PGA period.

16 **Q. Please address how the proposed tariff will not have a negative financial impact on**
17 **other customers.**

18 A. There will be no negative impact to other customers to the extent the tariff stipulates the
19 utility will not propose charges to other tariffs because of this experimental program. Further,
20 the Commission has the authority to disapprove any utility tariff charges that may be proposed
21 for other customers because of this experimental program.

22 **Q. Please address how the proposed tariff will not have a negative financial impact on**
23 **the natural gas corporation.**

1 A. There will be no negative impact to the natural gas corporation to the extent the tariff
2 specifies charges equal to: (a) applicable sales service margins; (b) demonstrated costs for
3 pipeline capacity release for up to one year; (c) previously incurred out-of-period ACA supply
4 costs applicable during the first year a school begins transportation service, (d) an aggregation
5 and balancing fee of \$0.004 per therm during the first year, and thereafter a charge per therm as
6 approved by the Commission, which is based on utility reporting of incremental **recurring** costs
7 of aggregation and balancing charges from the first year of the experimental tariff.

8 **Q. Please provide a basis for finding that the aggregation charge in the tariff is**
9 **sufficient to generate revenue at least equal to incremental costs caused by the**
10 **experimental program.**

11 A. Utility incremental costs of the experimental program cannot be passed on to other
12 customers. The Commission can order the utility to provide incremental recurring cost support
13 data for any future proposed increase in the aggregation and balancing charges in excess of
14 \$0.004 per therm. Because utility accounting and reporting incremental **recurring** costs may be
15 high relative to actual incremental costs of the program and because schools may be subject to
16 paying for these utility accounting and reporting expenses, the utility should be allowed to elect
17 continuance of \$0.004 per therm through the end of the program without further cost support. By
18 the utility electing not to conduct accounting and reporting activities and not to increase the
19 \$0.004 per therm charge, it has effectively deemed full cost recovery or has waived its right to
20 recover any additional incremental costs.

21 **Q. Is there experience on how schools can be grouped for aggregation purposes?**

22 Yes. Experience in other states is that the utility can reasonably treat school purchases in
23 aggregate by pipeline or rate zone. That is, for purposes of nominating and balancing deliveries,

1 all school volumes on a pipeline and within a rate zone will be summed to determine whether
2 any monthly imbalances have occurred. As part of the aggregation and balancing fee, schools are
3 paying the utility for the system to continue balancing daily deliveries with actual usage, as is
4 currently being done for schools under sales service tariffs. Daily imbalance fees are needed
5 because small customers do not have telemetry and only monthly total metered usage data is
6 available. Although small customer imbalances may not have a material effect on the utility
7 system reliability, the utility and schools need to agree on a reasonable algorithm to project usage
8 based on forecasted weather. Forecast algorithms have been tested and proven accurate for
9 schools in adjacent states. MidAmerican Energy Company of Des Moines actually installed
10 some load research telemetry for small school accounts and determined their forecast algorithm
11 was within metering accuracy. MSBA's third-party program administrator, TXU Energy
12 Services, will either use its Kansas school forecast algorithm or it can provide experimental tests
13 of a utility proposed forecast algorithm.

14 **Q. Please generally explain why pipeline capacity is an issue with regard to**
15 **transportation tariffs.**

16 A. Utilities contract for interstate pipeline capacity to receive natural gas for its sales service
17 customers. Large user transporters typically purchase supply from marketers, which contract for
18 interstate pipeline capacity through which they arrange for commodity deliveries to the utility
19 system at points called "town border stations" or "city gates." Some transportation tariffs
20 provide a minimum notice period for a sales customer to transfer to transportation service, which
21 allows time for the utility to plan and manage its contracted pipeline capacity. Absent giving the
22 required notice, the customer may be subject to stranded costs. Typically, transportation tariffs
23 limit the stranded cost obligation to a maximum of one year. Frequently, utility small-user

1 transportation tariffs allow the customer, or its agent, to take contractual responsibility for utility
2 capacity for up to one year to avoid stranded costs. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
3 (FERC) jurisdictional pipeline tariffs specify procedures for electronically posting capacity for
4 release. Some utilities want the capacity released permanently and others prefer temporary
5 releases, depending on anticipated future system requirements.

6 **Q. What are your recommendations regarding capacity release?**

7 A. First, the tariff must meet the legislative mandate that pipeline transportation capacity be
8 made available under the experimental program at the gas corporation's cost. The legislative
9 mandate can be satisfied by experimental tariffs with capacity release guidelines. However,
10 operations details should be left for individual utilities and the schools to experiment with
11 effective capacity release procedures. The utility should annually file a report with the
12 Commission outlining program implementation specifics, including: (a) process used for capacity
13 releases; (b) method used to determine levels of capacity released; (c) amounts of capacity
14 released on each pipeline at specific receipt and delivery points; (d) price and amount of revenue
15 received for released capacity; (e) cost of released capacity; and (f) disposition of revenues for
16 released capacity.

17 **Q. Should there be a uniform procedure for pipeline capacity release for all utility**
18 **experimental tariffs?**

19 A. No. There should be a standard guideline for capacity release, but operating flexibility is
20 needed for each utility system. Each utility system is different and may have different system
21 capacity needs and different interstate pipeline operating requirements. Detailed operating
22 procedures for capacity release should not be part of the initial experimental tariffs. If the

1 schools have a complaint concerning how an individual utility is handling capacity release or
2 other operational matters, that complaint can be brought to the Commission's attention.

3 **Q. What guidelines do you recommend with regard to notification and term of capacity**
4 **releases?**

5 A. Initial capacity releases should be through June 30th of each year. Typically, each utility
6 will use the early summer months to forecast and arrange necessary capacity for the following
7 heating season. Capacity releases should only be required at the beginning when schools enter
8 the experimental program and only if the utility deems it would incur stranded capacity costs. To
9 avoid stranded costs to anyone, the schools should be required to take released capacity at initial
10 enrollment until the following June 30th. Prudent capacity planning contemplates annual
11 variations in capacity requirements. The relatively small amount of capacity needed for this
12 school experimental program should be very manageable by utilities. Under no circumstances
13 should schools be required to take released capacity for more than one year. Because utilities
14 currently are obligated to have capacity for schools and schools are obligated to pay for capacity,
15 the school should have the right to retain that capacity for the full term of the program,
16 particularly in cases of constrained pipelines where no alternative capacity may be available.

17 **Q. What other guideline do you recommend with regard to capacity releases?**

18 A. Tariff capacity release guidelines should include:

- 19 a. The release shall be temporary, unless permanently released by mutual agreement of
20 the parties. If capacity is permanently released and schools wish to return to firm
21 sales service, the utility shall accept such schools as a firm sales customer, provided
22 the capacity needed to serve the schools also returns with the school, or alternative
23 firm capacity can be acquired by the utility at a comparable cost.

- b. Schools shall not be obligated to take the capacity release beyond the June 30th following initial participation in the experimental program.
- c. Capacity release shall automatically continue and shall not be recalled by the utility during the term of the experimental tariff, unless a recall is requested by the schools.
- d. The capacity shall be posted and released in accordance with FERC rules and at a price equivalent to the utility's capacity cost component of the current PGA. If a third-party bids and receives the capacity at a price higher than the posted price, or if the schools bid and receive the capacity at a price higher than the posted price, then the utility shall first credit the aggregation and balancing fee and any further capacity release revenue in excess of the utility's cost shall be credited to all customers through the PGA.
- e. Capacity releases shall be on the predominate pipeline(s) serving the utility system from which the participant schools receive service.

Q. Other than tariff requirements for capacity release, what other tariff requirements are necessary to meet the legislative mandate?

A. Experimental tariffs must: (a) provide for aggregate natural gas purchasing through a not-for-profit school association; (b) treat school purchases in aggregate; and (c) not require telemetry, except for school meter usage over 100,000 therms annually.

Q. How does MSBA propose to handle transportation contracts for this program?

A. The MSBA is offering aggregate purchasing to all Missouri public schools and will consider offering the same service in years two and three to non-public eligible school entities. Each school district has the authority to enter into natural gas agreements by resolution of its board. MSBA has developed a standard form Membership and Participation Agreement, which

1 the school districts will approve and sign. The Membership and Participation Agreement
2 designates the MSBA and/or its third-party administrator as agent to enter into utility contracts,
3 receive historic usage data, pay all utility and supplier bills, pay all taxes, pay all other program
4 expenses and to render a consolidated invoice to the school district. Aggregate natural gas
5 purchasing through a not-for-profit school association can be accomplished with few
6 modifications to utility standard transportation contracts. Standard utility transportation contracts
7 for this program, if required by utility tariff, will be efficiently administered and executed for all
8 school districts by their common agent.

9 **Q. Please address the 100,000 therms per year limitation for telemetry.**

10 It is important to note that tariffs must meet the legislative mandate for all school accounts,
11 whether over or under 100,000 therms per year. The utility tariff must provide for aggregate
12 school purchasing for school accounts with usage of over 100,000 therms annually under the
13 same terms and conditions as for smaller usage accounts, with the exception that telemetry may
14 be required. The legislative mandate for aggregate natural gas purchasing for all school accounts
15 does not, in my opinion, prevent the utility from separately balancing telemetered and non-
16 telemetered accounts, on the same pipeline and within the same rate zone.

17 **Q. How will the legislative mandate for resale of natural gas supplies and**
18 **transportation services be accomplished?**

19 A. Resale is accomplished when the school association arranges for the natural gas supply
20 from third-party gas marketers and it is resold to schools. I know of no transportation tariffs in
21 the region or experimental school programs that provide for anything other than resale of natural
22 gas from third-party marketers or suppliers to the end-user. The utility has no costs associated
23 with third-party natural gas supply to the schools and has satisfied the law by charging its costs

1 for supplies, which are zero. The previously proposed capacity release guidelines effectively
2 provide that the utility will release the capacity for resale to the schools at its cost.

3 **Q. Have you reviewed the tariff proposed by Aquila in this docket?**

4 A. Yes.

5 **R. Q. Did you find the proposed Aquila tariff in compliance with CCS for SCS for**
6 **HB 1402, legislation requiring filing of experimental aggregation transportation tariffs for**
7 **schools?**

8 A. Yes.

9 **Q. Did you find the other requirements of the Aquila tariff to be reasonably workable**
10 **for an experimental school aggregation program?**

11 A. Yes, I think the latest tariff is acceptable with the understanding that it is likely that all
12 parties will learn something during implementation that may need to be addressed with a future
13 tariff change. Unless something unexpected arises to my attention, my recommendation is for
14 the Commission to approve the Aquila tariff and let's see how it works during year-1.

15 **Q. Do you have any further matters to bring to the attention of the Commission?**

16 A. Yes, I have a request. Schools need to have the Commission approve tariffs as soon as
17 possible to enable the program to start-up and supplies to be delivered this heating season. The
18 law recognizes its emergency nature. For the past year, larger schools facilities on the Aquila
19 system have been successfully transporting under contracts negotiated by the MSBA and CSD
20 natural gas consortium. Consideration is requested to approve the Aquila tariff as early as
21 practical prior to a November 1, 2002.

22 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

23 A. Yes, it does. Thank you.