

Exhibit No.: 1072
Issues: Payroll Expense;
Incentive
Compensation;
Employee Benefits;
Payroll Taxes
Witness: Dana E. Eaves
Sponsoring Party: MoPSC Staff
Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony
Case No.: ER-2004-0034

Date Testimony Prepared: December 9, 2003 as modified February 27, 2004

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

UTILITY SERVICES DIVISION

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

DANA E. EAVES

AQUILA, INC. D/B/A

AQUILA NETWORKS MPS

CASE NO. ER-2004-0034

Jefferson City, Missouri

December 2003

FILED²

FEB 27 2004

**Missouri Public
Service Commission**

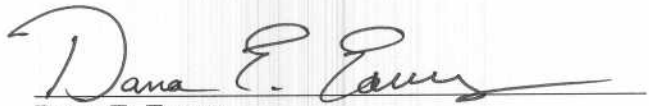
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the matter of Aquila, Inc. d/b/a Aquila Networks)
L&P and Aquila Networks MPS to implement a) Case No. ER-2004-0034
general rate increase in electricity.)

AFFIDAVIT OF DANA E. EAVES

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss.
COUNTY OF COLE)

Dana E. Eaves, of lawful age, on his oath states: that he has participated in the preparation of the following direct testimony as modified on February 27, 2004, in question and answer form, consisting of 7 pages to be presented in the above case; that the answers in the following direct testimony as modified on February 27, 2004, were given by him; that he has knowledge of the matters set forth in such answers; and that such matters are true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.



Dana E. Eaves

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of February 2004.





TONI M. CHARLTON
NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF MISSOURI
COUNTY OF COLE
My Commission Expires December 28, 2004

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DANA E. EAVES
AQUILA, INC. d/b/a AQUILA NETWORKS-MPS
CASE NO. ER-2004-0034

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1 **DIRECT TESTIMONY**

2 **OF**

3 **DANA E. EAVES**

4 **AQUILA, INC.**

5 **d/b/a AQUILA NETWORKS-MPS ELECTRIC**

6
7 **CASE NO. ER-2004-0034**

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10
11 Q. Please state your name and business address.

12 A. Dana E. Eaves, PO Box 360, Suite 440, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

13 Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?

14 A. I am a Regulatory Auditor for the Missouri Public Service Commission
15 (Commission or PSC).

16 Q. Please describe your educational and employment background.

17 A. I graduated from Columbia College in May 1995 with a Bachelors of Science
18 degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accounting. I commenced
19 employment with the Commission Staff (Staff) in April 2001. Prior to employment with the
20 commission I held the position of Accountant with Midwest Block and Brick, Inc., Vice
21 President of Operations with Practice Management Plus, a healthcare consulting firm, and
22 Director of Finance with Capital City Medical Associates.

23 Q. What has been the nature of your duties while employed by the Commission?

1 A. I am responsible for assisting in the audits and examinations of the books and
2 records of utility companies operating within the state of Missouri.

3 Q. Please describe your areas of responsibility in Case No. ER-2004-0034.
4

5 A. I am responsible for the areas of payroll expense, payroll taxes and certain
6 employee benefits: 401(k) benefits, health, vision and dental benefits, and Company's
7 Employee Stock Option (ESOP) contribution.

8 Q. What knowledge, skills, experience, training or education do you have in these
9 areas of which you are testifying as an expert witness?

10 A. I have been assigned to and filed testimony as described in Schedule 1, which
11 is attached to my testimony. I have also extensively reviewed other utility rate cases related
12 to the issues I am sponsoring to ensure the consistency of the Staff's method and procedures.
13 My prior academic education helped prepare me to successfully sponsor the ratemaking areas
14 I've been assigned in this case. I have received certificates of training from the National
15 Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners in seminars it has sponsored concerning
16 water, gas and electric utility cost of service and regulation. Further, I have attended
17 numerous in-house training seminars at the Commission specifically designed for continuing
18 education and training in the areas of regulatory issues. I have also worked closely with
19 Senior Staff members familiar with my areas of responsibility.

20 Q. Will your testimony be addressing the Missouri Public Service electric
21 operations?

22 A. Yes.
23

1 My testimony will address payroll and payroll
2 related benefits for both cases and relate specifically to the electric operations of Aquila
3 Networks, d/b/a Missouri Public Service

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6 Q. Have you previously filed testimony before this Commission?

7 A. Yes. Please see Schedule 1 for a listing of specific cases and issues.

8 **ACCOUNTING ADJUSTMENTS**

9 Q. What adjustments are you sponsoring in this case?

10 A. I am sponsoring all of the Income Statement adjustments in the areas payroll
11 expense, payroll taxes and certain employee benefits adjustments.

12 **PAYROLL EXPENSE**

13 Q. Please explain the payroll adjustments you are sponsoring.

14 A. As Staff Auditing witness Phillip K. Williams explains in his direct testimony,
15 the Staff is filing a calendar year 2002 test year updated for known and measurable events
16 through September 30, 2003. I have therefore developed the payroll expense by annualizing
17 payroll costs at September 30, 2003, for all Missouri Public Service (MPS)
18 Enterprise Support Function (ESF) and Intra Business Units (IBU)
19 departments. Please refer to the Staff's witness Charles R. Hyneman for a description and
20 explanation of ESF and IBU departments. I annualized payroll and payroll-related benefits
21 for MPS electric operations. This approach

1 takes into consideration actual employees, as well as authorized wage levels paid as of
2 September 30, 2003.

3 Q. Please list the adjustment numbers you are sponsoring to include the effect of
4 the payroll annualization process discussed above.

5 A. I am sponsoring the following MPS - electric adjustments: S-9.1, S-11.1,
6 S-12.1, S-13.1, S-16.1, S-17.1, S-18.1, S-19.1, S-20.1, S-21.1, S-23.1, S-24.1, S-26.1, S-27.1,
7 S-28.1, S-33.1, S-34.1, S-35.1, S-36.1, S-37.1, S-38.1, S-40.1, S-42.1, S-43.1, S-44.1, S-45.1,
8 S-47.1, S-48.1, S-49.1, S-50.1, S-51.1, S-52.1, S-53.1, S-54.1, S-55.1, S-56.1, S-58.1, S-60.1,
9 S-61.1, S-62.1, S-63.1, S-64.1, S-65.1, S-66.1, S-67.1, S-68.1, S-69.1, S-72.1, S-73.1, S-74.1,
10 S-75.1, S-76.1, S-77.1, S-78.1, S-79.1, S-81.1, S-88.1, and S-90.1.

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19 Q. How did Staff develop payroll costs in this case?

20 A. The Staff requested payroll for each department and individual employed by
21 Aquila and its operating divisions. This information was analyzed to track changes in the
22 work force and to identify any areas that needed to be reviewed in further detail. Salary and
23 wage rates were reviewed to determine the pay levels of the Aquila employees.

1 I determined the salary and wage rates as of September 30, 2003, and applied those
2 rates to employees that were included in the payroll costs as of that date. The annualized
3 amount was compared to the test year per book amount at December 31, 2002, to identify the
4 related adjustment to the annualized level as of September 30, 2003. The annualized amount
5 was distributed to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Uniform System of
6 Accounts by a payroll distribution percentage based on the payroll distribution percentage
7 used for the test year.

8 Finally, I was provided changes to the costs, subject to allocation, for specific
9 corporate departments by Staff witness Hyneman to incorporate into the payroll and payroll
10 related costs. For a discussion on the corporate costs, please see Mr. Hyneman's testimony.

11 Q. How did Staff account for the payroll costs of Aquila, Inc. corporate
12 departments and other business units that provide service to MPS?

13 A. These costs have been allocated to MPS using an appropriate
14 allocation factor arrived at by Mr. Hyneman.

15 Q. Please list the adjustment numbers you are sponsoring to reflect the payroll
16 effects of the Staff's changes to ESF/IBU departments costs subject to allocation to the MPS
17 division.

18 A. I am sponsoring the following adjustments:

19 MPS – electric: S-9.3, S-11.2, S-12.2, S-13.4, S-16.3, S-17.5, S-18.3, S-19.4,
20 S-20.3, S-21.3, S-23.3, S-24.4, S-26.3, S-27.3, S-28.4, S-33.3, S-34.3, S-35.3,
21 S-36.4, S-37.2, S-38.3, S-40.3, S-42.3, S-43.3, S-44.4, S-45.4, S-47.4, S-48.3,
22 S-49.3, S-50.2, S-51.3, S-52.3, S-53.2, S-54.4, S-55.3, S-56.3, S-58.3, S-60.4,
23 S-61.4, S-62.4, S-63.3, S-64.3, S-65.4, S-66.4, S-67.3, S-68.3, S-69.6, S-72.3,
24 S-73.3, S-74.3, S-75.3, S-76.3, S-77.4, S-78.4, S-79.4, S-81.4, S-88.3, and
25 S-90.3.

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6 **PAYROLL TAXES**

7 Q. Please explain your MPS – electric adjustments: S-94.3, S-94.4, S-94.5 and
8 S-94.6
9 related to payroll taxes.

10 A. These adjustments serves to ensure the appropriate level of Social Security
11 (FICA), Medicare, state unemployment (SUTA) and federal unemployment (FUTA) taxes
12 associated with the Staff’s annualized payroll are included in rates.

13 Q. Please briefly explain how you computed the correct level of payroll taxes.

14 A. The current 2003 tax rates for the individual tax components were used for this
15 calculation. Applying these rates to the current annualized level of payroll expense produces
16 the best available level of payroll taxes on a going forward basis.

17 **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

18 Q. Please describe your adjustment MPS – electric adjustment: S-85.7,
19 related to 401(k) benefits.

20 A. The 401(k) benefits matching expense incurred by MPS in the test
21 year represent a certain percentage of payroll. I have maintained this same percentage, but
22 multiplied it by the Staff’s annualized level of payroll to produce the Staff’s 401(k) benefit
23 level. The difference between this and the test year level gives rise to my adjustment.

1 Q. Please describe adjustment MPS – electric adjustment: S-85.1;
2 reflecting the Staff’s annualizations of health,
3 vision and dental benefits.

4 A. The annualized level of health and dental benefits is based on Aquila’s Semi-
5 Annual Election Report dated July 1, 2003. The Staff’s adjustment reflects the Company’s
6 actual premium and an estimate of costs for the self-insured portion included in the test year.

7 Q. Please describe adjustment MPS – electric adjustment: S-85.10:
8 related to the Company’s health, vision and dental benefits.

9 A. This adjustment reflects the historical over-accrual on the Company’s books
10 for the self-insured portion of health, dental and vision, which has been higher than actual cost
11 based on claims paid.

12 Q. Please describe your adjustment MPS – electric adjustment: S-85.8;
13 related to the Company’s Employee Stock Option
14 Plan (ESOP) contribution.

15 A. The ESOP contribution expense is incurred by MPS in the test year
16 represents a certain percentage of payroll. I have maintained the same percentage the
17 Company used, but multiplied it by the Staff’s annualized level of payroll to produce the
18 Staff’s ESOP contribution expense level. The difference between this and the test year level
19 gives rise to my adjustment.

20 Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?

21 A. Yes, it does.

**SUMMARY OF RATE CASE TESTIMONY FILED
DANA E. EAVES**

COMPANY NAME	CASE NO.	ISSUES
<p style="text-align: center;">UtiliCorp Missouri Public Service Division</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ER-2001-672</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Advertising; Customer Advances; Customer Deposits; Customer Deposit Interest Expense; Dues and Donations; Material and Supply; Prepayments; PSC Assessment; Rate Case Expense</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Citizens Electric Company</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ER-2002-0297</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Depreciation Expense; Accumulated Depreciation; Customer Deposits; Material & Supplies; Prepayments; Property Tax; Plant in Service; Customer Advances in Aid of Construction</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Empire District Electric</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ER-2002-0424</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cash Working Capital; Property Tax; Tree Trimming; Injuries and Damages; Outside Services; Misc. Adjustments</p>