#### LAW OFFICES

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OF COUNSEL RICHARD T. CIOTTONE

May 1, 2002

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts **Executive Secretary Public Service Commission** P. O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102

RE: Application for AAO by Aquila, Inc.

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced proceeding on behalf of Aquila, Inc. please find an original and eight copies of an Application for Accounting Authority Order

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Sincerely yours,

/gwd **Enclosures** cc w/encl:

> Office of Public Counsel Office of the General Counsel **Dennis Williams**

## OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Aquila Inc.'s application for the	)		
issuance of an Accounting Authority Order relating	)		
to its electrical operations in the Aquila Networks -	)	Case No. EO-2002-	
MPS division as a result of a severe ice storm.	ĺ		-

## APPLICATION FOR ACCOUNTING AUTHORITY ORDER

COMES NOW Aquila, Inc. ("Aquila") by and through its counsel, and for its Application for Accounting Authority Order respectfully states as follows:

#### Summary

1. This application requests an order which authorizes deferred accounting treatment for certain material and extraordinary costs incurred by Aquila in restoring electrical service to thousands of its customers in Missouri after a severe ice storm struck the Kansas City and western Missouri area on January 30 and 31, 2002, and damaged much of Aquila's electrical distribution system. This application concerns only the former Missouri Public Service division.

#### <u>Background</u>

2. Aquila is a Delaware corporation, (formerly known as UtiliCorp United Inc.) with its principal office and place of business at 20 W. Ninth Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64138. Aquila is authorized to conduct business in Missouri through its Aquila Networks - MPS and Aquila Networks - L&P operating divisions and, as such, is engaged in providing electrical, natural gas and heating company utility service in

Missouri to customers in its service areas. A certified copy of Aquila's Amended

Certificate of Authority to do business in this state as a foreign corporation is

attached hereto as **Appendix A** and made a part hereof for all purposes. Copies of the

Registrations of Fictitious Name of Aquila Networks - MPS and Aquila Networks - L&P

are attached hereto as **Appendix B** and **Appendix C**, respectively, and made a part
hereof for all purposes.

- 3. Aquila is an "electrical corporation," a "gas corporation," a "heating company" and a "public utility" as those terms are defined in Section 386.020, RSMo. 2000, and is subject to the jurisdiction and supervision of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") as provided by law. Aquila also has regulated energy operations in six other states and in New Zealand, Australia and Canada. Aquila has no pending or final judgments or decisions against it from any state or federal agency or court which involve inferior customer service occurring within the three (3) years immediately preceding the filing of this Application. For that same time period, Aquila had a rate case in Missouri for its MPS operating division, a rate case in Kansas for its WPK operating division and a rate case in Minnesota for its PNG operating division. Aquila has no overdue Commission annual reports or assessment fees.
- 4. Correspondence, communications and orders of the Commission in regard to this Application should be addressed to:

Dennis Williams
Manager, Missouri Electric Regulatory Affairs
Aquila Inc.
10700 East 350 Highway
P.O. Box 11739
Kansas City, Missouri 64138
Telephone: (816) 737-7857

Facsimile: (816) 737-7505

E-mail: dennis.williams@aquila.com

Gary W. Duffy, Attorney at Law Brydon, Swearengen & England P.C. 312 Capital Avenue P.O. Box 456 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0456 (573) 635-7166 (573) 635-3847 facsimile E-mail: Duffy@brydonlaw.com

#### **Application**

5. By this filing, Aquila Networks - MPS ("MPS") seeks authority from the Commission to undertake certain accounting procedures in connection with its electrical operations for that division. This filing does not apply to the Aguila Networks - L&P division (formerly St. Joseph Light & Power Company). Beginning on January 30, 2002, MPS's service territory experienced the effects of an ice storm of historical proportions which resulted in almost half of MPS's customers having their electric service interrupted due to downed power lines. In some places, ice accumulated to almost two inches in thickness on power lines and tree limbs, resulting in broken power lines, broken utility poles, and customers having electric meter sets ripped off the side of their homes. Other electric utility systems in the area were also severely affected. At the height of the disruption, approximately 95,000 of MPS's customers (40 percent of its customers in the area) were without service. As a direct consequence of this unpreventable natural disaster, MPS has been required to expend considerable sums of money and resources in order to restore service to its customers as quickly as humanly possible. In addition to its own service crews, MPS engaged the services of numerous other crews from other utilities in other states and also hired tree-trimming and removal

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crews from as far away as Texas. At the peak of its restoration efforts, MPS had almost 700 people working long hours to restore service. Every MPS customer had service restored by February 11, 2002.

- 6. Major resources expended on this project included overtime salaries, depletion of inventory, equipment expense, and contract costs, including the cost of food and lodging for crews.
- 7. These expenditures and loss of inventory were, considering the magnitude of the ice storm and MPS's operations, extraordinary and material. MPS currently has incurred incremental operating expenses of at least \$6,000,000 for this event but final amounts have yet to be determined. The financial impact of this storm is not now, and has never been, reflected in the rates MPS charges for electric service in Missouri, since rates are set on the premise of normalcy.
- 8. As a consequence of the extraordinary impact of this natural disaster, Aquila seeks an order from the Commission authorizing MPS to defer and record in Uniform System of Accounts number 182.3 for MPS, the incremental operating expenses incurred by MPS as a result of and in connection with this natural disaster. Aquila requests that the order authorize these deferrals to be amortized for financial reporting purposes beginning with the effective date of the Commission's order and continue over a five year (60 month) period. The AAO should be issued by the Commission before June 30, 2002, so that it can be contained in the financial release made for the second quarter of Aquila's 2002 fiscal year.
- 9. This Commission has a history of issuing Accounting Authority Orders ("AAO") for utilities when natural disasters in the past such as ice storms or major floods

have caused similar extraordinary remedial costs, and such orders have resulted in the amortization of such extraordinary costs over a multi-year period in conjunction with subsequent general rate cases. Treating these extraordinary costs as an accounting expense in a one year period, which may be required in the absence of an AAO as requested here, is neither reasonable nor appropriate, can produce unnecessarily adverse effects on a utility's financial reports, and has not been required by this Commission in past similar situations. Assuming the Commission issues the AAO as requested here, MPS expects to propose a five year amortization of the expenses for rate-making purposes at the appropriate time in a subsequent general rate case. This would be quite similar to the treatment which similar costs have received in the past. In view of the Commission's previously expressed desire to deal with such matters on a timely basis, MPS would agree to a condition on such an AAO that it seek recovery of such deferred costs in a general rate case within a three year period of the granting of such relief.

10. MPS therefore requests that the Commission issue an AAO which authorizes it to account for the expenses described herein in the manner requested.

WHEREFORE, Aquila respectfully requests that the Commission:

- (A) issue an Accounting Authority Order which authorizes it to record the incremental operating expenses relating to the ice storm in Account 182.3 as requested; and
- (B) grants such other relief as may be deemed necessary and appropriate which is not inconsistent with this pleading.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary W. Duffy

MBÉ #24905

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C.

312 E. Capitol Avenue

P. O. Box 456

Jefferson City, MO 65102

(573) 635-7166 voice

(573) 635-3847 facsimile

Email: <u>Duffy@Brydonlaw.com</u>

ATTORNEYS FOR AQUILA, INC.

AFFIDAVIT

State of Missouri

) ss

County of Cole

I, Gary W. Duffy, having been duly sworn upon my oath, state that I am an attorney for Aquila, Inc., that I am duly authorized to make this affidavit on behalf of Aquila, Inc., and that the matters and things stated in the foregoing pleading are true and correct to the best of my information, knowledge and belief.

Gary W. Duffy

d sworn before me this first day of May, 2002.

Robbin Griffith, Notary Public

#### **Certificate of Service**

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing pleading was hand delivered this first day of May, 2002, to the Office of the Public Counsel and the Office of the General Counsel.

Gary W. Duffy

AQicestormAAOapp2/gdmydocs/wp8

# STATE OF MISSOUR

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### Matt Blunt Secretary of State

CORPORATION DIVISION

CERTIFICATE OF CORPORATE RECORDS

AQUILA, INC.

using in Missouri the name

AQUILA FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS CORPORATION

I, MATT BLUNT, Secretary of State of the State of Missouri and Keeper of the Great Seal thereof, do hereby certify that the annexed pages contain a full, true and complete copy of those certain original documents on file and of record in this office for which certification has been requested.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have set my hand and imprinted the GREAT SEAL of the State of Missouri, on this, the 1st day of MAY, 2002.

Secretary of State



No. F00300558

STATE OF MISSOUR



#### Matt Blunt Secretary of State

CORPORATION DIVISION AMENDED CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY OF A FOREIGN CORPORATION

WHEREAS,

AQUILA, INC. D/B/A AQUILA FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS CORPORATION

Formerly,

UTILICORP UNITED INC.

incorporated under the laws of the State of DELAWARE and now in existence and in good standing in said State, and qualified to transact business in Missouri has delivered to me, duly authenticated evidence of an amendment to its Articles of Incorporation as provided by law, and has, in all respects, complied with the requirements of the The General

and Business Corporation Law of Missouri, governing Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation of Foreign Corporations, and in accordance therewith issue this

Certificate of Amendment.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have set my hand and imprinted the GREAT SEAL of the State of Missouri, on this, the 19th day of MARCH, 2002.

\$25.00

Secretary of State



## State of Missouri

Matt Blunt, Secretary of State

Corporations Division P.O. Box 778, Jefferson City, MO 65102

James C. Kirkpatrick State Information Center 600 W. Main Street, Rm 322, Jefferson City, MO 65101

## Application for an Amended Certificate of Authority for a Foreign Corporation (Submit in duplicate with filing fee of \$25.00)

The below corporation, relating to amending its certificate of authority of Foreign Corporation, described state:

				_	·	•
(1)	Its na	me is: <u>UtiliCorp</u>	United Inc.			
	and is	s incorporated in	the State of: _	Delaware		; and it
	was o	qualified in the S	State of Missou	ri on 03/27/1987		
		1			(month/day/year)	
(2)	Ву ар	opropriate corpo	rate action on:		n/day/year)	, the corporation:
	(1)	Changed its o	orporate name	to: Aquila, Inc.		
		Name it will	use in Missour	i if new name not availabl	e: Aquila Foreign	Qualification
	(2)	Changed its p	period of durati	on to:		Corporation
	(3)	Changed the	state or country	of its incorporation to: _		
(3)	relati		ment(s), set for	e of the Secretary of State th in item 2 above and sho	of the State of <u>Delaware</u> owing that the Corporation is i	n existence and in
(4)	The e	effective date of	this document	is the date it is filed by the	e Secretary of State of Missou	ri, unless you indicate
	a futi	are date, as follo	ws:	(Date may not be more than 9	90 days after the filing date in this office)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
			f, the facts state	ed above are true.		
	2	ovia XII	ennus	Sara L. Henning	Assistant Secretary	
	(Autho	rized Signature)	, \	(Printed Name)	(Title)	(month/day/year)

Attached is an original current certificate attesting to the change, duly authenticated by the secretary of state or other official having custody of corporate records in the state or country of incorporation.

Corp. #43 (11/00) MO034 - C T Filing Manager Online

## Delaware

### The First State

I, HARRIET SMITH WINDSOR, SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE SAID "UTILICORP UNITED INC.", FILED A CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP, CHANGING ITS NAME TO "AQUILA, INC.", THE FIFTEENTH DAY OF MARCH, A.D. 2002, AT 8:30 O'CLOCK A.M.

AND I DO HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THE AFORESAID

CORPORATION IS DULY INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF

DELAWARE AND IS IN GOOD STANDING AND HAS A LEGAL CORPORATE

EXISTENCE NOT HAVING BEEN CANCELLED OR DISSOLVED SO FAR AS THE

RECORDS OF THIS OFFICE SHOW AND IS DULY AUTHORIZED TO TRANSACT

BUSINESS.



Varriet Smith Windson

Harriet Smith Windsor, Secretary of State

AUTHENTICATION: 1672050

DATE: 03-18-02

2101053 8320

020177218

No. X00406059

STATE OF MISSOURI



### Matt Blunt Secretary of State

CORPORATION DIVISION

CERTIFICATE OF CORPORATE RECORDS

AQUILA NETWORKS-MPS

I, MATT BLUNT, Secretary of State of the State of Missouri and Keeper of the Great Seal thereof, do hereby certify that the annexed pages contain a full, true and complete copy of those certain original documents on file and of record in this office for which certification has been requested.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have set my hand and imprinted the GREAT SEAL of the State of Missouri, on this, the 1st day of MAY, 2002.







#### State of Missouri

Matt Blunt, Secretary of State

Corporations Division

No. X

If listed.

### **Registration of Fictitious Name**

(Submit in duplicate with filing fee of \$7)

(Must be typed or printed)

This information is for the use of the public and gives no protection to the name. There is no provision in this Chapter to keep another person or business from adopting and using the same name. (Chapter 417, RSMo.)

We, the undersigned, are doing business under the following name, and at the following address:

Aquila Networks - MPS Business name to be registered: 20 W. 9th Street **Business Address:** (P.O. Box alone not acceptable) Kansas City, MO 64105

The parties having an interest in the business, and the percentage they own are (if a business entity is owner, indicate business name and percentage owned. If all parties are jointly and severally liable, percentage of ownership need not be listed):

Name of Owners, Individual or Business Entity	Street and Number	City	State and Zip Code	Percentage of ownership must equal 100%
UtiliCorp United Inc.	20 W. 9th Street	Kansas City	MO 64105	100%
F00 300558				
	·	<del>-</del>		
	***			-

Return to: Secretary of State

Corporations Division P.O. Box 778

City, State and Zip Code:

Jefferson City, Mo. 65102

(Over)

Corp. #56 (11/00)

MO015 - 6/05/2001 C T System Online

The undersigned, being all the parties owning interest in the above company, being duly sworn, upon their oaths each did say that the statements and matters set forth herein are true.

Individual Owners	X	X	
Sign Here	X	X	<del></del>
	x	x	
			•
If Business Entity	UTILICORP UNITED IN	1C	
Is	Business Name		<del></del>
Owner, Authorized	2010 Loburier	Sara L. Henning	Asst. Secretary
Person Execute	Authorized Signature	Printed Name	Title
Here			
			11. 11. 12. 12. 12. 12. 12. 12. 12. 12.
State of Missouri	<b>)</b>	35	n= •
County ofAck	So/\		
- 1			02/2/2
1, Deboral	~ Kiley Kiggs_, ANO	tary Public, do hereby certify that on	
	Come I Homming Aget Coore	ntows:	
personally appeared before	e me Sara L. Henning, Asst. Secte	etary, and being duly s	worn by me, acknowledged that
he/she signed as his/her ow	vn free act and deed the foregoing o	document in the capacity therein set f	Forth and declared that the statements
therein contained are true.			
IN WITNESS WI	HEREOF I have bereinto set my b	and and seal the day and year before	written
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		1 That I	
(Notarial	1 Seal and Hilliam	Notary Pu	blic
	WINSSION CONTRACTOR	( )	
	O CHURCH 7, 20 to 18	My commission expires	7,2005
	* NOTARY SEAL CE	My County of Commission	Tackson
Corp. #56 (11/00)	NOTARY SEAL SEAL SEAL SEAL SEAL SEAL SEAL SEAL	1727 County of Continueston	
	MANUELIC STATE OF WITH		
		DEBORAH RILEY RIGGS Notary Public - State of Missouri	

MO015 - 6/05/2001 C T System Online

DEBORAH RILEY RIGGS
Notary Public - State of Missouri
Jackson County
My Commission Expires: August 7, 2005

No. X00406500

# STATE OF MISSOURI



### Matt Blunt Secretary of State

CORPORATION DIVISION

CERTIFICATE OF CORPORATE RECORDS

AQUILA NETWORKS - L&P

I, MATT BLUNT, Secretary of State of the State of Missouri and Keeper of the Great Seal thereof, do hereby certify that the annexed pages contain a full, true and complete copy of those certain original documents on file and of record in this office for which certification has been requested.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have set my hand and imprinted the GREAT SEAL of the State of Missouri, on this, the 1st day of MAY, 2002.







#### State of Missouri

Matt Blunt, Secretary of State

Corporations Division

No. X	<u>.                                    </u>	_	_

FILED

## **Registration of Fictitious Name**

(Submit in duplicate with filing fee of \$7)

(Must be typed or printed)

VM SECTEMAN OF STATE

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Business name to be registered:	Aquila Networks - L&P		
Business Address: (P.O. Box alone not acceptable) City, State and Zip Code:	20 W. 9th Street		
	Kansas City, Missouri 64105		

The parties having an interest in the business, and the percentage they own are (if a business entity is owner, indicate business name and percentage owned. If all parties are jointly and severally liable, percentage of ownership need not be listed):

Name of Owners, Individual or Business Entity	Street and Number	City	State and Zip Code	Percentage of ownership must equal 100%
Aquila, Inc. d/b/a Aquila	20 W. 9th Street	Kansas City	MO 64105	100%
Foreign Qualificatio	ns Corporation			<del></del> _
F300558				
***		_		

Return to: Secretary of State
Corporations Division
P.O. Box 778
Jefferson City, Mo. 65102

(Over)

Corp. #56 (11/00)

MO015 - 6/05/2001 C T System Online

The undersigned, being all the parties owning interest in the above company, being duly sworn, upon their oaths each did say that the statements and matters set forth herein are true.

Individual	X	X	
Owners Sign Here	X	X	FILED
	X	x	- Harapet
			MAR 1 9 2002
			SECRETARY OF STATE
If Business Entity Is	AQUILA, INC. d/b Business Name	/a AQUILA FOREIGN Q	UALIFICATIONS CORPORATION
Owner, Authorized	San Xlennu	NO Sara L. Henning	Asst. Secretary
Person Execute Here	Authorized Signature	Printed Name	Title
State of Missouri			
County of Jackson	}	SS	
1, Deborah	Bilay Riggs , AN	Notary Public, do hereby certify that	on March 12, 2002 month/day/year
personally appeared befor	e me Sara L. Henning	, and being duly	sworn by me, acknowledged that
he/she signed as his/her ov	wn free act and deed the foregoing	g document in the capacity therein se	t forth and declared that the statements
therein contained are true.			
IN WITNESS W		hand and seal the day and year befo	re written.
(Notaria	l Seal or Stamp)		Paul in
	MAH RILEY AMILES INSSIONE	My commission expires Augus	- 7, 2005
Corp. #56 (11/00)	NOTARY SEAL STANSON COUNTY	My County of Commission	okson County
MO015 - 6/05/2001 C T System Online	SA SOISON COUNTY	DEBORAH RILEY RIGGS Jackson County My Commission Expires	