

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF MISSOURI**

The Matter of the Application of Aquila, Inc., for Approval)
of Its Experimental Regulatory Plan and for a Certificate of)
Convenience and Necessity Authorizing It to Participate in)
the Construction, Ownership, Operation, Maintenance,)
Removal, Replacement, Control and Management of a)
Steam Electric Generating Station in Platte County,)
Missouri, or Alternatively for an Order Specifically)
Confirming That Aquila, Inc. Has the Requisite Authority)
under Its Existing Certificate(s).)

Case No. EO-2005-0293

Staff's Response to Commission's Order Directing Filing

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff") and for its Response to the Commission's July 8, 2005 Order Directing Filing states:

1. On July 8, 2005 the Commission issued an order in which it directed: "That the Staff of the Commission shall file a Status Report regarding the parties' negotiations and possible hearing dates no later than July 15, 2005."

2. A number of the parties in this case are still negotiating a settlement agreement and several parties have indicated that, while they would not sign the agreement, they would neither oppose the agreement nor request a hearing.

3. The Staff believes that the language of the settlement agreement is in the last stages of being finalized and that the agreement may be filed with the Commission as early as today.

4. A number of the parties in this case are the same as the parties in the cases established for Kansas City Power and Light Company's regulatory plan regarding Iatan Unit 2, Case No. EO-2005-0329, and for The Empire District Electric Company's regulatory plan

regarding Iatan Unit 2, Case No. EO-2005-0263; therefore, any hearing in this case should not coincide with hearings in those cases.

5. The Staff assumes the “hearing” to which the Commission referred in its order is often referred to as an “on-the-record presentation” rather than a contested case evidentiary hearing. The Staff believes that an on-the-record presentation on the agreement it anticipates is nearing finalization could be held as early as next week, and that such a hearing should take a day or less; however, because the agreement has not been filed yet the Staff is unable to propose specific dates for an on-the-record presentation regarding the agreement.

WHEREFORE, the Staff advises the Commission that it believes a non-unanimous Stipulation and Agreement will be filed in this case as early as today, that the non-unanimous Stipulation and Agreement will be unopposed, that an on-the-record presentation on the non-unanimous Stipulation and Agreement should take no more than a day, and that an on-the-record presentation on the non-unanimous Stipulation and Agreement should be held as early as circumstances permit.

Respectfully submitted,

DANA K. JOYCE
General Counsel

Nathan Williams
Nathan Williams
Senior Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 35512

Attorney for the Staff of the
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 751-8702 (Telephone)
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)
nathan.williams@psc.mo.gov

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or emailed to all counsel of record this 15th day of July 2005.

/s/ Nathan Williams