

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

In the Matter of the Consideration of Adoption)
of the PURPA Section 111(d)(14) Time-Based)
Metering and Communications Standard as) Case No. EO-2006-0496
Required by Section 1251 of the Energy Policy)
Act of 2005)

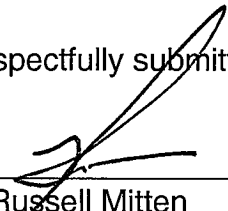
**THE RESPONSE OF AQUILA, INC., TO STAFF'S SUGGESTIONS
REGARDING FUTURE PROCEEDINGS**

Aquila, Inc. ("Aquila" or "Company"), through its undersigned counsel, hereby submits the following response to the *Suggestions Regarding Future Proceedings* filed by the Staff ("Staff") of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") on September 29, 2006. In that filing, Staff proposed that a case-specific technical conference be scheduled for November 20, 2006, in order to discuss whether rulemaking or a statement of Commission policy can best address the federal time-based metering and communications standard in 16 U.S.C. § 2621(d)(14) under consideration herein. In addition, Staff proposed that each party to the case be required, by December 5, 2006, to: 1) state their respective positions on the rulemaking vs. policy statement issue, and 2) propose a timeline that will allow completion of any required compliance activities before August 8, 2007, deadline prescribed in EPAAct 2005. Staff also proposes to keep the current docket open pending completion of the aforementioned activities.

As stated in the *Response to Order Directing Filing* that the Company filed in this case on September 15, 2006, Aquila believes this case can be terminated

under the "prior state action" provisions of EPAAct 2005.¹ Aquila still holds that view. However, if the Commission disagrees or believes that it will benefit from Staff's suggestion to allow further discussion of the federal time-base metering and communications standard followed by written statements by the parties of their respective positions as to how the Commission should comply, the Company will not oppose adoption of Staff's suggestion.

Respectfully submitted,



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¹ 16 U.S.C. § 2622(d).

Certificate of Service

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true copy of the foregoing document was served upon the following by electronic mail, facsimile or U.S. mail, postage prepaid, this 13th day of October, 2006:

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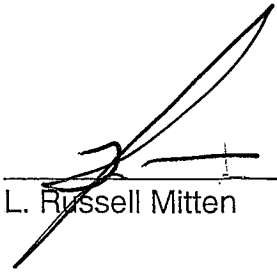
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