Decision No. C03-0163

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

DOCKET NO. 03M-044E

THE APPLICATION OF AQUILA, INC., DOING BUSINESS AS AQUILA NETWORKS-WPC,

FOR A VARIANCE AND TEMPORARY WAIVER OF RULE 4 CCR 723-1-25(A)(1).

COMMISSION ORDER APPROVING THE PETITION FOR VARIANCE AND TEMPORARY WAIVER OF AVOIDED COST FILING REQUIREMENT

Mailed Date: February 13, 2003

Adopted Date: February 12, 2003

I. **BY THE COMMISSION:**

> Α. Statement

1. On January 31, 2003, Aquila, Inc., doing business as Aquila Networks-WPC

(Aquila), filed an application pursuant to 4 Code of Colorado Regulations (CCR) 723-1-59, of

the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedures, requesting a variance from the avoided cost

information filing requirements of 4 CCR 723-19-3.301 and 3.302, including a temporary waiver

for a 30-day extension of time, to and including March 3, 2003, to file the required avoided cost

information.

2. Aquila is an electric utility operating pursuant to authorithy issued by the

Commission within its authorized service territory in the State of Colorado. Aquila is regulated

by the Commission with respect to its rates for services and facilities provided to its customers.

3. Certain information about Aquila's avoided costs in Colorado are due to be filed

with the Commission on or before February 1, 2003. Aquila's reason for a request for an

Decision No. C03-0163 DOCKET NO. 03M-044E

extension of time is that the personnel responsible for preparing and filing the Colorado avoided cost filing are busily engaged in matters relating to the electric rate case Aquila now has pending before the Commission in Docket No. 02S-549E. The numerous activities associated with the rate case, particularly responding to Trial Staff audit and discovery requests and the discovery requests of interveners, have impaired the ability of Aquila to prepare and file the avoided cost information with the Commission for 2003.

B. Findings of Fact

4. This application complies with 4 CCR 723-1-59 for waiver of a Commission rule. The application also meets the requirements for completeness.

C. Conclusions

5. Good cause exists for granting this request for variance, temporary waiver, and extension of time for filing the avoided cost information.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

- 1. The application by Aquila, Inc., doing business as Aquila Networks-WPC, for variance and temporary waiver of avoided cost filing requirement is deemed complete and is approved.
 - 2. This Order is effective on its Mailed Date.

Decision No. C03-0163 DOCKET NO. 03M-044E

B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING February 12, 2003.



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Bruce N. Smith Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

GREGORY E. SOPKIN

POLLY PAGE

JIM DYER

Commissioners

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