

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  GRH ELECTRONICS, INC.	DOCKET NO. DRU-05-2
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**ORDER GRANTING INTERVENTION, SCHEDULING MEETING,  
AND SETTING DATE FOR REPLIES**

(Issued January 11, 2006)

On December 15, 2005, GRH Electronics, Inc. (GRH), filed a petition with the Utilities Board (Board) requesting a declaratory order concerning a service offered by GRH known as the "Compugas System." This system allocates the cost of gas service among tenants of multiple unit premises that are metered by a master meter. The question is whether the system, as described, brings GRH within the definition of a "public utility" pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.1. On December 20, 2005, the Board issued an order giving notice of the declaratory order request and establishing dates for intervention and replies. In the order the Board directed notice be sent to the four rate-regulated natural gas utilities and to the complainants who filed informal complaints about the Compugas System at the Riverside Apartments in Council Bluffs, Iowa. The informal complaints are File Nos. C-05-176, C-05-177, C-05-208, C-05-210, and C-05-229.

On December 30, 2005, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed an appearance and statement addressing the

petition for declaratory order. On January 6, 2006, GRH filed a reply to Consumer Advocate's statement.

On January 9, 2006, Aquila, Inc., d/b/a Aquila Networks (Aquila), filed a petition to intervene and comments. Aquila cites 199 IAC 4.3(2) to support its petition to intervene and states that it did not intervene initially because it understood that the declaratory order only affected the five complaints listed in the December 20, 2005, order. Aquila suggests that the Board has recognized its interest since it required the December 20, 2005, order be served on Aquila.

The Board will grant intervention to Aquila. The Board specifically directed that Aquila be given notice of this request for declaratory order, anticipating that Aquila and the other natural gas utilities might have an interest in the issues raised. In addition, subrule 4.3(2) provides that the Board may grant intervention to any person who files a petition to intervene prior to the issuance of the declaratory order. Intervention by Aquila will not prejudice the other parties since the Board will establish a date for replies to Aquila's comments and is scheduling a meeting to allow for a complete consideration of the issues raised.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. Aquila, Inc., d/b/a Aquila Networks, is granted intervention in this docket.
2. An informal meeting with the parties, pursuant to 199 IAC 4.7, is scheduled for January 24, 2006, in Conference Room 3 located at 350 Maple Street, Des Moines, Iowa. The meeting will commence at 10 a.m.

3. Replies to the comments of Aquila, Inc., d/b/a Aquila Networks, shall be filed on or before January 18, 2006.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ John R. Norris

/s/ Diane Munns

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper  
Executive Secretary

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Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2006.