

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: ABSOLUTE ENERGY, LLC	DOCKET NO. P-871
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ORDER

(Issued September 12, 2007)

On August 31, 2007, in Board Docket No. SPU-07-12, the Utilities Board approved a settlement agreement in which the Black Hills Corporation (Black Hills) and its subsidiary, Black Hills/Iowa Gas Utility Company, LLC (BH Iowa Gas), will acquire the natural gas assets of Aquila, Inc., d/b/a Aquila Networks (Aquila) located in Iowa and other states. Once this acquisition is completed, Aquila will discontinue providing utility service in Iowa. Prefiled testimony in this docket states that Absolute Energy, LLC, (Absolute Energy) has contracted with Aquila to design, construct, operate, and maintain the proposed pipeline at issue in this docket. Therefore, at the hearing on September 20, 2007, Absolute must present evidence regarding how the Black Hills/BH Iowa Gas acquisition will affect these contractual arrangements and Absolute's current plans for the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed pipeline if a permit is granted. The Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) should also be prepared to state whether it has any questions or concerns regarding this issue at the hearing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

At the hearing on September 20, 2007, the parties shall address the Black Hills/BH Iowa Gas acquisition issue as discussed in the body of this order.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Amy L. Christensen
Amy L. Christensen
Administrative Law Judge

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 12th day of September, 2007.