

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

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IN RE:  AQUILA, INC., d/b/a AQUILA NETWORKS	DOCKET NO. P-872
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**ORDER ASSIGNING DOCKET TO PRESIDING OFFICER**

(Issued October 23, 2007)

On September 11, 2007, Aquila, Inc., d/b/a Aquila Networks (Aquila), filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a petition for a pipeline permit to allow Aquila to construct, maintain, and operate a gas pipeline in Clay and O'Brien counties in Iowa. The proposed natural gas pipeline consists of approximately seven miles of 6-inch diameter steel pipe and is designed to transport natural gas to the VeraSun Hartley Ethanol Plant, which is currently under construction in Hartley, Iowa.

Board staff reviewed the petition and by a letter dated September 17, 2007, notified Aquila of deficiencies in the petition, and requested additional information. On September 24, 2007, Aquila filed revisions to the petition exhibits and provided additional information. On October 2, 2007, Board staff filed a report concerning the route inspection and petition. In the report, Board staff requests that Aquila respond to certain questions or provide additional information on several issues in prefiled testimony or at the hearing.

Iowa Code § 479.7 (2007) requires the Board to set a hearing in a pipeline proceeding upon the filing of a petition. The Board finds that the petition, as revised,

substantially meets the filing requirements for the Board to proceed to a hearing of this matter. The Board will assign the petition in Docket No. P-872 to a presiding officer to establish a procedural schedule and conduct a hearing.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

Docket No. P-872 is assigned to Amy Christensen as the presiding officer to establish a procedural schedule and exercise the authority provided in 199 IAC 7.3.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ John R. Norris

/s/ Krista K. Tanner

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper  
Executive Secretary

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Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2007.