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company's utility customers pay for the expenses associated with the excess office space. A sale of the property at 20 West 9th Street is considered unlikely, but other options are being considered, including transferring employees from Raytown and Omaha--Omahans, get to packing and get to stepping, and head for Kansas City! A second possibility is leasing more than half of the building, which could raise \$1.2 million annually for the financially struggling company. You've got a struggling They did have to sell off four of their U.S. utilities, but let me read a paragraph. The company oversaw a growing business that included domestic and international utilities and several unregulated businesses such as energy trading--energy trading. It's financial fortunes soured in 2002. Since then it has sought to recover by selling most of its businesses and other assets. Revenues were \$3.4 billion in 2001, but declined to \$1.7 billion by 2004. That is a huge decline, if you ask me. Further decline is expected when Aquila completes the sale later this year of four U.S. utilities. Then it will be left with utilities in Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Colorado, and Nebraska, serving 873,000 customers, and those customers are going to pay for the poor and negligent and incompetent business decisions, speculations, and investments by those who are running this company, whose sole purpose is to make profit. And when you are in a position to increase your revenue by increasing the amount that people who are receiving your service must pay, then you have a very good position facing you, as opposed to a company which makes those bad decisions but cannot make a captive audience pay more money. Two options short of selling the property could create better use of the New Aquila has about Life building and the annex. 200 employees in Omaha and 500 in Raytown. Some of those employees could be moved here--which means Kansas City--to fill the space. So Aquila right now is looking for a way to fill some empty space in a building which it purchased for what it called its world headquarters. They engage in speculation. wonder if ... well, Senator Schrock is not here. I'm going to ask Senator Mines, the banker, a question, if he will answer.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Mines, would you respond?

SENATOR MINES: Yes, Mr. President, Senator.