

**THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS**

Before Commissioners: Shari Feist Albrecht, Chair
 Pat Apple
 Jay Scott Emler

In the Matter of the Application of Westar)
Energy, Inc. and Kansas Gas and Electric) Docket No. 15-WSEE-115-RTS
Company to Make Certain Changes in Their)
Charges for Electric Service.)

**ORDER DESIGNATING PREHEARING OFFICER; ORDER GRANTING
INTERVENTION TO THE CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD**

This matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) for consideration and determination. Having reviewed the pleadings and record, the Commission finds and concludes as follows:

1. On September 15, 2014, Westar Energy, Inc. and Kansas Gas and Electric Company (collectively Westar) filed a Petition Initiating Docket to make certain changes in their charges for electric service.
2. Westar also requested the Commission issue a Discovery Order and Protective Order so that the advance audit process can commence. Westar requested the Discovery and Protective Order be limited to matters related to the audit of the La Cygne Environmental Project only until such time as Westar files its application in this docket, at which point full discovery would be permitted.
3. On September 23, 2014, the Commission granted Westar's request to initiate the docket and issued a limited Discovery and Protective Order. As Westar requested, the Discovery and Protective orders were limited to matters related to the audit of the La Cygne Environmental Project.

I. Order Designating Prehearing Officer

4. Although the Commission will conduct the evidentiary hearing, the Commission designates a prehearing officer to conduct any prehearing conferences that may be necessary, to address any matters appropriately considered in a prehearing conference, including all items listed in K.S.A. 77-517(b) of the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act (KAPA). The Commission designates Jay Van Blaricum, Assistant General Counsel, 1500 SW Arrowhead Road, Topeka, KS 66604-4027, telephone number (785) 271-3186, j.vanblaricum@kcc.ks.gov to serve as Prehearing Officer in this proceeding.¹ The Commission may designate other staff members to serve in this capacity.

II. Order Granting Intervention to the Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB)

5. On September 22, 2014, CURB filed a Petition to Intervene.² In its Petition, CURB stated that it is composed of five volunteer consumer advocate members statutorily authorized to represent the interests of Kansas residential and small commercial ratepayers in any utility proceeding before the Commission under K.S.A. 66-1223, *et seq.*³ CURB requests permission to intervene as the rates paid by those customers will or may be affected by any Commission order or activity in this proceeding.⁴

6. The Commission has broad discretion to grant a petition for intervention if it is in the interest of justice, if the intervention will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings, and if the party has stated facts demonstrating its legal rights, duties and privileges, immunities or other legal interests may be substantially affected by the proceeding.⁵

¹ K.S.A. 77-514; K.S.A. 77-516; K.S.A. 77-551.

² Petition to Intervene, (September 22, 2014) (Petition).

³ Petition, ¶¶ 2, 3.

⁴ Petition, ¶¶ 5, 7.

⁵ K.S.A. 77-521; K.A.R. 82-1-225.

Furthermore, at any time during a proceeding, the Commission may impose limitations on an intervenor's participation.⁶

7. The Commission finds and concludes that CURB has met the requirements of K.A.R. 82-1-225 and K.S.A. 77-521 and should be granted intervention in this Docket. CURB will be added to the mailing list, service of pleadings, communications, and correspondence should be delivered to counsel of record, as follows:

David Springe #15619
Niki Christopher #19311
Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board
1500 SW Arrowhead Road
Topeka, KS 66604
(785) 271-3200 (tel.)
(785) 271-3116 (fax)
Email: d.springe@curb.kansas.gov
n.christopher@curb.kansas.gov

8. In addition to counsel of record for CURB listed above, service of electronic notices, pleadings, and correspondence should be delivered to CURB's other designees:

Shonda Smith
Office Manager
Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board
1500 SW Arrowhead Road
Topeka, KS 66604
Email: sd.smith@curb.kansas.gov

Della Smith
Administrative Specialist
Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board
1500 SW Arrowhead Road
Topeka, KS 66604
Email: d.smith@curb.kansas.gov

IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

(A) The Commission designates Jay Van Blaricum to serve as Prehearing Officer in this proceeding.

(B) The Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board is granted intervention in the above-captioned proceeding. Counsel of record for the petitioner, and its other designees, shall receive service of all pleadings in this matter, as set forth above.

⁶ K.S.A. 77-521(c).

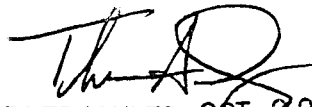
(C) The parties have fifteen days from the date this order was served, plus three days if service is by mail, in which to petition the Commission for reconsideration of any issue or issues decided herein.⁷

(D) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties for the purpose of entering such further orders as it may deem necessary and proper. '

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Albrecht, Chair; Apple, Commissioner; Emler, Commissioner.

Dated: OCT 02 2014


ORDER MAILED OCT 03 2014
Thomas A. Day
Executive Director

JV/mf

⁷ K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 2013 Supp. 77-529(a)(1).

PLEASE FORWARD THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT (S) ISSUED IN THE ABOVE-REFERENCED DOCKET TO THE FOLLOWING:

NAME AND ADDRESS	NO. CERT. COPIES	NO. PLAIN COPIES
NIKI CHRISTOPHER, ATTORNEY CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604 ***Hand Delivered***		
DELLA SMITH CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604 ***Hand Delivered***		
SHONDA SMITH CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604 ***Hand Delivered***		
DAVID SPRINGE, CONSUMER COUNSEL CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604 ***Hand Delivered***		
MICHAEL NEELEY, LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604-4027 ***Hand Delivered***		
AMBER SMITH, LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604-4027 ***Hand Delivered***		
JAY VAN BLARICUM, ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604-4027 ***Hand Delivered***		
MARTIN J. BREGMAN, ATTORNEY STINSON LEONARD STREET LLP 1201 WALNUT ST STE 2900 KANSAS CITY, MO 64106		

ORDER MAILED **OCT 03 2014**

The Docket Room hereby certified that on this _____ day of _____, 20_____, it caused a true and correct copy of the attached ORDER to be deposited in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, and addressed to the above persons.

PLEASE FORWARD THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT (S) ISSUED IN THE ABOVE-REFERENCED DOCKET TO THE FOLLOWING:

NAME AND ADDRESS	NO. CERT. COPIES	NO. PLAIN COPIES
CATHRYN J. DINGES, CORPORATE COUNSEL WESTAR ENERGY, INC. 818 S KANSAS AVE PO BOX 889 TOPEKA, KS 66601-0889		
JEFFREY L. MARTIN, VICE PRESIDENT, REGULATORY AFFAIRS WESTAR ENERGY, INC. 818 S KANSAS AVE PO BOX 889 TOPEKA, KS 66601-0889		
CINDY S. WILSON, DIRECTOR, RETAIL RATES WESTAR ENERGY, INC. 818 S KANSAS AVE PO BOX 889 TOPEKA, KS 66601-0889		

ORDER MAILED OCT 03 2014

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