

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

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)

PETITION INITIATING DOCKET

Westar Energy, Inc. and Kansas Gas and Electric Company (together as “Westar”) hereby file this petition with the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (“Commission”) to open a docket and obtain a docket number assignment in advance for their rate application (“Application”) expected to be filed with the Commission on March 2, 2015.

1. Westar Energy and KGE are corporations duly organized under the laws of the State of Kansas engaged, among other things, in the business of electric public utilities, as defined by K.S.A. 66-104, in legally designated areas within the State of Kansas. Westar holds certificates of convenience and necessity issued by this Commission authorizing it to engage in such utility business.

2. Westar will be filing a full general rate case Application with the Commission on March 2, 2015. Such filing will be made pursuant to K.S.A. 66-117 and will meet the filing requirements of K.A.R. 82-1-231.

3. Westar hereby seeks to open a docket in advance of filing its Application so as to obtain a docket number and allow the Commission Staff and the Citizens’ Utility Ratepayers Board (“CURB”) to begin a pre-audit of the La Cygne Environmental Project prior to the filing of Westar’s Application.

4. This petition is being filed as Westar represented it would be in the *In the Matter of a Joint Application Requesting Approval of Certain Timing and Process Terms Regarding the 2015 and 2016 Rate Applications of Kansas City Power & Light Company, Westar Energy, Inc. and Kansas Gas and Electric Company* (“Joint Application”), filed in Docket No. 15-GIME-025-MIS on July 21, 2014. In that Joint Application, Westar, Kansas City Power & Light Company (“KCP&L”), Staff and CURB proposed to the Commission procedural schedules for Westar’s and KCP&L’s 2015 rate applications intended to avoid both companies filing their applications at the same time. To further alleviate some of the resource problems inherent in Staff and CURB auditing both companies during the same time period, the parties to the Joint Application agreed that Staff and CURB could begin their audits of the La Cygne Environmental Project prior to Westar and KCP&L filing their 2015 rate applications. This petition is filed now so as to allow Staff and CURB a docket within which to issue discovery on the La Cygne Environmental Project costs and charge their time for conducting these advance audit activities.

5. In addition to opening the docket, Westar requests the Commission issue a Discovery Order and a Protective Order so that the process contemplated herein can commence. The Discovery Order should 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.

6. ***Westar understands and expressly acknowledges that the running of the 240-day statutory timeline in K.S.A. 66-117 will not start until the filing of the Application and supporting testimony and schedules as required by K.A.R. 82-1-231.***

7. In addition to undersigned counsel, all correspondence, pleadings, orders, decisions and communications regarding this proceeding should be sent to:

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Cindy Wilson, Director, Retail Rates
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WHEREFORE, Westar respectfully requests that the Commission issue an order (1) approving the opening of this docket for the purposes set forth above, (2) issue a Protective Order and a Discovery Order limited initially to information related to the La Cygne Environmental Project as soon as possible to allow Staff and CURB to begin their pre-audit, and (3) for such other and further relief as the Commission deems just and reasonable.

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTORNEYS FOR
WESTAR ENERGY, INC. AND
KANSAS GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

VERIFICATION

STATE OF KANSAS)
)
COUNTY OF SHAWNEE) ss:

Cathryn J. Dinges, being duly sworn upon her oath deposes and says that she is the attorney for Westar Energy, Inc. and Kansas Gas and Electric Company; that she is familiar with the foregoing **Petition** that the statements therein are true and correct to the best of her knowledge and belief.

Cathryn Dinges
Cathryn J. Dinges

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 15th day of September, 2014.

Debbielee A. Papps
Notary Public

My Appointment Expires:

