# THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners:	Pat Apple, Cha Shari Feist Alb Jay Scott Emle	recht		
In the Matter of the Joint Application	n of	)		
Great Plains Energy Incorporated, K	ansas	)		
City Power & Light Company and Westar		)	Docket No. 16-KCPE-593-ACC	
Energy, Inc. for Approval of the Acq	uisition	)		
of Westar Energy, Inc. by Great Plain	ns	)		
Energy Incorporated.		)		

#### NOTICE OF FILING OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Office of General Counsel for the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) files the attached report summarizing the public comments received by the Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection (PACP). This filing is for informational purposes only, and no Commission action is required at this time.

WHEREFORE, the Deputy General Counsel & Chief Appellate Counsel submits this filing for Commission review and consideration and for such other relief as the Commission deems just and equitable.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Brian G. Fedotin

Brian G. Fedotin # 19036
Deputy General Counsel
& Chief Appellate Counsel
Kansas Corporation Commission
1500 SW Arrowhead Rd.
Topeka, KS 66604
(785) 271-3105 (Telephone)
(785) 271-3314 (Fax)
b.fedotin@kcc.ks.gov





Phone: 785-271-3100 Fax: 785-271-3354 http://kcc.ks.gov/

Sam Brownback, Governor

Pat Apple, Chairman Shari Feist Albrecht, Commissioner Jay Scott Emler, Commissioner

#### MEMORANDUM

To:

Amy Green

Secretary to the Commission

From: Linda Berry, Director

Public Affairs and Consumer Protection

Date: January 25, 2017

Re:

**Public Comments** 

Docket No. 16-KCPE-593-ACQ

Attached is the report summarizing comments received by the Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection (PACP) in the Matter of the Joint Application of Great Plains Energy Incorporated, Kansas City Power & Light Company and Westar Energy, Inc. for Approval of the Acquisition of Westar Energy, Inc. by Great Plains Energy Incorporated.

There have been 93 comments received either by letter, phone, email or via website between June 28, 2016, and January 18, 2017. The comment period ended on January 18, 2017 at 5:00 pm.

Copies of the comments and summary are attached as "Attachment A." I request the General Counsel file the comment memo and supporting materials into the docket.

Cc: Brian Fedotin, Deputy

General Counsel and Chief Appellate Counsel

Dustin Kirk, Deputy

General Counsel and Chief Administrative Counsel

# Attachment "A"

Kansas Corporation Commission Consumer Protection Complaint System Comment Period June 28, 2016 through January 18, 2017

Docket Comments 16-KCPE-593-ACQ

Docket No	Total Comments		Total Si	gnatures	Total
16-KCPE-593-ACQ		90		3—	93
Grand Total		90		3	93

Page: 1



Complaint ID 103851
Date Filed 09/14/2016
Investigator SEISENBA

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name SHARIE VONELLING Home Phone (316)236-7799 Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 109 N PARKWOOD Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City WICHITA

State KS Zip Code

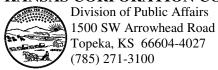
Docket OpinionNumber of PetitionsCompany IDDocket NumberConsumer OpinionSignatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ N 0

**Narrative** 

09/14/2016 IS THERE ANY CONCERNS FOR SENIORS ON A FIXED INCOME? LOWER RATES FOR SENIOR

CITIZENS.



Complaint ID 103913 Date Filed 09/22/2016 **SBOYD** Investigator

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name **DANIEL ALLAN** Home Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax#

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City VALLEY CENTER

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

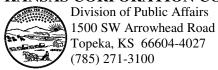
Number of Petitions Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures

**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0 0

**Narrative** 

09/22/2016 \* AS FOR THE MERGER, MR. ALLAN THINKS THAT INSTEAD OF MERGING KCP&L AND WESTAR

SHOULD BE BROKEN UP INTO 4-6 SMALLER COMPETING COMPANIES.



Complaint ID 104081

Date Filed 09/24/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name EMILY MILLER Home Phone (913)261-9263 Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 6728 W. 109TH STREET Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address EMILY.S.MILLER@HOTMAIL.COM

City OVERLAND PARK

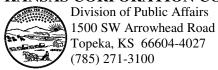
State KS Zip Code 66211

Docket OpinionNumber of PetitionsCompany IDDocket NumberConsumer OpinionSignatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ N 0

**Narrative** 

09/24/2016 KPL CUSTOMERS DESERVE TO KNOW MORE DETAILS AND HAVE AN OPEN FORUM.



Complaint ID 104419
Date Filed 09/29/2016
Investigator GLIPPERT

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class R

Name LARRY E WOLGAST Home Phone Cell Phone

Business MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TOPEKA Work Phone (785)368-3895 ext

Street Address 215 SE 7TH STREET Fax # (785)368-3850

Mailing Address Email Address

City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66603

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

09/29/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER SENT TO ALL THREE COMMISSIONERS



# CITY OF TOPEKA

Larry E. Wolgast, Mayor City of Topeka 215 SE 7th Street Topeka, KS 66603 (785) 368-3895 (785) 368-3850 fax

September 27, 2016

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
SEP 28 2016

Chair Jay Scott Emler Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604

Dear Chair Emler:

I am writing in reference to the acquisition of Westar Energy by Kansas City Power and Light.

Topeka is vitally important to the State of Kansas. Not only is it one of the state's top metropolitan entities, it is on the move: Downtown Topeka has been revitalized; Mars has invested almost one-half billion in a state-of-the-art plant; a strategic economic plan has been developed enabling Topeka and northeast Kansas to prosper and grow for decades.

Westar has been a significant force in what has happened in Topeka. It is the largest downtown private employer; Westar employees serve in leadership roles throughout the community; the company is a leader in renovating downtown having constructed a beautiful pocket park in front of its building. In short, having a strong, responsive, engaged company such as Westar in Topeka provides a foundation necessary for a city to succeed.

The rumors that Westar was for sale were a significant concern for Topeka. Losing a great company like Westar would seriously erode the progress Topeka has made and it is unlikely a replacement would be found. When KCP&L announced the acquisition, a study of the potential changes was begun. What was learned about this transaction and about KCP&L has not only quieted my concern, but earned my endorsement.

I am writing to ask that you grant approval for this acquisition, because I believe it is the best outcome for a sale of Westar and in the best of interests of Topeka and Kansas.

First, KCP&L has agreed to keep intact Westar's Topeka downtown headquarters. The company has publicly stated multiple times this commitment; the current location will remain their operational headquarters for the Kansas service territory. KCP&L also has promised to retain key leadership and functions in Topeka. Further, since Kansas City is less than an hour away, their senior executive leadership team expects to be in Topeka on a regular basis. Finally, a commitment to maintain or improve Westar's level of community involvement has been stated. The fact that KCP&L would be willing to put these commitments in writing speaks volumes about its intent.

Second, if KCP&L and Westar are allowed to become one company, nearly two-thirds of the new company's customers will be in Kansas. Instead of becoming a small portion of a much larger out-of-state corporate conglomeration, Kansas will be a majority of the new company's customers and business. No other potential Westar buyer would be local nor would they have the majority of their business in Kansas.

When KCP&L announced this transaction, it occurred in Topeka. The company immediately met with Westar employees and Topeka officials. They came here as a symbolic gesture demonstrating their intention to continue operating in Topeka and Kansas. In fact, KCP&L's commitment shows a clear intention of retaining jobs, maintaining a local obligation to the area, and ultimately continuing to attract regional economic development.

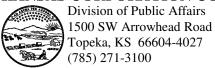
I ask you to approve the acquisition.

Lang -

Larry E. Wolgast, Mayor

LW:mr

Cc: Commissioner Sari Feist Albrecht, Commissioner Pat Apple



Complaint ID 104427
Date Filed 09/29/2016
Investigator GLIPPERT

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class R

Name JOE REARDON Home Phone Cell Phone

Business PRESIDENT/CEO KC CHAMBER Work Phone (816)221-2424 ext

Street Address 30 W PERSHING ROAD, SUITE 301 Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City KANSAS CITY

State **MO** Zip Code **641082423** 

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

09/29/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER SENT TO ALL THREE COMMISSIONERS



30 W Pershing Road, Suite 301 | Kansas City, MO 64108 2423 | 816-221-2424 | kechamber.com

JOE REARDON
President and
Chief Executive Officer

September 20, 2016

Mr. Jay Scott Emler Chairman, Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604-4027 STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

SEP 28 2016

Dear Chairman Emler:

I am writing in support of the proposed merger between KCP&L and Westar Energy. These two Kansas City regional companies coming together will certainly benefit our businesses, our community, and our future. This merger will enhance the Greater Kansas City community based on the strong track record of both companies in their community engagement.

Both KCP&L and Westar are leaders of the broader regional community. They are dedicated to advancing the growth of our region's businesses and economy. They advocate on behalf of our regional community both locally and globally. They collaborate both amongst each other and with businesses in the region. They connect community and commerce towards a higher purpose and goal. They are champions for the region through their innovative and visionary business models and leadership. Finally, they empower their employees to be stewards of the communities in which they live, work and play. I have been witness to this engagement in my role at the Chamber and am encouraged by the positive opportunity this combination will provide to the Kansas City region.

History has proven that when utilities are operated by holding companies located far away from the regions they serve, their support for local community engagement and economic development declines. When utilities expand their operations in a geographic region, they become that much more committed and engaged.

We also know that businesses around the country and the world understand the importance of competitive electric rates and the benefits of a diversified portfolio of energy sources. KCP&L and Westar's innovations and leadership have fostered a climate in our region that attracts businesses and skilled individuals. The merger will improve our competitive advantage, creating opportunities and savings throughout our area.

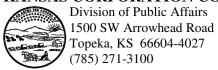
The Greater Kansas City metro area is home to vibrant cities, flourishing suburban communities, rolling hills and tree-lined boulevards, a thriving economy driven by thousands of small businesses, tech start-ups, medical research and the headquarters of companies like Hallmark and Sprint. With your approval, we can also add an innovative and collaborative Fortune 1000 utility whose top priority will be the betterment of our region.

Sincerely,

Joe Reardon

President and CEO

cc: Commissioner Shari Feist Albrecht Commissioner Pat Apple



Complaint ID 104544

Date Filed 10/10/2016

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name ROB OLSON Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 15944 S CLAIRBORNE STREET Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address ROB.OLSON@SENATE.KS.GOV

City **OLATHE** 

State KS Zip Code 66062

Docket Opinion

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

10/10/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER SENT TO ALL THREE COMMISSIONERS

#### STATE OF KANSAS

ROB OLSON SENATOR, 23RD DISTRICT 15944 S. CLAIRBORNE STREET OLATHE, KANSAS 66062

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 236-E TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612 (785) 296-7358 rob.olson@senate.ks.gov



SENATE CHAMBER

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS LITILITIES

CHAIR

MEMBER AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE WAYS & MEANS

FEDERAL & STATE AFFAIRS

COMMERCE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE CONFIRMATION OVERSIGHT

October 7, 2016

Jay Scott Emler Chairman, Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604-4027

To Chairman Emler and Commissioners,

The State of Kansas is at an important crossroads in our effort to meet the energy demands of today while also preparing for the requirements of tomorrow. As Chairman of the Senate Utilities Committee, my long-time partners in addressing our state's energy needs have been Westar Energy and KCP&L. Their mutual commitment to building a diversified portfolio of generation mitigates our risk for what the future may hold while continuing to keep our current energy costs low, which, as you know, is key to attracting businesses, investment and residents to our great state.

In my role in the Senate, I have come to know and respect both of these companies greatly. Their responsiveness to our inquiries and their willingness to provide support for the policy we develop in our Committee has been tremendously helpful to our efforts. When we call them for questions, we speak directly with their leadership team. Their executives all live and work right here in our region, so they just like us, want to do everything they possibly can to support Kansas and our residents. As individual companies they are both committed to Kansas; together, they will still be our local electric utility, only stronger and better equipped to keep electric rates affordable.

Initially, I was concerned when I heard the rumors that Westar Energy might be up for sale. This is clearly not the time for our state to lose a major employer and taxpayer. I have worked closely with Westar over the past few years, and I was worried that the significant momentum we have generated would be lost through an acquisition by a company that does not know Kansas. When KCP&L announced in late May that they would be merging with Westar, I was relieved. After learning more about the transaction and KCP&L's plans, I am happy to offer my wholehearted support. I am writing you today to ask that you approve this transaction in order to unlock the benefits that this will bring to our great state.

Many utility transactions are purely financial in nature. Over the last five years, we have seen large utilities and private investors acquire smaller and mid-sized utilities all over the United States. In many cases, the acquired utilities are nowhere near the companies that purchase them. While they create a windfall for shareholders, there are few real opportunities to create operational savings for customers except through the elimination of jobs. And often, once the transaction is consummated, the acquired company's executive leadership is no longer local.

While the same financial factors underlie KCP&L's acquisition of Westar, this is not just a financial transaction for the benefit of shareholders. This is an "old fashioned" merger of two neighboring companies. The combination of KCP&L and Westar just makes common sense. There are many strategic and operational advantages to combining these companies:

- KCP&L and Westar share multiple power plants, including the Wolf Creek nuclear plant;
- KCP&L and Westar are in the same regional transmission organization, the Southwest Power Pool;
- KCP&L and Westar have adjacent service territories and will be able to improve customer service and reliability like no other combination by leveraging each other's assets and strengths;
- KCP&L and Westar are familiar with each other and have worked together on multiple projects;
- KCL&L and Westar together will be able to find operational savings through eliminating redundant costs, having greater scale and spreading any increased costs over a larger service territory and more customers; and
- KCP&L and Westar are companies who have both operated in Kansas for more than 100 years, they live and work here and will be responsive to the needs of local communities and Kansas.

Starting with the initial announcement, KCP&L has made their intentions for Kansas very clear. They plan to keep the current Westar headquarters in Topeka and committed that key leadership and functions will be located there. KCP&L also has confirmed that they will continue to support Westar's philanthropic and community focus. Since the announcement, KCP&L's CEO, Terry Bassham, has met repeatedly with community and civic leaders so that they could hear directly from him and that he understands the concerns of his future employees and the customers the company will serve. Once this merger is complete, KCP&L will have nearly two thirds of its customers in Kansas, making Kansas the most significant and important part of the combined company's operations.

Westar and KCP&L are both a natural and great fit together. This truly is the best possible outcome that could have happened to our state. Westar has sold to a local company that has made public commitments that will result in the continuation of a major employer and taxpayer remaining here. Most importantly, KCP&L knows Kansas and has been doing business in our state for more than 100 years. I look forward to what their combined efforts will do for our state over the next 100 years.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Rob Olson Chairman, Senate Utilities Committee Kansas State Senate

Rob Oleon

cc: Commissioner Shari Feist Albrecht Commissioner Pat Apple



Complaint ID 104635 Date Filed 10/26/2016 Investigator **SEISENBA** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name **CHERYL ASHTON** Home Phone Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax#

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City WICHITA

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Number of Petitions Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures 0

**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ Ν

**Narrative** 

10/26/2016 I AM OK WITH THE MERGER, BUT MY CONCERN IS IF IT GOES THRU, HOW MANY RATE INCREASES

WILL THEY BE ASKING FOR? I CANNOT AFFORD RATE INCREASES.



Complaint ID 104652
Date Filed 10/28/2016
Investigator SEISENBA

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name OLIVARIO RICO Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City SPRING HILL

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

VODE

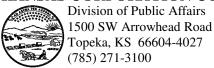
KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

10/28/2016 I STRONGLY OPPOSE KCPL BUYING WESTAR BECAUSE FOR THE PAST 5 YEARS KCPL HAS BEEN

REQUESTING AND RECIEVING RATE INCREASES. HOW CAN THEY AFFORD 12.5 BILLION TO PURCHASE THIS COMPANY WHEN THEY CANNOT KEEP THE BUSINESS GOING WITHOUT ADDITIONAL FUNDS AND NOW THEY WANT TO BUY ANOTHER COMPANY. KCPL ALREADY

PROVIDES POOR SERVICE.



Complaint ID 104668 Date Filed 11/02/2016 Investigator **SEISENBA** 

Number of Petitions

Signatures

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name STEWART HARTWICK Home Phone Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax#

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City SOLOMON

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** 

**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0 0

**Narrative** 

11/02/2016 I AM AGAINST THIS MERGER. THEY HAVE GOTTEN RATE INCREASES. I AM A SENIOR CITIZEN AND I DON'T GET A RAISE. MY BILLS ARE HIGHER. WHEN THEY GET TOGETHER NO ONE WILL BE

ABLE TO STOP THEM. THEY WILL CONTROL THE WHOLE THING.



Complaint ID 104669

Date Filed 11/02/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name JERRYVERONICA BASE Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 120 S SECOND ST Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City SMOLAN

State KS Zip Code 67479

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

11/02/2016

WHY IN THE WORLD ARE WE CONTINUALLY INSULTED WITH THE 'NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING' FLYERS IN THE RECENT BILLING? HISTORY SHOWS THAT EVERY SINGLE RATE INCREASE REQUEST THAT COMES TO THE KCC IS RUBBER-STAMPED BEFORE IT EVEN GOES TO A HEARING. THE PUBLIC'S OPINION MATTERS NOT AS IT'S A DONE DEAL UPON FILING. WHY DON'T YOU JUST CAN THE 'HEARINGS' AND DEVOTE THE ILL-GOTTEN GAINS OF INCREASES TO IMPACTING AND LOWERING RATES INSTEAD OF INSULTING OUR INTELLIGENCE. I WOULD VENTURE THAT ALMOST TO A NUMBER, WE CUSTOMERS ARE ABSOLUTELY OPPOSED TO THE CONSTANT INCREASES - - THE EXCUSES OF JUST WHY THESE INCREASES ARE 'NEEDED' JUST DON'T FLY. BESIDES ALL THAT, STOP PAYING THE CEO AND HIS MINIONS SUCH OUTRAGEOUS AND LUDICROUS SALARIES AND BONUSES - - JUST WHAT CAN THEY POSSIBLY BE DOING THAT WARRANTS SUCH OBSCENE AMOUNTS? GIVE US THE CUSTOMERS AN HONEST ANSWER AND A BREAK FOR A CHANGE.



Complaint ID 104679 Date Filed 11/07/2016 Investigator **SYSTEM** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name **CHARLES BRUMLEVE** Home Phone (785)776-8497 Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address 2416 WILMAR DRIVE Fax#

Mailing Address Email Address CTBRUMLEVE@COX.NET

City MANHATTAN

State KS Zip Code 66502

**Docket Opinion** 

Number of Petitions Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures

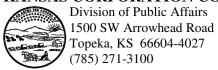
**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0 0

**Narrative** 

11/07/2016 WHEN A COMPANY GETS BIGGER HISTORY HAS SHOWN THE PUBLIC NEVER BENEFITS FROM IT.

EITHER THE PRICES GO UP OR THE SERVICE GETS WORST. THINGS ARE DOING FINE SO A

MERGER IS NOT WARRANTED.



Complaint ID 104683

Date Filed 11/08/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name CHANDLER VOSS Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City WICHITA

State KS Zip Code 67217

Docket Opinion

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

11/08/2016 COMPETITION IS GOOD FOR THE CONSUMER.



Complaint ID 104697 Date Filed 11/10/2016 Investigator **KSCHUETZ** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class R

Name **SHARON L MCAHREN** Home Phone Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address 300 MAINT ST Fax#

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City BYERS

State KS Zip Code 67021

**Docket Opinion** 

**Number of Petitions** Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures

**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0

**Narrative** 

11/10/2016 SEE LETTER

16-KCPE-593-ACQ

104697

## SHARON L. MCAHREN 300 MAIN ST. BYERS, KS 67021

Kansas Corp. Commission
Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection
1500 SW Arrowhead Rd.
Topeka, KS 66604-4027

November 7, 2016

RE: Docket#16-KCPE-593-ACO

Gentlemen:

I am writing on behalf of my elderly mother that uses Westar Energy for electrical needs in her home, 3021 N. Nancy Ln, Derby, KS 67037. Melba Maxine Sledge, is 90 years old, and has lived in her home since 1982. She is widowed and has her Social Security income and minimal retirement benefits from my father's work. Needless to say, her budget is slim for her living expenses, and any increase causes cuts in areas that cannot be allowed for her health and welfare. I am her voice to express her desire that those increases that Westar proposes, be denied. These yearly increases put a hardship on her and many others that have a fixed income. The cost of living expenses spiraling upwards does not reflect with her cost of living Social Security income that she is expected to live on.

Please take a moment to have compassion for the elderly and disabled that must live on small budgets and cannot afford increases such as these. Please find it in your heart to sympathize with the unfortunate that do not have much and side with these people. Westar is a large multi-million dollar corporation that could cut their budgets in respect to new pickups, new buildings, new job raises and etc, they are not expected to tighten their belts, just pass it along to the unfortunate consumers on a fixed budget.

Thank you for your consideration to our perspective for the proposed increases that can have severe consequences for the standard of living for the elderly, like my mother.

Sharon Mushe

Sharon L. McAhren

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

NOV 10 2016

PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION



Complaint ID 104698

Date Filed 11/13/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name LYNDEN L LANDHOLM Home Phone (785)231-9011 Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 2406 SE GEMINI AVE Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address LANDHOLM.LEE@GMAIL.COM

City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66605

Docket Opinion

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

11/13/2016

AS SOMEONE WHO WORKS WITH NUMBERS ON A DAILY BASIS AND WORKED FOR A LARGE CORPORATION FOR MANY YEARS I CANNOT UNDERSTAND HOW THE THIS TRANSACTION WILL BENEFIT THE WESTAR CUSTOMERS. THE ONLY WAY I CAN SEE THAT GREAT PLAINS WILL BE ABLE TO FINANCE SEVERAL BILLION DOLLARS OF NEW DEBT IS TO RAISE RATES EVEN MORE THAN WHAT WESTAR HAS DONE THE LAST FEW YEARS, CUT INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS, CUT TREE TRIMMING, AND EVENTUALLY ELIMINATE MOST OF THE WESTAR STAFF. THIS IS THE ONLY WAY I CAN SEE THAT GREAT PLAINS CAN SAVE ENOUGH TO PAY THE ENORMOUS DEBT PAYMENTS THEY WILL HAVE. THERE IS NO WAY IN THIS TYPE OF REGULATED BUSINESS THAT ANYTHING BESIDES WHAT I HAVE WRITTEN MAKES ANY TYPE OF FINANCIAL SENSE. THIS ACQUISITION WILL NOT BE GOOD FOR THE CUSTOMER, TOPEKA OR THE STATE OF KANSAS.



Complaint ID 104699

Date Filed 11/14/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name PAULA R WALTS Home Phone (785)550-0027 Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 945 COVING DRIVE Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address PRWALTS@GMAIL.COM

City LAWRENCE

State KS Zip Code 66049

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

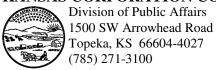
KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

11/14/2016 BASED UPON INFORMATION POSTED IN THE KANSAS CITY STAR REGARDING THIS MERGER I AM

OPPOSED. THE ARTICLE INDICATED THIS MERGER ONLY BENEFITS KANSAS CITY, MO AREA RESIDENTS. THE RATES FOR KANSAS RESIDENTS WOULD INCREASE TO SUPPORT THIS MERGER. MERGING THESE 2 COMPANIES WILL NOT PROVIDE ANY ADVANTAGE TO KANSAS

RESIDENTS. SINCERELY, PAULA WALTS



Complaint ID 104700 Date Filed 11/14/2016 Investigator **SEISENBA** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name LARRY JACOB Home Phone Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax#

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City **SEDGWICK** 

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Number of Petitions Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures

**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0 0

**Narrative** 

11/14/2016 WESTAR HAS RAISED RATES ENOUGH. MY CONCERN WITH THIS MERGER IS IF RATES WOULD

INCREASE AGAIN. I DO NOT WANT RATES TO INCREASE.



Complaint ID 104701
Date Filed 11/14/2016
Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name ALLEN LINDHOLM Home Phone (785)819-2255 Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 3647 S. LIGHTVILLE ROAD Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address 67CAMAROHOTROD@GMAIL.COM

City SALINA

State KS Zip Code 67401

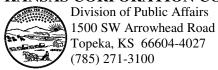
**Docket Opinion** 

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

11/14/2016

I BELIEVE THIS MERGE ANDOR BUY OUT SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED. I THINK THAT GREAT PLAINS ENERGY WILL HAVE A MONOPOLY IN THE STATE OF KANSAS, AND THE KCC SHOULD NOT ALLOW IT. I HAVE SEEN RAISES THAT WESTAR ENERGY HAS BEEN ALLOWED OVER THE YEARS, AND I BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE EVEN WORSE IF GREAT PLAINS BUYS THEM OUT. WE ARE RETIRED. OUR SOCIAL SECURITY DOES NOT GO UP, BUT OUR UTILITIES COMPANY ARE CONSTANTLY RAISES THERE RATES. WHERE WILL IT EVER START. DO YOU WONDER WHY PEOPLE ARE LEAVING KANSAS WHEN THEY RETIRE? CANNOT AFFORD TO LIVE HERE ON A FIXED INCOME.



Complaint ID 104712

Date Filed 10/11/2016

Investigator GLIPPERT

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class C

Name MATT PIVARNIK Home Phone Cell Phone

Business GREATER TOPEKA CHAMBER OF Work Phone ext

COMMERCE GO TOPEKA Fax #

Street Address 120 SE SIXTH AVENUE, SUITE 110 Email Address

Mailing Address
City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66603

Docket OpinionNumber of PetitionsCompany IDDocket NumberConsumer OpinionSignatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

Narrative

10/11/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER



October 11, 2016

Letter of Support

RE: Proposed Westar Energy and KCP&L Merger

The Greater Topeka Chamber board members believe the proposed merger between Westar Energy and KCP&L is the best possible outcome for Topeka/Shawnee County and voted to support the merger on September 15, 2016.

We are extremely fortunate that Westar Energy has found a neighboring buyer that understands and appreciates firsthand the regional needs of individual and corporate customers, especially with regard to business retention and attraction efforts in the heartland. Both of these outstanding companies share a reputation for doing the right thing and going above and beyond with regard to their commitment to employees, safety, service reliability, the environment and corporate philanthropy. These factors all have a positive, critical influence on Topeka/Shawnee County's economic development and quality of life initiatives.

We have met with executives at both companies and have been impressed by their collaborative, thoughtful and respectful discussions regarding how best to merge their operations for the benefit of our region. We especially appreciate their intention to minimize disruption as much as possible by continuing to have a robust workforce in place in Westar's downtown headquarters.

We look forward to the new entity that will be formed through their deliberations and the many advantages that we are confident will accrue to our community through the completion of this transaction.

Sincerely,

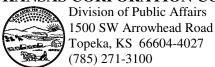
Matt Pivarnik

President and Chief Executive Officer

Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce and GO Topeka

Brent Boles

Chamber Chair



Complaint ID 104721 Date Filed

11/16/2016

Investigator **SYSTEM** 

**Account Information** 

Account No. Notified KCC by **E** Consumer Class R

Name Home Phone **ANDREA M FUHRMAN** Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address 210 NORTH CEDAR STREET Fax #

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City ABILENE

State KS Zip Code 67410

**Docket Opinion** 

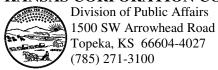
Number of Petitions Company ID **Docket Number** Consumer Opinion Signatures

**KCPE** 0 0 16-KCPE-593-ACQ

**Narrative** 

11/16/2016

I AM VERY CONCERNED THAT A MERGER MAY MEAN INCREASES IN POWER BILLS, PASSED ON TO THE CONSUMER. DESPITE THE ARGUMENT THAT WESTAR IS NOT A PUBLIC UTILITY, TELL THAT TO THE CUSTOMER WHO USES ENERGY FROM WESTAR. NOT ONLY WILL THERE BE A CONSOLIDATION OF JOBS AND WORKLOAD, COST OF A MERGER MIGHT BE PUT ON THE CONSUMER. ENERGY COMPANIES THAT ARE LARGER AND LESS COMPETITIVE MIGHT VIOLATE ANTI TRUST LAWS, ASSUMMING THOSE LAWS ARE STILL IN EFFECT. ENERGY SHOULD BE CHEAPER, NOT MORE EXPENSIVE. GREAT PLAINS CREDIT RATING MIGHT BE IMPACTED THUS HIGHER RATES TO BORROW MONEY, WHICH INEVITABLY IS PASSED ON TO THE CONSUMER. IN THE PAST, I PAID ONLY FOR THE ENERGY I USED. NOW, BILLS REQUIRE THAT I PAY ENERGY COMPANIES FOR THE ACCESS TO GAS. THIS IS WRONG, AND UNFAIR TO THE CONSUMER. MY USE OF ELECTRICITY, FOR EXAMPLE, THIS PAST MONTH IS ONLY 10.00 YET MY ADDITIONAL SERVICE FEE IS 15.00! THIS IS WRONG. IN KANSAS, AN ECONOMY WHICH HAS BEEN HURT BY BROWNBACK POLICIES, COSTS ARE VERY HIGH FOR THE ORDINARY CITIZEN. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS MERGER, AND PLEASE CONSIDER LOWERING COSTS AND REDUCING WESTAR'S PROFIT MARGIN. IF PEOPLE ARE TOO DESTITUTE TO AFFORD ENERGY, THEY WON'T USE IT.



Complaint ID 104731

Date Filed 11/17/2016

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class R

Name JOYCE FEE Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 2109 RIVIERA DR Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City LAWRENCE

State KS Zip Code 66047

Docket Opinion

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

11/17/2016 16-KCPE-593-ACQ

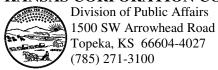
SEE ATTACHED LETTER

11-14-16 Dear Commission Members, You not approve the GPE, K.c. Powers Light Co. and Wester Energy jount application seeking approval of the acquisition of Westar by GPE. Kansas & Missouri Customers are being Loved to accept Wester becoming of Wholly owned Subsidiary of your commissions approval will depend on whether or not original promotes the this acquisition promotes the public convenience, your Commission must evaluate any possible effects of this acquisition which will impact ratepayers, the environment, etc. You have a history of approving Westons endless requests. I unge you to thoroughly research all

# JOHNSTON Construction Company

relevant ssues pertains to this reguest before næking yom determination. Missouri and Kansas residents deserve your ut most consideration on their behalf. Thank long Joyce Fee 2109 Riviera Dr. Lawrence, KS, 66041

www.JOHNSTONConstructionCo.com (785) 842-3114 • Toll Free (888) 842-3114



Complaint ID 104732 Date Filed 11/17/2016 **SEISENBA** Investigator

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name **CATHY THORNHILL** Home Phone Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax#

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City JUNCTION CITY

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Number of Petitions Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures

**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0 0

**Narrative** 

11/17/2016 I DO NOT WANT SOME MONOPOLY TAKING OVER MY ELECTRIC. I CANNOT AFFORD HIGHER BILL.

I AM A FIXED INCOME. I SAY NO TO THE MERGER.



Complaint ID 104734

Date Filed 11/17/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name LARRY R MOORE Home Phone (620)364-6500 Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 2625 UNDERWOOD RD. Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address MOORE60@CENTURYLINK.NET

City WAVERLY

State KS Zip Code 66871

**Docket Opinion** 

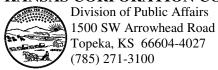
Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ N 0

**Narrative** 

11/17/2016

MY TAKE ON THIS VERY EXPENSIVE MERGER IS, IF ALLOWED TO GO THROUGH, WILL BE DONE BY RAISING RATES. GPE WILL COMPLAIN IT HAS TO RAISE RATES TO FINALIZE THEIR ACQUISITION....I'VE HEARD THIS BEFORE WITH OTHER COMPANIES. ONE OTHER REALIZATION IS ALL ENERGY COMPANIES HAVE JUMPED ON THE 'ALTERNATIVEGREEN' BAND WAGON. THE SUBSIDIES TO ACCOMPLISH THIS WERE PAID BY THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION, BUT THERE IS A NEW PRESIDENT NOW AND THE SCRAMBLE FOR GREEN ENERGY TO SAVE THE PLANET FROM US MAY BE OVER. SO, IF A WIND FARM IS PARTIALLY COMPLETE AND THE GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY STOPS WILL THE RATE PAYER PICK UP THE TAB? THAT IS WHAT I SAY WOULD HAPPEN. MY NEUTRAL STANCE IS THAT I TRUST THE KCC WILL MAKE THE RIGHT CALL...YOU HAVE ALL THE INFORMATION. I WOULD LIKE THE KCC TO REQUEST GPE GUARANTEE THIS MERGER WILL NOT RESULT IN RATE INCREASES. LET'S SEE HOW THEY REACT TO THAT.



Complaint ID 104738

Date Filed 11/18/2016

Investigator SEISENBA

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name JACK KNEALE Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City WAKARUSA

State KS Zip Code

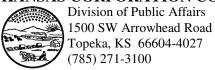
Docket Opinion

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

11/18/2016 I AM NOT IN FAVOR OF THIS SALE. I AM AFRAID RATES WITH INCREASE SKY HIGH.



Complaint ID 104740 Date Filed 11/18/2016 Investigator **SEISENBA** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name **LEONARD KAISER** Home Phone Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax#

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City ROSEHILL

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Number of Petitions Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures

**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0 0

**Narrative** 

11/18/2016 I AM TOTALLY AGAINST THE MERGER. BIG CORPORATIONS HAVE A MONOPOLY ANY WAY. I AM

AFRAID PRICES WILL GO UP. I AM A HOME OWNER AND AN APARTMENT MANAGER AND

TENANTS COMPLAIN ABOUT HIGH ELECTRIC BILLS AS IT IS.



Complaint ID **104743**Date Filed **11/20/2016** 

**SYSTEM** 

Investigator

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name HAL D MARTIN Home Phone (316)550-4213 Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 155 N CHAUTAUQUA Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address N2AIRPLANES@AOL.COM

City WICHITA

State KS Zip Code 67214

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

\*\*COPT\*\* | \*

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

11/20/2016 CONSIDER THIS A HEARTFELT COMMENT FROM A LONG TIME KANSAS RESIDENT WITH A

MEMORY. I TRUST THE KCC WILL CONTINUE TO REPRESENT ALL KANSAS RESIDENTS, WITH FASTIDIOUS SCRUTINY, ANY BUSINESS PLANS THAT INVOLVE WESTAR ENERGY. I TRUST THAT THE KCC WILL CONTINUE TO PROTECT CONSTITUENT INTERESTS BY PREVENTING ANY ACTIVITY OR POSTURING TOWARD UNJUSTIFIABLE FUTURE RATE HIKES. THE OUTCOME OF THE LAST WESTAR FIASCO IS FRESH ON MY MIND AND FEEL THAT THOSE RESPONSIBLE SHOULD STILL BE

IN JAIL. THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR DILIGENCE TOWARD THIS END.



Complaint ID 104744

Date Filed 11/21/2016

Investigator BDONOHUE

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name ROBERT SHOEMAKER Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 616 OLD HWY 50 NW Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City **LEBO** 

State KS Zip Code 66856

ENERGY.

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

\*\*COPT\*\* | \*

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

11/21/2016

I'VE WORKED FOR THE COMPANY WITH KG&E AND THEN WESTAR/WOLFCREEK. I'VE SEEN THIS BATTLE BETWEEN THESE COMPANY'S OFF AND ON FOR YEARS. ONE TIME THEY TRIED TO TAKE OVER EACH OTHER AND EVERY TIME THEY TRY TO TAKE OVER EACH OTHER IT COSTS THE CONSUMERS BILLIONS OF DOLLARS. I HAVE A FEELING THIS TIME IS GOING TO COST EVERYONE. RIGHT NOW THEY HAVE A HATE/HATE RELATIONSHIP AND RIGHT NOW WOULD NOT BE GOOD FOR THE CUSTOMER AND COMBINING THE TWO WOULD NOT BE IN THE BEST FOR THE CUSTOMER. OTHER THAN THAT I THINK THEY WOULD BE BETTER OFF SEPARATE. I KNOW BOTH COMPANY'S WANT TO GROW, BUT OVER THE YEARS WHEN THEY TRY TO GET TOGETHER ITS COSTS MILLIONS WITH LEGAL FEES TRYING TO GET TOGETHER.

ON THE FLYER THEY HAVE 45% ENERGY IS EMISSION FREE AND THAT IS NOT A MAJOR CONCERN WHERE WE LIVE. THAT MEANS FOR ME WIND ENERGY AND I NEED CONTINUAL



Complaint ID 104745

Date Filed 11/21/2016

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name JEFF GUERNSEY Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address JGUERNS@YAHOO.COM

City SALINA

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions
KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

11/20/2016

IF GPE BUYS WESTAR FOR \$12.2 BILLION, WHO GETS THE MONEY? WESTAR BECOMES PART OF GPE, SO WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

POWER COMPANIES ARE GETTING TOO BIG. SOON THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE. THEN THEY CAN CHARGE WHAT EVER THEY WANT. THIS IS NOT RIGHT.

IT'S LIKE THOSE LIVING OFF THE GRID. THEY HAVE SOLAR PANELS FOR ELECTRIC, AND COLLECT RAIN WATER. SOME CITIES RE TRYING TO MAKE THEM BUY WATER AND POWER.

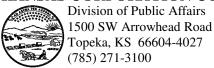
SEEMS THEY WANT TO CHARGE THOSE PEOPLE TO LIVE OFF THE GRID.

AS FAR A PRICE INCREASE FROM WESTAR, (AND THE OTHERS TOO), I SAY EVERY EMPLOYEE WHO HAS ANY THING TO DO WITH THOSE COMPANIES NEED TO TAKE A 12% PAY CUT. UPPER MANAGEMENT AND CEO TAKE A 30% PAY CUT.

LET THEM SEE WHAT IT'S LIKE LIVING ON A FIXED INCOME.

THOSE ON SOCIAL SECURITY, LIVE BELOW THE POVERTY LEAVEL. I KNOW I DO!

SO I SAY NO TO ANY THING THAT WILL RAISE THE COST OF ENERGY. YOU GRANTED WESTAR A RATE INCREASE 12 TIMES IN THE LAST FEW YEARS. IT'S TIME YOU THINK ABOUT HOW THE POOR FOLKS CAN PAY ANOTHER INCREASE!



Complaint ID 104746

Date Filed 11/21/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name ROD M STEWART Home Phone ( )992-5246 Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 5501 COE DRIVE Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address RSTEWARTREALTOR@SBCGLOBAL.NE

City WICHITA

State KS Zip Code 67208

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

VODE

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ N 0

**Narrative** 

11/21/2016 WE HAVE SEEN OUR RATES INCREASE SIGNIFICANTLY IN THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS. WE ARE SENIOR CITIZENS ON FIXED INCOMES. IF THIS PURCHASESALE IS TO RESULT IN MORE RATE

INCREASES, I WILL BE OPPOSED TO IT. PLEASE KEEP THIS IN MIND.



Complaint ID 104751 Date Filed 11/21/2016 Investigator **SYSTEM** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name **SAMUEL C WEBB** Home Phone (316)682-0591 Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address 537 CIRCLE DRIVE Fax#

Mailing Address Email Address SWEBB8@COX.NET

City WICHITA

State KS Zip Code 67218

**Docket Opinion** 

**Number of Petitions** Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures

**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0 0

**Narrative** 

11/21/2016 WHY WAS THE MERGER NOT ACCOMPLISHED WITH A STOCK SWAP THAT WOULD AVOID A

TAXABLE EVENT FOR WR STOCKHOLDERS? ISN'T UNFAIR ADVANTAGE BEING GIVEN TO GPE

STOCKHOLDERS?



Complaint ID 104760

Date Filed 11/23/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name DOUG W BEBENSEE Home Phone (316)393-1467 Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 4261 FREIDA RD. Fax #

City **CHENEY** 

State KS Zip Code 67025

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

\*\*COPE\*\* 16 KOPE\*\* 503 ACC

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ N 0

**Narrative** 

11/23/2016

HI; WE HAVE A 100 PHOTO-VOLTAIC SOLAR SYSTEM HERE AT OUR HOME. IN WHAT WAY WILL THIS MERGER AFFECT MY CURRENT WRITTEN AGREEMENT THAT I NOW HAVE WITH WESTAR ENERGY? I WOULD BE CONCERNED THAT THE NEW, COMBINED MANAGEMENT OF THE THREE FORMERLY SEPARATE COMPANIES WOULD TRY TO CURTAIL, REDUCE, OR ELIMINATE OUR CURRENT ARRANGEMENT. CURRENTLY, WE HAVE BARELY ENOUGH INCENTIVE AS IT IS TO HAVE THIS SOLAR SYSTEM, SO IF IT IS REDUCED IN ANY WAY, I WOULD NOT BE IN FAVOR OF THIS MERGER. TO ASK IN ANOTHER WAY; WHAT WILL YOUR POLICIES BE TOWARDS HOMEOWNER INSTALLED PHOTO-VOLTAIC OR ANY OTHER TYPE OF RENEWABLE ELECTRIC SYSTEMS IF THE MERGER IS APPROVED? THANKS FOR LISTENING, DOUG BEBENSEE



Complaint ID **104761**Date Filed **11/25/2016** 

Investigator **SYSTEM** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name DAN L BENEFIEL Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 9627 HARDTNER Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City WICHITA

State KS Zip Code 67212

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

\*\*COPT\*\* To KOPT\*\* The ACC STATE OF T

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

11/25/2016

I AM WRITING TO EXPRESS MY OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF WESTAR BY GREAT PLAINS ENERGY. TIME WAS MY ELECTRIC COMPANY WAS HERE, IN WICHITA. OUR COMMUNITY WAS STRONGER. KGE HAD AN OFFICE BUILDING DOWNTOWN. EMPLOYED MANY CITIZENS OF OUR COMMUNITY AND WAS A GOOD NEIGHBOR. WITH EACH CHANGE TO THE ORIGINAL COMPANY THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES DROPPED AND SERVICE DID TOO. ALLOWING THIS MERGER TO PROCEED WOULD ONLY CONTINUE CORPORATE TRENDS. MERGERS CREATE LARGER AND LARGER COMPANIES, YET THEY PRODUCE FEWER AND FEWER JOBS FOR THE COMMUNITIES THEY SERVE. THIS AFFECTS US ALL. FEWER EMPLOYEES, LESS TAX BASE FROM WHICH TO DRAW. KANSAS CANNOT AFFORD TO LOOSE ANY MORE REVENUE. I SEE NO BENEFIT AS A CUSTOMER. INITIALLY MY BILLS MAY DROP, AS LONG AS IT SERVES THE NEW COMPANIES INTEREST, BUT YOU CAN BET WITHIN FIVE YEARS THEY WILL NEED TO RAISE RATES. I SEE NO POSITIVES IN REGARDS TO THE PROPOSED MERGER. PLEASE DO PERMIT THIS TO HAPPEN. IF IT DOES HAPPEN, COULD YOU AT LEAST PUT A 'CAP' IN PLACE ON CEO AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION PACKAGES? IF THE PAST PROVIDES EXAMPLES, THESE WILL BE THE ONLY INDIVIDUALS BENEFITTING FROM ALLOWING THIS UNNECESSARY MERGER. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOICE MY OBJECTIONS.



Complaint ID 104762
Date Filed 11/28/2016
Investigator SEISENBA

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name LARRY KOSEK Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City SILVER LAKE

State KS Zip Code

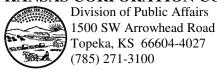
Docket OpinionNumber of PetitionsCompany IDDocket NumberConsumer OpinionSignatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

11/28/2016 I AM TOTALLY AGAINST THIS MERGER. THERE WILL BE NO COMPETITION WITH OTHER

COMPANIES.



Complaint ID 104763 Date Filed 11/28/2016

**BDONOHUE** 

Investigator

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Home Phone Name **ROGER GRACEY** Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax#

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City CHENEY

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Number of Petitions Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures

**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0

**Narrative** 

11/28/2016

I'M A STOCKHOLDER AND CONSUMER AND IT'S BEEN MY EXPERIENCE THAT BIGGER IS NOT BETTER. I THINK WE SHOULD REEVALUATE WIND POWER, NUCLEAR, COAL AND PRODUCE ELECTRICITY BY UTILIZING OUR NATURAL RESCOURCES AND NOT SUBSIDIZING TO INCREASE THE PRICE OF ELECTRICITY. LET THE MARKET DICTATE THE COST OF THE UTILITY. DON'T LET POLITICS DICTATE THE PRICE AND LET MARKETS DICTATE THE COSTS. WE ARE NOT FOR THE MERGER DUE I FEEL WE'LL GET LESS PERSONAL ATTENTION AND HIGHER PRICES AND LESS SAY.



Complaint ID 104767

Date Filed 11/29/2016

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class R

Name MIKE O'NEAL Home Phone Cell Phone

Business KANSAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Work Phone (785)357-6321 ext

Street Address 835 SW TOPEKA BLVD Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66612

Docket Opinion

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

11/29/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER SENT TO ALL THREE COMMISSIONERS



STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

NOV 29 2016

AND ONSUMER PROTECTION 835 SW Topeka Blvd. Topeka, KS 66612 785.357.6321

November 18, 2016

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

104767

NOV 29 2016

Jay Scott Emler Chairman, Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604-4027

To Chairman Emler and Commissioners,

The state of Kansas is at an important crossroads in our effort to meet the energy demands of today while also preparing for the requirements of tomorrow. As CEO of The Kansas Chamber of Commerce, our long-time members Westar Energy and KCP&L are at the forefront of those efforts. Their mutual commitment to building a diversified portfolio of generation mitigates our risk for what the future may hold while continuing to keep our current energy costs low, which, as you know, is key to attracting businesses, investment and residents to our great state.

These are two great Kansas companies. In fact, it is not widely known, but KCP&L has been in Kansas longer than Westar has. Their executives all live and work right here in our region. Just like us, they want to do everything they possibly can to support Kansas and our residents. As individual companies they are both committed to Kansas; together, they will still be our local electric utility, only stronger and better equipped to keep electric rates affordable.

Possibly like many Kansans, I was anxious when I heard rumors Westar might be up for sale. This is clearly not the time for our state to lose a major employer and taxpayer. When KCP&L announced in late May they would be merging with Westar, I was relieved. After learning more about the transaction and KCP&L's plans, I am happy to offer my wholehearted support. I am writing you today to ask that you approve this transaction in order to unlock the benefits this will bring to Kansas.

Many utility transactions are purely financial in nature. Over the last five years, we have seen large utilities and private investors acquire smaller and mid-sized utilities all over the United States. In many cases, the acquired utilities are nowhere near the companies that purchase them. While they create a windfall for shareholders, there are few real opportunities to create operational savings for customers except through the elimination of jobs. And often, once the transaction is consummated, the acquired company's executive leadership is no longer local.

Unlike other utility mergers, this is not just a financial transaction for the benefit of shareholders. This is a merger of two neighboring companies whose strengths compliment one another. The combination of KCP&L and Westar just makes common sense.

There are many strategic and operational advantages to combining these companies:

- KCP&L and Westar share multiple power plants, including the Wolf Creek nuclear plant;
- KCP&L and Westar are in the same regional transmission organization, the Southwest Power Pool;
- KCP&L and Westar have adjacent service territories and will be able to improve customer service
  and reliability like no other combination by leveraging each other's assets and strengths;
- KCP&L and Westar are familiar with each other and have worked together on multiple projects;
- KCL&L and Westar together will be able to find operational savings through eliminating redundant costs, having greater scale and spreading any increased costs over a larger service territory and more customers; and
- KCP&L and Westar are companies who have both operated in Kansas for more than 100 years, they
  live and work here and will be responsive to the needs of local communities and Kansas.

Starting with the initial announcement, KCP&L has made their intentions for Kansas very clear. They plan to keep the current Westar headquarters in Topeka and committed that key leadership and functions will be located there. KCP&L also has confirmed they will continue to support Westar's philanthropic and community focus. Since the announcement, KCP&L's CEO, Terry Bassham, has met repeatedly with community and civic leaders so they could hear directly from him. Doing so allows him to understand the concerns of his future employees and the customers the company will serve. Once this merger is complete, KCP&L will have nearly two thirds of its customers in Kansas, making Kansas the most significant and important part of the combined company's operations.

Westar and KCP&L are both a natural and great fit together. This truly is the best possible outcome that could have happened to our state. Westar has sold to a local company that has made public commitments that will result in the continuation of a major employer and taxpayer remaining here. Most importantly, KCP&L knows Kansas and has been doing business in our state for more than 100 years. I look forward to what their combined efforts will do for our state over the next 100 years.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Mike O'Neal

President & CEO

Kansas Chamber of Commerce

cc:

Commissioner Shari Feist Albrecht Commissioner Pat Apple



Complaint ID 104769

Date Filed 11/29/2016

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name STEVEN A SCOTT Home Phone Cell Phone

Business PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY Work Phone (620)235-4100 ext

Street Address 1701 SOUTH BROADWAY Fax # (620)235-4080

Mailing Address Email Address

City PITTSBURG

State KS Zip Code 66762

Docket OpinionNumber of PetitionsCompany IDDocket NumberConsumer OpinionSignatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

11/29/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER SENT TO ALL THREE COMMISSIONERS

104769



November 29, 2016

Jay Scott Emler Chairman, Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604-4027

#### To Chairman Emler and Commissioners:

It is my pleasure to write you in support of the merger of KCP&L and Westar Energy. I know you will do your due diligence in studying the impact of this merger on the state of Kansas and its citizens. It is my hope you and your fellow commissioners wholeheartedly endorse this proposal.

It is no secret our state is in the midst of challenging economic times. That fact has manifested itself in our state's budget. As a president of a state university, this is obviously something I watch closely. While the causes of this struggle, and the possible solutions, are open to debate, one thing I believe we can all agree on is the fact a healthy and vibrant economy is key to our state's long-term success.

A key contributor to our success in growing Kansas' economy, and thereby stabilizing our budget, will be keeping the price of energy low, expanding infrastructure to move our resources to market, and expanding the options available to employers who wish to invest in renewables. After meeting with executives at both KCP&L and Westar on campus, I am confident the combined company can do more for our state than the two companies can separately.

We consider our partnership with the local utility critical. No other entity in Pittsburg or the surrounding area is a greater user of electricity than Pittsburg State. It is a large component of our expenses annually.

This transaction is a significant opportunity for Kansas and one that will have a substantial impact on citizens throughout our state, especially Pittsburg State, the city of Pittsburg, and the surrounding area in southeast Kansas. I am pleased a company that has operated in Kansas for more than 100 years is combining with Westar.

I was initially fearful a company with no experience in Kansas or proven commitment to our state would win the bidding war for Westar. I was so pleased to hear KCP&L, a neighboring company and one who understands our great state, would be merging with Westar. After speaking with the management teams of both companies and hearing from them regarding their plans for the future, I support this transaction even more strongly and believe it will bring many benefits for the future of Kansas.

Starting with the initial announcement, KCP&L and Westar leadership have both made it abundantly clear that this merger is about creating a stronger and more efficient utility to serve Kansans, while preserving the local jobs and community engagement that have been a hallmark of Westar over the years. This is important to us at Pittsburg State.

KCP&L and Westar have made public commitments that their combination will help maintain affordable energy rates in Kansas by creating significant operational savings. In addition, both KCP&L and Westar are committed to renewable energy, which is something we are also committed to on campus. For instance, we recently installed a demonstration solar project on campus with the help of Westar. Once combined, KCP&L and Westar will have one of the largest portfolios of wind energy in the United States, and the vast majority of it is in Kansas, representing billions of dollars in investment in our state, creating local jobs, and fostering local economic development. Small businesses, agriculture, industry, and our residents all stand to benefit from this merger and the commitments to Kansas that come with it.

When it comes to economic development, KCP&L has earned its reputation as one of the most aggressive and accomplished electric utilities in the United States. We know this because we reside just a few miles from the Missouri border and often interact with companies in their service territory. KCP&L has a full-time staff devoted to recruiting companies and good paying jobs to Kansas. Proof of this is the fact that KCP&L is the only regulated utility in the U.S. to be a fully accredited economic development organization by the International Economic Development Council.

This focus on economic development from a state university may surprise you, but it is something we prioritize at Pittsburg State. We know our success is tied to the success of the region and the state of Kansas. We decided not to sit back and hope economic development happens, but to rather engage and be a willing partner with the city, county, and state as they try to grow our economy. This merger will further support those efforts.

In so many ways, this merger makes perfect sense for both companies, their customers, and our state. KCP&L has been operating in Kansas for over 100 years. They know Kansas, and they are committed to helping us achieve our full potential.

Thank you for your consideration and support of this transaction and for your important service to our state.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Scott, Ed.D.

President

cc: Commissioner Shari Feist Albrecht

Commissioner Pat Apple



Complaint ID 104770

Date Filed 11/29/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name HUGO H HUSLIG Home Phone (316)722-2498 Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 11303 W TEXAS ST Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address TRIP.328@COX.NET

City WICHITA

State KS Zip Code 67209

**Docket Opinion** 

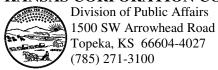
Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ N 0

**Narrative** 

11/29/2016 WHAT WILL BE THE TAX CONSEQUENTS TO THE WESTAR SHAREHOLDERS IF THIS MERGER IS APPROVED? THE PROXY STATEMENT STATES THAT EACH SHAREHOLDER WILL RECEIVE 51.00 IN

CASH FOR EACH SHARE OF STOCK. IT APPEARS THAT THIS WILL TRIGER A TAXABLE EVENT??



Complaint ID 104774

Date Filed 11/30/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name JANICE M DUBUISSON Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City **LEAVENWORTH** 

State Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

11/30/2016 IF WESTSTARIS ACQUIRED THERE WILL BE NO PROTECTION-THEY WILL JUST HAVE ANOTHER

EXCUSE TO RAISE RATES FOR PEOPLE WHO CAN'T HANDLE HIGHER BILLS.



Complaint ID 104778

Date Filed 12/01/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Number of Petitions** 

Signatures

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name HAROLD BOLEJACK Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City ARMA

State KS Zip Code

Docket Opinion

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

12/01/2016 NO BECAUSE ALL WESTAR DOES IS INCREASE THE RATES FOR ITS CUSTOMERS AND THAT'S THE

FIRST THING THEY WILL WANT TO DO AGAIN. STOP GIVING THEM ALL OF THIS POWER. I DON'T

BELIEVE A THING WESTAR SAYS!



Complaint ID 104781

Date Filed 12/01/2016

Investigator BDONOHUE

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name GARLAND LUNDRY Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City **HUTCHINSON** 

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

VODE

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ P 0

**Narrative** 

12/01/2016 I'M A CONCERNED RATE PAYOR OF WESTAR AND I'M SURE THAT IT WILL CONTINUE TO BE A

SAFE AND RELIABLE SERVICE. MY ISSUE WOULD BE A JUST AND REASONABLE RATE WHICH CAN MEAN DIFFERENT THINGS TO A RATE PAYOR WITHOUT KNOWING THE PARTICULARS AT THIS

MOMENT IN THIS TIME I AM UNSURE OF MY APPROVAL OF THIS MERGER.



Complaint ID 104783

Date Filed 12/02/2016

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name HENRY ROBERTS Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 1329 KASOLD DR K2 Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City LAWRENCE

State KS Zip Code 66049

Docket Opinion

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

12/02/2016 I'M UNABLE TO ATTEND YOUR MEETING ON DECEMBER 5TH AT SHAWNEE HEIGHTS HIGH

SCHOOL ASKING FOR PUBLIC INPUT REGARDING THE MERGER. I BELIEVE THE MERGER IS

POSITIVE BOTH FOR CUSTOMERS AND STOCKHOLDERS



Complaint ID 104786

Date Filed 12/02/2016

Investigator BDONOHUE

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name KAYLENE WILEY Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City **OLATHE** 

State KS Zip Code

Docket Opinion

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

12/02/2016 I'M CONCERNED THAT THERE WILL BE PRICE INCREASES IF THERE'S ONE ENTITY AND IF THERE

WAS MULTIPLE COMPANIES THERE WOULD BE PRICE COMPETITION. SOUNDS LIKE WE'RE

GETTING TO BE MONOPOLIES IN THIS SITUATION.



Complaint ID 104787

Date Filed 12/03/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name RICHARD E WILBORN Home Phone (620)242-4355 Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 1504 HERITAGE PL Fax #

City MCPHERSON

State KS Zip Code 67460

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

VODE

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

12/03/2016

THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO VOICE STRONG SUPPORT FOR THIS MERGER. HAVING LIVED IN MCPHERSON KS FOR MORE THAN FORTY FIVE YEARS, IT IS EVER SO EVIDENT THAT ECONOMICAL AND RELIABLE ENERGY IS KEY TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND A COMMUNITY THAT IS ON THE MOVE. AS A STATE SENATOR REPRESENTING THE 35 DISTRICT, THE SAME CAN BE SAID. FROM READING THE FILINGS, ONE CAN APPRECIATE THE ECONOMY OF SCALE, INCREASED CAPACITY AND RATE STABILITY GOING FORWARD. BOTH ORGANIZATIONS HAVE A STELLAR REPUTATION FOR BEING VISIONARY AND PROVIDING OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THEIR CUSTOMERS. PLEASE PROCEED WITH DUE DILIGENCE ON APPROVAL OF THIS MERGER. THANK YOU RICHARD WILBORN



Complaint ID 104788

Date Filed 12/04/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name CLAYTON LINVILLE Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City **BENEDICT** 

State KS Zip Code 66714

Docket Opinion

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

12/04/2016 I DO NOT BELIEVE ALLOWING KCPL AND WESTAR TO CREATE A LARGE MONOPOLY WILL

BENEFIT THEIR CUSTOMERS AND WILL ONLY PAVE THE WAY FOR FUTURE INCREASES FOR

SERVICES WITH FEWER CHECKS AND BALANCES.



Complaint ID 104789 Date Filed 12/04/2016 Investigator **SYSTEM** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name **JESSE C SLICER** Home Phone (913)956-9188 Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address 1303 N. ANNE SHIRLEY DR. Fax#

Mailing Address Email Address JCSLICER@GMAIL.COM

City OLATHE

State KS Zip Code 66061

**Docket Opinion** 

**Number of Petitions** Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures

**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0 0

**Narrative** 

12/04/2016 AT A TIME WHERE THE KANSAS ECONOMY, SPECIFICALLY THAT OF ITS CITIZENS, LAGS WELL

BEHIND THE REST OF THE COUNTRY, THIS MERGER WOULDN'T SERVE TO ALLEVIATE THE ISSUE.



Complaint ID **104790**Date Filed **12/04/2016** 

Investigator **SYSTEM** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name REID S LERNER Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City LOUISBURG

State KS Zip Code 66053

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

12/04/2016 I OPPOSE THIS MERGER, BECAUSE KCPL REQUESTED SEVERAL RATE HIKES TO COVER THEIR

NEEDS AND EPA REGULATIONS, CITING THEY NEEDED MORE REVENUE. THE KCC APPROVED ALL OF THEIR RATE HIKES NOW ALL OF A SUDDEN THEY HAVE ALL THIS MONEY TO PROPOSE A MERGER WITH WESTAR ENERGY. I THINK THIS IS NOT RIGHT FOR ALL OF THE PEOPLE WHO ARE SERVED BY THESE TWO COMPANIES. IT MAKES A LARGER MONOPOLY AND JUST DO NOT THINK

THIS IS RIGHT FOR KS OR MISSOURI. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.



Complaint ID 104791

Date Filed 12/04/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name RICHARD D HUGGINS Home Phone (316)684-1798 Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 2814 E SUNNYBROOK Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address RHSPECIAL@COX.NET

City WICHITA

State KS Zip Code 67216

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

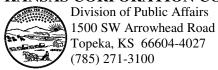
\*\*COPT\*\* To KOPT\*\* The ACC STATE OF T

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

12/04/2016

IN ADDITION TO BEING A LONG TIME CONSUMER AND RATE PAYER BEGINNING WITH KGE. I AM ALSO A SMALL INVESTOR WITH WESTAR. I HAVE TWO AREAS OF CONCERN REGARDING OPPOSITION TO THE MERGER WITH GREAT PLAINS. FIRST, WESTAR IS A KANSAS REGISTERED CORPORATION, BUT GREAT PLAINS IS NOT. GREAT PLAINS IS A MISSOURI CORPORATION. I HAVE CONCERNS OF A WEAKENED CONTROL BY THE KCC AND KANSAS RATEPAYERS OVER FUTURE POLICIES AND ACTIONS OF THE MERGED CORPORATION SINCE GREAT PLAINS WOULD BE THE ENTITY IN CHARGE AFTER THE MERGER. SECONDLY WESTAR INVESTORS WILL BE MINORITY SHAREHOLDERS WITH GREAT PLAINS SHAREHOLDERS A DEFINITE MAJORITY, THUS DILUTING THE IMPACT OF CURRENT WESTAR SHAREHOLDERS IN SELECTING CORPORATE OFFICERS AND FORMATION OF CORPORATE POLICY. IN SHORT I SIMPLY DO NOT TRUST AN OUT OF STATE PROVIDER TO LOOK OUT FOR WHAT IS IN MY BEST INTEREST.



Complaint ID 104792 Date Filed 12/04/2016 Investigator **SYSTEM** 

**Number of Petitions** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name **ROSEMARY F CORDES** Home Phone Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax#

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City WICHITA

State KS Zip Code

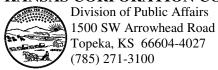
**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures **KCPE** 0 0

16-KCPE-593-ACQ

**Narrative** 

12/04/2016 HOW MANY JOBS WILL BE LOST DUE TO THE MERGER?



Complaint ID 104793 Date Filed 12/05/2016 Investigator **SYSTEM** 

**Number of Petitions** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name **DANIEL P HAMER SR** Home Phone (785)224-0852 Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address 2421 SE OAKWOOD DR Fax#

Mailing Address Email Address DAN@INSIDERNETWORKS.COM

City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66605

**Docket Opinion** Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** 

Signatures **KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0 0

**Narrative** 

12/05/2016 OUR RATES CONTINUE TO INCREASE, A BIGGER CORPORATE STRUCTURE WILL NOT IMPROVE

THE POSSIBILITY OF CONTROLLING RATES. NO ON THIS MATTER.



Complaint ID 104794

Date Filed 12/05/2016

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name KEITH WARTA Home Phone Cell Phone

Business BARTLESS & WEST, INC Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address KEITH.WARTA@BARTWEST.COM

City

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

\*\*COPT\*\* | \*

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

12/05/2016 I WOULD LIKE TO CONVEY MY SUPPORT FOR THE WESTAR/GREAT PLAINS ENERGY MERGER.

AS A RESIDENT OF SHAWNEE COUNTY, KANSAS, I AM CONCERNED WITH MAINTAINING BUSINESSES IN OUR COMMUNITY AND WESTAR IS ONE OF THE STALWART BUSINESSES IN TOPEKA. NOT ONLY DO THEY EMPLOY A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF COMMUNITY RESIDENTS BUT THEY ARE STRONG SUPPORTERS OF COMMUNITY NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS. THE MERGER WILL ENSURE THAT WESTAR REMAINS INVESTED IN OUR COMMUNITY, OUR STATE.

AS AN EMPLOYEE OF A BUSINESS THAT IS HEADQUARTERED IN TOPEKA, I APPRECIATE THE VALUE OF OTHER BUSINESSES HEADQUARTERED IN TOPEKA AND THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT VALUE AND PHILANTHROPIC BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY. OUR COMPANY HAS PARTNERED WITH WESTAR ON SEVERAL WORTHWHILE CAUSES WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY INCLUDING PARTNERING ON EFFORTS TO ADVANCE STEM (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS) EDUCATION. WESTAR IS FOCUSED ON IMPROVEMENT OF KANSAS COMMUNITIES IN ADDITION TO RUNNING A SOUND BUSINESS. THIS MAY NOT BE THE CASE IF THE MERGER WITH GREAT PLAINS IS REPLACED WITH ANOTHER SUITOR.

THE MERGER WILL CREATE EFFICIENCIES AND ENSURE THAT TWO KANSAS ELECTRIC COMPANIES REMAIN KANSAS FOCUSED



Complaint ID 104798 Date Filed 12/05/2016 Investigator **SYSTEM** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name **RACHEL T LIETZ** Home Phone Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address RLIETZ@KU.EDU

City LAWRENCE

State KS Zip Code 66047

**Docket Opinion** 

Number of Petitions Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures

**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0 0

**Narrative** 

12/05/2016

I AM CONCERNED THAT THE MERGER WILL DRASTICALLY REDUCE COMPETITION IN THE ENERGY MARKET ACROSS KANSAS AND MISSOURI. WITHOUT COMPETITION CUSTOMERS LIKE MYSELF WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CHOOSE COMPANIES WITH THE BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE OR BEST PRICES. ADDITIONALLY I DO NOT WANT TO INCREASE THE POWER OF LARGE OIL AND GAS COMPANIES WHO ARE BIASED AGAINST CHANGES TOWARDS CLEAN ENERGY SYSTEMS. AS FAR AS I'M AWARE, KCPL ONLY ALLOWS PEOPLE WHO CONTRIBUTE TO THE POWER GRID TO USE RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES. WESTAR ALLOWS CUSTOMERS TO SUPPORT WIND ENERGY BY PAYING A SMALL EXTRA FEE ON OUR ENERGY USAGE. FOR THESE REASONS I AM AGAINST THE MERGER.



Complaint ID **104801**Date Filed **12/05/2016** 

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name TIM BURCKHARD Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City BROOKINGS

State Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

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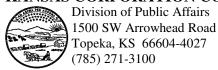
KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

12/05/2016 FROM 1986 UNTIL I RELOCATED IN 1997 I WAS A CUSTOMER AND SHAREHOLDER OF WESTERN

RESOURCES. AFTER MOVING I HAVE HELD ONTO MY SHARES OF WR. I VIVIDLY REMEMBER DAVID WITTIG'S SHENANIGANS, AND SUFFERED THROUGH THE AFTERMATH. AS A FORMER WR CUSTOMER I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY COST SAVINGS RESULTING FROM THE MERGER WILL BE PASSED ALONG TO CUSTOMERS. AS A CURRENT SHAREHOLDER I THINK IT IS A CRAPPY DEAL. I SEE THIS PROPOSED MERGER AS AN ATTEMPT TO SIDESTEP AT LEAST SOME OF THE

KANSAS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMISSIONS OVERSIGHTAUTHORITY. THANK YOU.



Complaint ID 104802
Date Filed 12/05/2016
Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name JAMES R OPAT Home Phone (785)823-1135 Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 823 MANOR RD. Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address OPATJ @CARROLLSWEB.COM

City SALINA

State KS Zip Code 67401

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 1

**Narrative** 

12/05/2016 KPL ORIGINATED IN KANSAS. LATER IT BECAME WESTAR ENERGY. AND HAS BEEN IN KANSAS

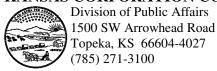
FOR OVER 50 YRS. THIS IS A KANSAS CO. EMPLOYING KANSAS PEOPLE. KCPL IS A MISSOURI CO. WHEN SOLDMERGED, IT BECOMES A MISSOURI CO. MANY SMALL TOWN PEOPLE WILL LOSE JOBS. KANSAS CUSTOMERS WILL PAY MORE TO A LARGE CO. HOUSED IN MISSOURI. ONLY THE TOPEKA OFFICES WILL REMAIN IN KANSAS AND WE DON'T KNOW HOW LONG THEY WILL REMAIN HERE. WHERE IS THE KANSAS PRIDE? WHY ARE WE DRIVING A LARGE, LONG STANDING COMPANY OUT OF OUR STATE? I THOUGHT WE WERE TRYING TO ATTRACT BUSINESSES NOT DRIVE THEM AWAY. WHERE IS THE GOVERNOR IN ALL THIS? LOOK'S LIKE HE IS OUT TO LUNCH. WE ARE STOCKHOLDERS OF BOTH COMPANIES AND WE ARE KANSAS PROUD. WESTAR NEEDS TO STAY IN KANSAS AS A KANSAS COMPANY. JIM AND CLAUDIA OPAT--STOCKHOLDERS OF BOTH

**CAMPANIES** 

12/09/2016 I AM A STOCK HOLDER OF BOTH COMPANIES. I AM AGAINST THIS SALE BECAUSE I FEEL

(CUSTOMER ALSO CALLED IN TO KCC TO LEAVE THE BELOW ADDITIONAL COMMENTS)

THE 12.2 BILLION CANNOT BE RECOVERED AND I BELIEVE RATES WILL BE RAISE AND JOB LOSS WILL OCCUR EVEN THOUGH THEY SAY THOSE THINGS WON'T HAPPEN. I HAVE WRITTEN THE GOVERNOR AND WANT MY VOICE HEARD. THIS IS THE WRONG THING TO HAVE HAPPEN.



Complaint ID 104805

Date Filed 12/05/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name MARY K RICKE Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address SNMKRICKE@YAHOO.COM

City WICHITA

State KS Zip Code 67212

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

#### **Narrative**

12/05/2016

GREAT PLAINS IS ATTEMPTING TO BUY KANSAS' LARGEST ELECTRIC UTILITY COMPANY AND THEY WILL BE ASSUMING A VERY LARGE WESTAR DEBT 3.6 BILLION. I FIND IT DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE THAT 'SAVINGS' WILL BE MADE POSSIBLE FOR THE KANSAS CONSUMER. WESTAR HAS HAD NUMEROUS RATE INCREASES-ALMOST RECORD MAKING AMOUNTS IN A SHORT TIME AND YET THEY CONTINUE TO BUILD A HUGE DEBT. THERE IS YET ANOTHER WESTAR RATE HIKE REQUEST THAT WILL BE DECIDED IN JUNE OF 2017, THAT IS SOMETHING THAT GREAT PLAINS WILL PROBABLY ALSO FOLLOW THRU ON. US CONSUMERS HAVE SUFFERED A ALMOST 50 RATE HIKE IN JUST A FEW YEARS. WE SIMPLY CANNOT HANDLE MORE. HOW IS GREAT PLAINS GOING REDUCE OUR RATES WHILE PUTTING THEMSELVES INTO THE ADDITIONAL DEBT PROCESS OF BORROWING MONEY AND REDUCING THEIR CASH ON HAND TO FINANCE THIS DEAL? THIS IS NOT A GOOD ECONOMY AND A LONG NEEDED ADJUSTMENT WILL BE COMING SOON. I SEE GREAT PLAINS BECOMING YET ANOTHER COMPANY 'TOO BIG TO FAIL'. RATE PAYERS ARE NOT STOCK HOLDERS AND YET WE KEEP SUFFERING FOR THE INVESTMENTS BY WESTAR. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REQUIRES GOOD RETURN FOR STOCKHOLDERS AT THE EXPENSE OF THE CONSUMER. HOW IS GREAT PLAINS GOING TO HANDLE THESE INVESTMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS ANY DIFFERENT THAN WESTAR THAT WILL BETTER OUR LIVES AS A CONSUMER? HOW MANY EMPLOYEES WILL LOOSE THEIR JOBS BECAUSE THE SAVINGS WILL COME FROM ELIMINATING OF DUPLICATE JOBS IN THE MERGING OF OLD WESTAR AND THE NEW GREAT PLAINS? WILL OUR BASIC SERVICES AND MAINTENANCE SUFFER? WHAT GUARANTEE DOES THE KANSAS CONSUMER HAVE THAT OUR RATES WILL NOT 'NECESSARILY' SKY ROCKET MORE? WHEN A BIG COMPANY ASSUMES DEBT AND PUTS THEMSELVES MORE IN DEBT FROM THE VERY START OF THE DEAL---I DO NOT SEE THIS ENDING GOOD FOR THE CONSUMER. I SUGGEST GREAT PLAINS WAIT UNTIL WESTAR EITHER GETS THEMSELVES OUT OF DEBT OR WHEN GREAT PLAINS DOES NOT HAVE TO LOWER THEIR CREDIT RATING BY BORROWING SO MUCH MONEY IN ACQUIRING WESTAR. I, AS A CONSUMER, DO NOT WANT TO BE FORCED TO SUPPORT GREAT PLAINS FOR THEIR POOR

12/05/2016

FINANCIAL DECISIONS BY HAVING MORE RATE INCREASES. THANK YOU FOR LISTENING TO MY CONCERNS AS A CONSUMER. MARY KAY RICKE WICHITA, KS 67212



Complaint ID 104806
Date Filed 12/05/2016
Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name SHIRLEY E SLICER Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address SESLICER@GMAIL.COM

City **OLATHE** 

State KS Zip Code 66062

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

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KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

12/05/2016 I AM OPPOSED TO KCPL AND WESTAR MERGING! LESS COMPETITION ALWAYS MEANS HIGHER

RATES FOR US CONSUMERS.



Complaint ID **104809**Date Filed **12/06/2016** 

**BDONOHUE** 

Investigator

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name ANDREW COUCH Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City SALINA

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

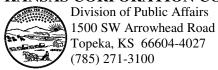
KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

12/06/2016 I OPPOSE THE SUPPOSED MERGER BECAUSE I AM CONCERNED IT WILL RESULT IN HIGHER

RATES. WITHOUT COMPETITION WESTAR WILL HAVE GREATER ABILITY TO DEMAND HIGHER PRICES FROM CONSUMERS. ALSO, I BELIEVE WESTAR REQUESTED RATE INCREASES THREE

TIMES IN THE LAST 5 YEARS.



Complaint ID 104812
Date Filed 12/07/2016
Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class R

Name ERIC HULL Home Phone (785)863-2651 Cell Phone

Business CITY OF OSKALOOSA Work Phone ext

Street Address 212 W WASHINGTON ST Fax # (785)863-2363

Mailing Address PO BOX 446 Email Address CITYOFOSKALOOSAKS.ORG

City OSKALOOSA

State KS Zip Code 66066

Docket OpinionNumber of PetitionsCompany IDDocket NumberConsumer OpinionSignatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

12/07/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER

104812

# CITY OF OSKALOOSA

PO Box 446 212 W Washington Street Oskaloosa, KS 66066

Eric Hull, Mayor

Phone: 785-863-2651 Fax: 785-863-2363 cityofoskaloosaks.org

December 1, 2016

Kansas Corporation Commission Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka KS 66605-4027 CORPORATION COMMISSION

DEC 07 2016

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

RE: DOCKET NO. 16-KCPE-593-ACQ

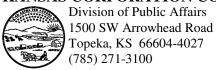
To Whom It May Concern-

On behalf of the Governing Body of the City of Oskaloosa, I would like to express our support for the merger between Westar Energy and Kansas City Power & Light. The City of Oskaloosa has a longstanding relationship with Westar Energy and has always experienced excellent customer service from them. Westar Energy never hesitates to make sure the City of Oskaloosa's needs are met with professionalism and within a timely manner. It is important to our community to continue to use local services as much as possible. We consider Kansas City Power & Light a local company and our research of their company leads us to believe they will best represent Westar Energy in the merger.

I thank you for your time and consideration. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (785) 863-2651.

Sincerely, Sinthell

Eric Hull Mayor



Complaint ID 104813

Date Filed 12/07/2016

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class R

Name RICH FELTS Home Phone (785)587-6600 Cell Phone

Business KANSAS FARM BUREAU Work Phone ext

Street Address 2627 KFB PLAZA Fax # (785)587-6879

Mailing Address Email Address

City MANHATTAN

State KS Zip Code 66503

Docket OpinionNumber of PetitionsCompany IDDocket NumberConsumer OpinionSignatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

12/07/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER SENT TO ALL THREE COMMISSIONERS





2627 KFB Plaza, Manhattan, Kansas 66503 • 785-587-6600 • Fax 785-587-6879 • www.kfb.org

# Office of the President

November 29, 2016

Jay Scott Emler Chairman, Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604-4027 esident

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

DEC 05 2016

DEC 0 7 2016

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

AND

ONSUMER PROTESTOR

Chairman Emler and Kansas Corporation Commission,

The state of Kansas is at an important crossroads in our effort to meet the energy needs of today while preparing for the demands and regulatory requirements of tomorrow. Kansas Farm Bureau is the largest farm organization in Kansas, representing nearly 40,000 farmer and rancher members, all of which rely on electricity to raise, produce, distribute, market and add value to their products across the state, country and world. Our members understand reliable and cost-efficient energy is key in growing our state's economy. We are grateful to have partners in Westar Energy and KCP&L who understand the challenges we face in rural Kansas. Their mutual commitment to huilding a diversified and reliable portfolio of generation mitigates our risk for what the future may hold while continuing to keep our current energy costs low.

Many of our members were anxious when we heard rumors Westar might be up for sale. This is clearly not the time for our state to lose a major employer and taxpayer; however, when KCP&L announced in late May they would be merging with Westar our members' felt a sense of relief. After meeting with executives of both companies and learning more about the transaction and KCP&L's plans, Kansas Farm Bureau is happy to offer our support of this merger. I am writing you today to ask you approve this transaction in order to unlock the benefits this will bring to Kansas, including many farmer and rancher members of Kansas Farm Bureau.

Like other industries, agriculture continues to see its share of consolidation and mergers. Whenever companies of this size declare an intention to merge, people can get skittish and have many questions they want answered. We are pleased the KCC is taking its role seriously and look forward to the due diligence and merits of the case being debated publicly. After you hear the arguments in favor of the merger, we believe you will conclude this merger is in the best interest of our state and its citizens.

In conversations with Westar executives, it is clear they intend to sell to someone, whether this proposed merger goes through or not. The worst-case scenario for farmers and ranchers in Kansas would be for a company with no prior history or commitment to Kansas to purchase Westar. We are a unique state with our own set of unique challenges, especially when it comes to public utilities. Therefore, we believe it is in the best interest of all

involved that a company with known ties and relationships in Kansas join forces with Westar.

As you can imagine, keeping rates affordable is a top priority of Kansas Farm Bureau, which is another reason for our support of this merger. It is well-known many of the costs in the electricity generation business have been driven by an increasingly aggressive Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in our nation's capitol. The federal mandates handed down by EPA have led directly to increased costs for consumers. This dynamic is something farmers and ranchers across Kansas are all too familiar with. A merged company would be better able to bear the brunt of future federal mandates and spread the costs over more customers. This will help keep costs lower in the future than they would be without the merger.

Westar and KCP&L are a natural fit, Westar has sold to a local company that has made public commitments that will result in the continuation of a major employer and taxpayer remaining here. Most importantly, KCP&L knows Kansas and has been doing business in our state for more than 100 years. I look forward to what their combined efforts will do for our state over the next 100 years.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

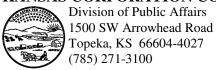
Rich Felts Gell

President

Kansas Farm Bureau

cc: Commissioner Shari Feist Albrecht

Commissioner Pat Apple



Complaint ID 104814

Date Filed 12/07/2016

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class R

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Business KANSAS STATE SENATE Work Phone (785)296-2419 ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66612

Docket Opinion

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

12/07/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER SENT TO ALL THREE COMMISSIONERS

State of Kansas



Susan Wagle

November 27, 2016

Jay Scott Emler Chairman, Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604-4027 104814

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION NOV 3 0 2016

COMPORATION COMMISSION

DEC 07 2016

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CONSUMER PROTECTION

To Chairman Emler and Commissioners,

The State of Kansas is at an important time in our effort to meet the energy demands of today while also preparing for the requirements of tomorrow. As President of the Kansas Senate, I have become quite familiar with Westar Energy and KCP&L and the role they play in supporting and growing our state's economy. Their mutual commitment to building a diversified portfolio of generation mitigates our risk for what the future may hold while continuing to keep our current energy costs low, which is key to attracting businesses, investment and residents to our great state.

During my time in the Kansas Legislature, I have come to appreciate and respect both of these companies greatly. Their responsiveness to our inquiries and their willingness to provide support for the policy we develop has been tremendously helpful to our efforts. Their executives all live and work right here in our region, so they just like us, want to do everything they possibly can to support Kansas and our residents. As individual companies they are both committed to Kansas; together, they will still be our local electric utility, only stronger and better equipped to keep electric rates affordable.

Initially, I was concerned when I heard the rumors that Westar Energy might be up for sale. This is clearly not the time for our state to lose a major employer and taxpayer. Additionally, Westar plays a prominent role in our local Wichita economy. When KCP&L announced in late May they would be merging with Westar, I was relieved. After learning more about the transaction and KCP&L's plans, I am pleased to offer my wholehearted support. I am writing you today to ask you approve this transaction in order to unlock the benefits this will bring to Kansas.

While obviously financial factors underlie KCP&L's acquisition of Westar, this is not just a financial transaction for the benefit of shareholders. This is an "old fashioned" merger of two neighboring companies. The combination of KCP&L and Westar just makes common sense. There are many strategic and operational advantages to combining these companies:

- KCP&L and Westar share multiple power plants, including the Wolf Creek nuclear plant;
- KCP&L and Westar are in the same regional transmission organization, the Southwest Power Pool;
- KCP&L and Westar have adjacent service territories and will be able to improve customer service and reliability like no other combination by leveraging each other's assets and strengths;
- KCP&L and Westar are familiar with each other and have worked together on multiple projects;
- KCL&L and Westar together will be able to find operational savings through eliminating redundant costs, having greater scale and spreading any increased costs over a larger service territory and more customers; and
- KCP&L and Westar are companies who have both operated in Kansas for more than 100
  years, they live and work here and will be responsive to the needs of local communities and
  Kansas.

Starting with the initial announcement, KCP&L has made their intentions for Kansas very clear. They plan to keep the current Westar headquarters in Topeka and committed that key leadership and functions will be located there. KCP&L also has confirmed that they will continue to support Westar's philanthropic and community focus. Since the announcement, KCP&L's CEO, Terry Bassham, has met repeatedly with community and civic leaders so that they could hear directly from him and that he understands the concerns of his future employees and the customers the company will serve. Once this merger is complete, KCP&L will have nearly two thirds of its customers in Kansas, making Kansas the most significant and important part of the combined company's operations.

Westar and KCP&L are both a natural and great fit together. This truly is the best possible outcome that could have happened to our state. Westar has sold to a local company that has made public commitments that will result in the continuation of a major employer and taxpayer remaining here. Most importantly, KCP&L knows Kansas and has been doing business in our state for more than 100 years. I look forward to what their combined efforts will do for our state over the next 100 years.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Susan Wagle

President

Kansas State Senate

cc: Commissioner Shari Feist Albrecht Commissioner Pat Apple



Complaint ID 104815

Date Filed 12/07/2016

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class R

Name RAY MERRICK Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone (785)296-2302 ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66612

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

12/07/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER SENT TO ALL THREE COMMISSIONERS

# 104815 STATE OF KANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

DEC 0 7 2016

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION



November 30, 2016

RAY MERRICK Jay Scott Emler SPEAKER Chairman, Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road

To Chairman Emler and Commissioners.

Topeka, KS 66604-4027

The State of Kansas is at an important crossroads in our effort to meet the energy demands of today while also preparing for the requirements of tomorrow. As Speaker of the House in Kansas, my longtime partners in addressing our state's energy needs have been Westar Energy and KCP&L. Their mutual commitment to building a diversified portfolio of generation mitigates our risk for what the future may hold while continuing to keep our current energy costs low, which, as you know, is key to attracting businesses, investment and residents to our great state.

In my role in the House, I have come to know and respect both of these companies greatly. Their responsiveness to our inquiries and their willingness to provide support for the policy we develop in the legislature has been tremendously helpful to our efforts. When we call them for questions, we speak directly with their leadership team. Their executives all live and work right here in our region, so they just like us, want to do everything they possibly can to support Kansas and our residents. As individual companies they are both committed to Kansas; together, they will still be our local electric utility, only stronger and better equipped to keep electric rates affordable.

Initially, I was concerned when I heard the rumors that Westar Energy might be up for sale. This is clearly not the time for our state to lose a major employer and taxpayer. I have worked closely with Westar over the past few years, and I was worried that the significant momentum we have generated would be lost through an acquisition by a company that does not know Kansas. When KCP&L announced in late May that they would be merging with Westar, I was relieved. After learning more about the transaction and KCP&L's plans, I am happy to offer my wholehearted support. I am writing you today to ask that you approve this transaction in order to unlock the benefits that this will bring to our great state.

The combination of KCP&L and Westar just makes common sense. There are many strategic and operational advantages to combining these companies:

- KCP&L and Westar share multiple power plants, including the Wolf Creek nuclear plant;
- KCP&L and Westar are in the same regional transmission organization, the Southwest Power Pool; 27TH DISTRICT

website: raymerrick org

TOPEKA ADDRESS

- KCP&L and Westar have adjacent service territories and will be able to improve customer service and reliability like no other combination by leveraging each other's assets and strengths;
- KCP&L and Westar are familiar with each other and have worked together on multiple projects;
- KCL&L and Westar together will be able to find operational savings through eliminating redundant costs, having greater scale and spreading any increased costs over a larger service territory and more customers; and
- KCP&L and Westar are companies who have both operated in Kansas for more than 100 years, they live and work here and will be responsive to the needs of local communities and Kansas.

Starting with the initial announcement, KCP&L has made their intentions for Kansas very clear. They plan to keep the current Westar headquarters in Topeka and committed that key leadership and functions will be located there. KCP&L also has confirmed that they will continue to support Westar's philanthropic and community focus. Since the announcement, KCP&L's CEO, Terry Bassham, has met repeatedly with community and civic leaders so that they could hear directly from him and that he understands the concerns of his future employees and the customers the company will serve. Once this merger is complete, KCP&L will have nearly two thirds of its customers in Kansas, making Kansas the most significant and important part of the combined company's operations.

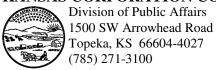
Westar and KCP&L are both a natural and great fit together. This truly is the best possible outcome that could have happened to our state. Westar has sold to a local company that has made public commitments that will result in the continuation of a major employer and taxpayer remaining here. Most importantly, KCP&L knows Kansas and has been doing business in our state for more than 100 years. I look forward to what their combined efforts will do for our state over the next 100 years.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Ray Merrick Speaker of the House, Kansas

cc: Commissioner Shari Feist Albrecht Commissioner Pat Apple



Complaint ID 104816

Date Filed 12/07/2016

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class R

Name **JEFF LONGBINE** Home Phone Cell Phone

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Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66612

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

12/07/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER SENT TO ALL THREE COMMISSIONERS



STATE OF KANSAS

JEFF LONGBINE SENATOR, 17TH DISTRICT 2801 LAKERIDGE RD EMPORIA KS 66801

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 235-E TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612 (765) 295-7384 jeft longbine @ senate.ks.gov



COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE - CHAIR LEGISLATIVE POST AUDIT COMMERCE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS KPERS - SELECT

> STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

> > DEC 07 2016

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

December 1, 2016

Jay Scott Emler Chairman, Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Topeka, KS 66604-4027

Chairman Emler and Commissioners,

I am writing today in support of the proposed sale of Westar Energy to Great Plains Energy, Inc., the parent company of KCP&L. As a life-long Lyon County resident, I have seen firsthand how Westar Energy (aka Western Resources, KPL) has impacted my county and hired many fine employees who have called Lyon County home. The first example is the Wolf Creek Generating Station. Emporia and Lyon County experienced significant growth during the plant's construction, and following its startup my community was called home by many of the highly paid professionals who continue to work at the plant. The second example came when Westar decided to site its natural gas-fired power plant (Emporia Energy Center) just five miles northeast of Emporia. Although the plant does not need many employees, its tax base has contributed to the Lyon County budget as well as North Lyon County's school district's budget. It was a much needed boost for our local economy. Throughout the building process, the company was transparent and worked well with county staff.

I understand the reason for the sale. Maintaining reliability, which is my main concern, is becoming more expensive, and the combination of the two companies will allow costs to be spread across more customers, thus minimizing the impact on everyone. As a member of the Senate Utilities Committee, I have heard testimony on various energy issues from officials at both companies and have always found them to be straightforward in their reasoning and willing to be open-minded on their issues. If I have ever needed a question answered or a concern addressed, the Westar and KCP&L staff did so quickly.

For Kansas to grow, we need a reliable, sustainable and innovative electric utility serving our major population areas as well as those of our rural electric cooperatives and municipal utilities. The combination of these two companies will result in one company that is well known by many in the state. I trust they will continue to be innovative, keeping local centers operating and employees engaged in our communities.

As a community leader, I wanted to let you know of my support. As a state senator, I want you to know of my trust in both companies as they enable new growth in our state and continued support for our local communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jeff Longbine State Senator

Cc: Commissioner Shari Feist Albrecht Commissioner Pat Apple



Complaint ID 104817

Date Filed 12/07/2016

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class R

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Business THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF KANSAS Work Phone (785)233-4400 ext

Street Address 2420 NW BUTTON RD Fax # (785)233-2022

Mailing Address Email Address

City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66618

Docket Opinion

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

12/07/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER

104817



The Nature Conservancy 2420 NW Button Road Topeka, KS 66618 ph (785) 233-4400 fax (785) 233-2022 web nature.org/kansas

December 1, 2016

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

DEC 07 2016

AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION

Jay Scott Emler Chairman, Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604-4027

To Chairman Emler and Commissioners,

The proposed merger between KCP&L and Westar Energy deserves our region's resounding support for the benefits it will provide to all residents and businesses in the state of Kansas.

The Nature Conservancy has work closely with KCP&L and Westar Energy for many years collaborating to meet their renewable energy objectives and protecting nature by utilizing low-risk wind development strategies for development or purchase of renewable energy. The impact of the partnerships has enriched wildlife populations on the native grasslands and wetlands in Kansas. The iconic Great Plains landscape can thrive using focused and innovative approaches to grassland conservation.

The Conservancy also has great appreciation for Westar Energy's Green Team, comprised of a group of employee and retiree volunteers that take on environmental projects across Kansas. Green Team has been generous in supporting the conservation goals of many organizations, schools and The Nature Conservancy. The Green Team has been vital in helping the Conservancy restore grasslands and wetland habitats on the verge of vanishing forever. Their efforts yield multiple benefits, not only for grassland species, but for all people.

KCP&L and Westar Energy are both leaders of the region. They are dedicated to advancing the growth of our state's businesses and economy, while also acting as stewards of the land and our natural resources. They are champions for the region through their innovative and visionary business models and they empower their employees to be leaders of the communities in which they live, work and play.

KCP&L and Westar Energy already have a history of working together as neighbors to the betterment of our region, so the integration process will be simple and straightforward. The combination of their innovations and focus on sustainable and renewable energy portfolios will place our region on the map as a shining example of what is possible. Look no further than the fact that the combined company will have one of the largest wind portfolios in the United States.

History has proven that when utilities are operated by holding companies located far away from the regions they serve, their support for local community engagement and economic development declines. When utilities expand their operations in a geographic region, they become that much more committed and engaged. The size of this merger, coupled with the adjacent service territories, will result in benefits to customers and businesses alike.

Businesses around the country and world understand the importance of competitive electric rates and the benefits of a diversified portfolio of energy sources. KCP&L and Westar's innovations and leadership have fostered a climate in our region that attracts businesses and skilled individuals. With future headquarters in Kansas and Missouri, the collaboration across state lines will only improve, creating opportunities and savings throughout our area.

Sincerely,

Robert Manes

State Director

The Nature Conservancy of Kansas



Complaint ID 104818 Date Filed 12/07/2016 Investigator **KSCHUETZ** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class R

Name **GEORGE C PHELPS JR** Home Phone Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax#

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66605

**Docket Opinion** 

**Number of Petitions** Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures

**KCPE** 0 16-KCPE-593-ACQ Ν

**Narrative** 

12/07/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER FileName: KCPL WestarMergerQuestions

05 December 2016 page: 1 of 1

05 December 2016

Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604-4027

DEC 07 2016

PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONSUMER PROTECTION

Re: KCPL-Westar Merger under Great Plains Energy

#### Gentlemen:

When this merger is executed, then there will be one electric utility serving two areas, i.e., two states. It is my hope that the Utility Regulators in both Kansas and Missouri have satisfied their curiosity on the following issues:

- 1. If State Utility Regulators have a conflict in control, then who will claim the right to rule?
- 2. Will the burden of financial support for the merged utility be spread equitably over the customer base?
- 3. Will the maintenance of the existing utility networks and the expansion/upgrades thereof be spread equitably over the customer base?
- 4. Will the cost of fuel used to generate electrical energy be spread equitably over the customer base?
- 5. Will the fuel used to generate electrical energy have the same heat value over the merged utility region?
- 6. Will the hierarchy of curtailable users be uniform across the merged utility region?

Respectfully Submitted,

George CU Phelps, Jr

PO Box 5614 (805 SE 27th, Physical address)

Topeka, Kansas 66605-0614 (66605-1217)



Complaint ID 104819
Date Filed 12/07/2016
Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class R

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Business Work Phone (316)262-6272 ext

Street Address 229 E WILLIAM SUITE 300 Fax # (316)264-3898

Mailing Address Email Address

City WICHITA

State KS Zip Code 67202

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

12/07/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER SENT TO ALL THREE COMMISSIONERS

164819

Marc C. Davis

Attorney at Law

COMPORATION
COMMISSION
DEC 0 7 2016
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION

December 3, 2016

Kansas Corporation Commission Office of Public Affairs 1500 SW Arrowhead Rd. Topeka, Kansas 66604

# Consumer Comment

Dear Mr. Elmer, Ms. Albrecht and Mr. Apple:

I am writing this letter in response to the "notice of public hearing" that I received in my last statement. I have been a Westar customer since its inception. Please be advised and consider the following:

First, I am vehemently opposed and object to the transfer of ownership to an out-of-state based company. It appears that the bulk of exceptional commerce in Kansas City is on the Missouri side of the river. Please keep this successful company (Westar) in Kansas. I would certainly feel better about rate increases, price hikes and new overhead projections that directly benefit Kansas consumers, workers, and families. For example, I can see (on-line) Westar's joint ventures specifically focusing on academics and Kansas institutions of learning.

I remind you that the Kansas Corporation Commissions' mission is to "serve the people of Kansas."

# Promotes the Public Convenience

I am certain that moving the corporate-base further away from the largest city in Kansas (Wichita) will NOT benefit my community. I have seen a number a local aviation companies change their names, pressure their employees, reduce benefits to workers, leverage against employee-retirements and restructure their corporate model by reducing overhead through eliminating good-paying jobs. This practice has had delirious effects on the Wichita and Kansas economies.

# Effects on Ratepayer/Taxpayers

Westar has taken measurable steps to insure service to everyone. The Westar employees of Kansas have generated a steady tax-base comprised of workers with good paying jobs.

Our Kansas economy is struggling to find revenues to offset our shortfalls and continuous projections for further deficits. Our highways and roads are not as good as they traditionally have been, our schools are under funded, community services are woefully inadequate, mental health and drug treatment is not sufficient to meet the public's needs and too much burden is being placed on law enforcement to address some of these issues as a law enforcement matters...further aggravating our over-populated prisons and putting more stress on county budgets across the state. We should be providing companies incentives to come to and stay in Kansas, and NOT bless them as they move away.

# Effect of Operational Synergies

I understand this term to mean, "when the value and performance of two firms combined is greater than the sum of the separate firms apart and, as such, allows for the firms to increase their operating income and achieve higher growth (Divestopedia)." This term seems misplaced in the context of a merger of two similar companies enjoying a state approved monopoly. I can visualize the "effect of operational synergies" being applicative when (for example) Starbucks joins Dunkin doughnuts, when Burger King or McDonald's opens a unit inside of a Wal-Mart, when an artist joins with a producer, but not when two companies vying for the same supply of energy attempt to circumvent competition. In general, I am sure that Westar could achieve future growth by enjoying the support of our Kansas legislature promoting growth through the development of infrastructure, research a development and the utilization of all forms of energy (wind, solar, nuclear and natural gas). Further, reinvestment of the companies' assets to promote long-term growth with a balance of focus on quarterly profits is required.

# Competition in the Market for Electricity

Our Capitalist System requires competition in the market place. Competition ensures good products, allows markets to determine winners and losers and promotes customer service. I have a business that has no oversight from legislature and requires me to work hard, be diligent, serve my customers and strive to build my client base. Lack of competition is one of my biggest objections to the merger (1-Kansas Jobs, 2-Kansas tax-base [loss of tax revenues], 3-rate hikes).

In short, the added costs for energy are not (totally) dictated through supply and demand, but by investors adding costs through their gambling in the stock market, thereby arbitrarily increasing the base price for energy...like scalpers of entertainment tickets. However, unlike entertainment, energy is not optional! Again, our Kansas legislature needs to work with our Kansas companies to promote growth in infrastructure and technology, while working on innovative ways to develop our own (Kansas) energy sources...and eventually exporting energy to other states...or trading other states for water.

# Labor Dislocations

Loss of jobs would be the net effect of the merger. Have you not crossed the bridge into Missouri and seen the economic machine? Further, it disappoints me that the coolest things in Kansas City are ALREADY in Missouri; the Chiefs, the Royals, Anheiser Busch, KCP&L and many great factories with good paying jobs. I do not want Kansas-Westar to be another casualty of the race to the bottom for short-term profits. We just had an election that turned, in part, because of the bad feelings and concerns for our economy and continued loss of production jobs.

Wichita, Kansas has really suffered through the great (and ongoing) loss of aircraft jobs. I told my wife that I am concerned that Wichita could become like Detroit, where a very specialized group of workers' skills are eroded through loss of employment opportunities in their field of expertise (building airplanes), decreased tax revenues, loss of commerce, which lead to a decrease in home ownership and a decline in property values.

Assuming the merger succeeds, there MUST be language guaranteeing jobs for (hundreds or thousands of) Kansas workers for an extended period (10-years) and remedial language in the merger-contract to address the issue once the new Missouri corporation is back to business as usual, reducing overhead and looking to cut Kansas workers (with "less seniority").

Finally, good paying jobs and a stable economy provide a natural incentive for new companies to startup and existing companies to expand in Kansas, and to compete with wages and benefits for their employees. Kansas cannot afford to loose any jobs in the stagnant economy that we currently face.

# **Environmental Impacts**

This issue can be addressed by requiring and supporting Westar's efforts to develop clean-renewable energy, rather than a merger. I cannot believe that there are not wind farms littered across the state, where the winds blow an average of fifteen (15) plus miles per hour, on average for at least three (3) months of the year. I have no statistics, but I am an avid outdoorsman, gardener, angler and golfer...all of which keep me mindful of the constant Kansas winds.

# Relevant Issues and Summary

Let's make Kansas work for Kansans! I have lived in Kansas all of my adult life and most of my childhood. I love this state, and it is my home. <u>Please do not give in to the economic pressure of the lobbyists ("bribers") and the empty promises and long-winded BS from lawyers talking about how this will benefit Kansas.</u>

In closing, I want to thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I am not writing as a lawyer and certainly not as an expert. In this context, I can use my common sense and look at recent history. Kansas is NOT living up to its potential and you can do your part

to make things better. <u>Vote no!</u> Westar should ask us, the tax payers and consumers how we can work together, develop our resources, generate capital, expand into other states, and safely develop what we have in Kansas; wind, solar and natural gas.

Thank you,

Marc C. Davis



Complaint ID 104820 Date Filed 12/07/2016 Investigator **SBOYD** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name **RONALD J MAYES** Home Phone Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax#

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Number of Petitions Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures

**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0 0

**Narrative** 

12/07/2016 \* MR. MAYES IS OPPOSED TO THE MERGER OF WESTAR AND KCPL.

\* MR. MAYES SAYS BIGGER DOESN'T ALWAYS MEAN BETTER, AND HE DOESN'T BUY THE THEORY THAT THIS MERGER WILL SAVE MONEY, OR IF IT DOES THAT THE SAVINGS WILL BE PASSED ON TO CONSUMERS. HE DOESN'T THNK MERGERS USUALLY WORK OUT AS ADVERTISED.

\* PLEASE REJECT THIS PROPOSAL.



Complaint ID 104829

Date Filed 12/08/2016

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class R

Name DANIEL A FOLTZ Home Phone Cell Phone

Business KBS CONSTRUCTORS INC Work Phone (785)266-4222 ext

Street Address Fax # (785)266-3313

Mailing Address Email Address

City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66609

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

\*\*Number of Petitions Signatures\*\*

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

Narrative

12/08/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER

104829



December 5, 2016

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

DEC 08 2016

Mr. Jay Emler, Chairman Kansas Corporation Commission Office of Public Affairs & Consumer Protection 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604 PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION

Dear Mr. Emler:

KBS is in immense support of the Westar / Great Plains merger. As both a customer and a vendor, we have a valuable perspective on this merger. KBS has completed many large and small projects for both companies over the last ten years. We also are customers of both utilities and purchaser power at our Kansas offices in Olathe, Topeka and Manhattan.

KBS believes that this merger will bring economical and logistical efficiencies to the newly merged organization and enhance services. It will also be able to produce more power without a greater increase in cost which will help lower utility prices, allow negotiation of better contracts, protect local jobs and give greater value for the shareholders.

Best of all, the merging of these two great companies will not only create greater synergizes but keep local control in Kansas.

We urge you to support this merger for the GOOD OF KANSAS!

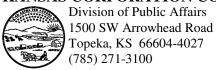
Sincerely,

KBS Constructors, Inc.

Daniel A. Foltz

President

Neil T. Fisher Vice President



Complaint ID 104833 Date Filed 12/09/2016 Investigator **GLIPPERT** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name **DON RAUST** Home Phone Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax#

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City AMERICUS

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

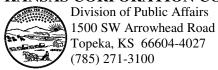
**Number of Petitions** Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures

**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0 0

**Narrative** 

12/09/2016 AGAINST THE MERGER. CORPORATIONS GETTING TOO BIG AND WOULD RATHER SEE THE

COMPANY STAY SMALLER AND BE A LITTLE MORE LOCAL.



Complaint ID 104848

Date Filed 12/13/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

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Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 536 SIOUX DR. Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City **OZAWKIE** 

State KS Zip Code 66070

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 



Complaint ID 104854

Date Filed 10/11/2016

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by L Consumer Class C

Name MATT PIVARNIK Home Phone Cell Phone

Business GO TOPEKA Work Phone (785)234-2644 ext

Street Address 120 SE 6TH AVE SUITE 110 Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66603

Docket OpinionNumber of PetitionsCompany IDDocket NumberConsumer OpinionSignatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

12/14/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER



October 11, 2016

Letter of Support

RE: Proposed Westar Energy and KCP&L Merger

The GO Topeka board members believe the proposed merger between Westar Energy and KCP&L is the best possible outcome for Topeka/Shawnee County and voted to support the merger on September 2, 2016.

We are extremely fortunate that Westar Energy has found a neighboring buyer that understands and appreciates firsthand the regional needs of individual and corporate customers, especially with regard to business retention and attraction efforts in the heartland. Both of these outstanding companies share a reputation for doing the right thing and going above and beyond with regard to their commitment to employees, safety, service reliability, the environment and corporate philanthropy. These factors all have a positive, critical influence on Topeka/Shawnee County's economic development and quality of life initiatives.

We have met with executives at both companies and have been impressed by their collaborative, thoughtful and respectful discussions regarding how best to merge their operations for the benefit of our region. We especially appreciate their intention to minimize disruption as much as possible by continuing to have a robust workforce in place in Westar's downtown headquarters.

We look forward to the new entity that will be formed through their deliberations and the many advantages that we are confident will accrue to our community through the completion of this transaction.

Sincerely,

Matt Pivarnik

President and Chief Executive Officer

Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce and GO Topeka

GO Topeka Chair



Complaint ID 104862
Date Filed 12/15/2016
Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name DARON HALL Home Phone Cell Phone

Business CITY OF PITTSBURG Work Phone (620)231-4100 ext

Street Address 201 WEST 4TH ST Fax #

Mailing Address PO BOX 688 Email Address

City PITTSBURG

State KS Zip Code 66762

Docket OpinionNumber of PetitionsCompany IDDocket NumberConsumer OpinionSignatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

12/15/2016 SEE ATTACHED LETTER



104862

#### **CITY MANAGER**

201 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street P.O. Box 688 Pittsburg KS 66762

(620) 231-4100 www.pittks.org

December 14, 2016

The City of Pittsburg, Kansas is pleased to offer comments on the proposed merger between Westar Energy and Great Plains Energy.

One of our concerns is the lack of a clear strategy relative to the stabilization and control of energy costs. The current rate structure is not competitive with surrounding states and thus industrial clients locate elsewhere. Westar has not offered a rate structure attractive to out-of-state clients and we feel this is essential if we are going to be competitive on a state and national basis. The combined efforts of each of the merger parties is required if a competitive rate structure is to be achieved.

One of the facets to provide reliability and control costs would be the generation of power in a more localized manner and from a greater variety of sources - thus making the system more robust and dynamic without the need to move power great distances from a central generating facility. Technology improvements in photovoltaic, wind and gas turbines would allow more municipalities, such as ours to incorporate power generation at the local level on a cost competitive basis. Furthermore, alternative energy sources - particularly renewables - provide insulation from price variations associated with market swings for raw materials and other costs in the centralized generation supply chain.

The paradigm of central power generation seems to be under change as more alternatives such as municipal solar farms arise. We hope that if the merger proceeds, the expanded Great Plains Energy would embrace the development of localized power generation and other impending trends in the energy field. Certainly as more municipalities embrace a "Green" approach and strive to become smarter cities, we would expect the merged companies to support these approaches, which will result in a more resilient electrical system for everyone.

For reasons ranging from business recruitment and retention to sustainability, our hope is that the merger will result in a more positive approach to working with Kansas communities such as Pittsburg so we can become an attractive, competitive market for businesses and consumers alike. While large metropolitan areas are obviously the priority, we believe smaller, regional centers should also be considered if Kansas is to continue to compete.

Sincerely,

Daron Hall City Manager



Complaint ID 104882 Date Filed 12/19/2016 Investigator **SYSTEM** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by **E** Consumer Class R

Name **LOIS A AMMEL** Home Phone Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address 1824 VERMONT ST Fax #

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City LAWRENCE

State KS Zip Code 66044

**Docket Opinion** 

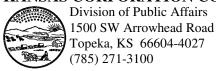
Number of Petitions Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures

**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0 0

**Narrative** 

12/19/2016

I AM AGAINST THE MERGER. MERGERS ALWAYS RAISE PRICES, AND CUT BOTH PAYROLL AND SERVICES TO PAY FOR THE COST OF ACQUISITION. WE DON'T NEED A BIGGER ELECTRIC COMPANY. AND, WE CERTAINLY DON'T NEED HIGHER PRICES AND FEWER JOBS WITH LOWER PAY, IT'S NOT JUST THE CONSUMER, BUT THE EMPLOYEES AS WELL WHO WILL SUFFER. IN 40 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE, I HAVE NEVER SEEN A MERGER BENEFIT EITHER THE EMPLOYEE OR THE CONSUMER. I AM AGAINST THE PROPOSED MERGER OF ELECTRIC COMPANIES.



Complaint ID **104896**Date Filed **12/21/2016** 

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name GERALD E LORIMER Home Phone (785)224-1289 Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 1641 E 318 ROAD Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address JB.LORIMER@GMAIL.COM

City **LECOMPTON** 

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

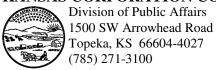
KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

#### **Narrative**

12/21/2016

I WAS PLEASED TO SEE THE KCC STAFF RECOMMENDED THAT THE MERGER BE DENIED AND HOPE THAT THE COMMISSIONERS FOLLOW THAT RECOMMENDATION. I RETIRED FROM WESTAR AFTER SPENDING 36 YEARS BUILDING AND MAINTAINING TRANSMISSION LINES. DURING THE DAVID WITTIG YEARS THE IDEA THAT OUR CUSTOMERS WERE IMPORTANT TOOK A BACKSEAT TO THE IDEA THAT MAKING THE SHAREHOLDERS AND EXECUTIVE STAFF WEALTHY WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION. THE ONLY PEOPLE THAT I CAN SEE WHO WOULD BENEFIT FROM THIS MERGER ARE THE WESTAR SENIOR MANAGEMENT, MANY OF WHOM WERE PROMOTED BY MR. WITTIG, AND WILL BE RETIRING AFTER THE MERGER. I SERIOUSLY DOUBT IF THE CUSTOMERS OF WESTAR WILL EVER SEE A BENEFIT FROM THIS MERGER AND WITH THE PREMIUM BEING PAID THE PROBABILITY OF THE MERGED COMPANIES NEEDING RATE RELIEF TO STAY IN BUSINESS WOULD SEEM FAIRLY HIGH. I WAS VERY INVOLVED WHEN THE KPL-KGE MERGER TOOK PLACE AND FOR ALL OF THE PROMISES OF COST SAVINGS I DOUBT THAT VERY MUCH WAS ACTUALLY SAVED. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF WAYS THAT COSTS ARE SHIFTED FROM EXPENSES TO THE CONSTRUCTION BUDGET, WHICH IN THE CASE OF TRANSMISSION WORK IS PASSED DIRECTLY TO THE CUSTOMER WITH A HEALTHY RETURN. INSTEAD OF HIRING AN EMPLOYEE YOU HIRE A CONTRACT EMPLOYEE AND PAY THEM OUT OF THE CONSTRUCTION BUDGET, OFTEN AT RATES THAT GREATLY EXCEED WHAT AN EMPLOYEE WOULD COST. A NUMBER OF TIMES I SUGGESTED WAYS THAT WE COULD BE EFFICIENT AND WAS TOLD BY KELLY HARRISON THAT IT WAS NOT MY JOB TO SAVE MONEY. MY JOB WAS TO SPEND MONEY SO WESTAR COULD MAKE MORE MONEY. THAT ATTITUDE IS WHY I AND MANY OF MY PEERS HAVE RETIRED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE EVEN THOUGH IT REQUIRES US TO TAKE REDUCTION IN OUR RETIREMENT BENEFITS. THERE IS A VERY LONG LIST OF TIMES THAT THE BENEFITS OF HAVING A RATE STRUCTURE THAT PROMOTED NEW TRANSMISSION LINE CONSTRUCTION WAS ABUSED TO BENEFIT WESTAR. I WOULD BE HAPPY TO DETAIL OR DISCUSS THIS IF IT IS A BENEFIT TO THE KCC STAFF. AGAIN, I DON'T BELIEVE THAT THIS MERGER BENEFITS THE CUSTOMERS OF WESTAR OR IN MY CASE.

12/21/2016 MY PROVIDER WHO IS SUPPLIED BY WESTAR.



Complaint ID 104907

Date Filed 12/26/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

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Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 109 E MAIN PO BOX 402 Fax #

City GARDNER

State KS Zip Code 66030

Docket Opinion

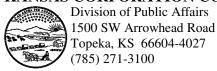
Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

12/26/2016

THE GARDNER EDGERTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IS SUPPORTIVE OF THE PENDING ACQUISITION OF WESTAR BY GPE, THE PARENT COMPANY OF KCPL. KCPL HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE GARDNER EDGERTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS. THEY HAVE CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED A NUMBER OF COMMUNITY ENDEAVORS AND HAVE A SOLID REPUTATION AMONG THEIR EMPLOYEES AND CUSTOMERS IN THE LOCAL AREA. THEIR IMPACT ON THE AREA HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANT, PARTICULARLY IN THE COMMUNITY OF EDGERTON AS THE LOGISTICS PARK KC HAS DEVELOPED. AS PRESIDENT OF THE CHAMBER I PERSONALLY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH EXECUTIVES FROM BOTH COMPANIES. I WAS IMPRESSED BY THEIR THOUGHTFULNESS AND GENERAL OPENNESSHONESTY ABOUT THE FUTURE OF BOTH COMPANIES AS IT RELATES TO SERVING OUR COMMUNITY AND THE GENERAL REGION. AS SUCH, WE FULLY SUPPORT THE APPROVAL OF ACQUISITION BEFORE THE KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION.



Complaint ID 104909

Date Filed 12/27/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name JIM GOODYEAR Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address GOODYEARJIM@YMAIL.COM

City CARBONDALE

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

VODE

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ N 0

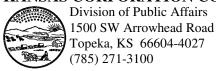
#### **Narrative**

12/27/2016

MY NAME IS JIM GOODYEAR. I RECENTLY RETIRED FROM WESTAR AFTER WORKING 34 YEARS IN COAL FIRED POWER PLANTS. I STARTED IN AN ENTRY LEVEL JOB IN 1982 AT TECUMSEH ENERGY CENTER AND EVENTUALLY TOOK A POSITION ON THE FUEL CREW. AFTER A FEW YEARS OF THAT I MOVED TO OPERATIONS AT LAWRENCE ENERGY CENTER. I SPENT ABOUT 12 YEARS ON OPERATIONS WHERE I WORKED MY WAY INTO THE CONTROL ROOM OPERATOR POSITION. FROM THERE I WENT INTO THE NEWLY FORMED INSTRUMENTATION AND CONTROL APPRENTICESHIP AND WAS THE FIRST PERSON IN THE COMPANY TO COMPLETE THE APPRENTICESHIP. AFTER ABOUT 10 YEARS AS AN IC TECHNICIAN I TOOK A SALARY JOB AS AN ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE OUTAGE PLANNER. AFTER A COUPLE OF YEARS AS AN OUTAGE PLANNER I WAS AWARDED THE NEWLY FORMED POSITION OF OPERATIONS TRAINER WHICH WAS THE JOB OF TRAINING NEWLY HIRED OPERATORS THE BASICS OF POWER PLANT OPERATION AND SENIOR OPERATORS THE FINER POINTS OF BOILER, TURBINE AND GENERATOR OPERATION. ALL THIS IS TO POINT OUT THAT I DO HAVE SOME EXPERIENCE IN POWER PLANT OPERATION. I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE SOME COMMENTS ABOUT THE ACQUISITION OF WESTAR BY GREAT PLAINS ENERGY. THESE COMMENTS ARE VERY MUCH BASED ON THE FACT OF THE NEW PRESIDENT-ELECT, DONALD TRUMP, WINNING THE ELECTION BASED ON PROMISES TO 'MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN'. HIS VICTORY WAS BASED ON HIS PROMISES OF REDUCING GOVERNMENT REGULATION IN THE UNITED STATES IN ORDER TO KEEP SOME AND CREATE OR BRING BACK SOME OF THE GOOD PAYING MANUFACTURING JOBS LOST TO PLACES WITH LESS REGULATIONS AND OF COURSE LOWER WAGES. I WAS IN THE WORK FORCE AND WATCHING THE NEWS AND PAYING ATTENTION BACK IN THE 70'S AND 80'S WHEN FACTORIES WERE CLOSING, JAPAN WAS PROSPERING AND FACTORIES WERE MOVING TO MEXICO AND OF COURSE CHINA. UNIONS AND WAGES WERE LARGELY BEING BLAMED AT THE TIME FOR THE LOSSES. FROM WHAT I WAS EXPERIENCING AS BASICALLY A FACTORY WORKER FOR THEN KPL. I BELIEVE THAT WAS MOSTLY TRUE BUT FOR DIFFERENT AND MORE OBSCURE REASONS THAN WERE BEING BROADCAST ON THE NEWS, FROM WHAT I WAS

12/27/2016

EXPERIENCING ON THE JOB IT WAS ACTUALLY THE INDIVIDUAL WORKERS WHO HAD NO IDEA OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THEIR OWN PERSONAL, SELFISH DEMANDS ON WORKERS RIGHTS AND THE ACCUMULATIVE EFFECT THOSE DEMANDS OF WORKERS RIGHTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS WOULD HAVE ON THE ENTIRE ECONOMY IF, OVER TIME, THESE DEMANDS WERE MET. THE PENDULUM HAD BEGUN TO SWING IN THE DIRECTION OF REGULATIONS THAT COULD SOMEDAY PRICE OUR PRODUCTS OUT OF BUSINESS. HERE WE ARE. WHEN I MENTION HUMAN RIGHTS AND WORKERS RIGHTS I DO NOT MEAN TO BE AN EXTREMIST, I AM SIMPLY REFERRING TO REGULATIONS ESTABLISHED BY THE EPA, OSHA AND THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT TO NAME THE MOST PREDOMINANT FEW, THAT HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE POWER TO, WHAT I BELIEVE IS 'OVER REGULATE' HOW BUSINESSES MUST TREAT THE INDIVIDUALS AND THE ENVIRONMENT AND MODIFY OLD EXISTING AND PROFITABLE EQUIPMENT TO THE POINT THAT MONEY NEEDED TO BE SPENT ON MAINTAINING EQUIPMENT IS DIVERTED TO FRIVOLOUS PROJECTS THAT DO NOTHING TO ENHANCE AND EXTEND PRODUCTION. I TRULY BELIEVE AN



Complaint ID 104909
Date Filed 12/27/2016
Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name JIM GOODYEAR Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address GOODYEARJIM@YMAIL.COM

City CARBONDALE

State KS Zip Code

#### **Narrative**

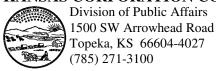
INTELLIGENT, HARD WORKING AND PHYSICALLY FIT INDIVIDUAL, DOING A JOB FOR WHICH THEY ARE SUITED, CAN TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES, DO AN EXCELLENT JOB OF WHATEVER THEY ARE DOING, MAKE MORE MONEY FOR THE COMPANY FOR WHICH THEY WORK THAN THEY ARE PAID AND DO ALL THIS RELATIVELY SAFELY WITH LITTLE TO NO INPUT FROM EXTERNAL SOURCES OR SUPERVISION. THE FIRST THOUGHT WOULD BE 'THESE KIND OF PEOPLE ARE RARE'. THAT IS CORRECT AND THESE ARE THE PEOPLE THAT SHOULD HAVE THESE GOOD PAYING JOBS AND THE REST CAN PEDDLE THE CHINESE STUFF AT WAL-MART WHERE THE PAY REFLECTS THE JOB DEMANDS. ALL THIS POINTS TO A SYSTEM THAT REQUIRES SOME ON THE JOB RISK AND OCCASIONALLY SOMEONE WILL GET HURT AND EVEN KILLED. IN MY OPINION WE ARE IN A WAR FOR THESE JOBS AND THE ENEMY IS THE COMPETING COUNTRIES AND EVERY INDIVIDUAL WORKER MAKING THOSE GOOD WAGES 30, 40, 50 AN HOUR SHOULD REALIZE THESE ARE NOT AVERAGE WAGES, THEY ARE GREAT AND EVERY INDIVIDUAL MAKING THIS MUCH MONEY SHOULD KNOW THAT WITH IT

12/27/2016

COMES RISK AND IF THEY ARE NOT WILLING TO ACCEPT THAT RISK THEN THEY SHOULD MOVE ON TO THE PREVIOUSLY MENTION JOB TYPES WHERE THOSE RISKS DON'T EXIST. IN MY YEARS AT KPL, WESTAR AND ALL THE OTHER NAMES THE COMPANY HAD IN THOSE YEARS, I PERSONALLY HEARD MANY, MANY TIMES, MORE TIMES THAN I COULD COUNT, THAT OUR WAGES WERE JUST AVERAGE. THAT WAS HOW THE COMPANY ITSELF DESCRIBED THEM BECAUSE THEY COMPARED THE WAGES TO OTHER UTILITIES. THAT IS RIDICULOUS, OUR WAGES AS INDIVIDUALS MUST BE COMPARED TO THE REST OF THE JOBS IN THE UNITED STATES. I TRULY BELIEVE EVERYONE KNOWS THIS BUT IT IS THEIR WAY OF JUSTIFYING WHAT THEY TAKE HOME AND STILL DEMAND THE PERSONAL PROTECTION THAT THE JOBS PAYING 14 AS MUCH PROVIDE. WHEN I SPEAK OF RISKS SUCH AS INJURY AND DEATH I KNOW MOST JAWS DROP BUT I REPEAT, THIS IS A WAR FOR JOBS, GOOD PAYING JOBS, AND THE BATTLE IS TO DO MORE WORK BETTER AND CHEAPER THAN THE COMPETITION. WHEN THERE IS INJURY, THE MONEY SHOULD BE SPENT IN COURTROOMS SETTING PRECEDENCE THAT ACCIDENTS DO NOT MAKE A FAMILY RICH AND THAT THE EMPLOYEE ACCEPTED THE RISKS WHEN THEY ACCEPTED THE WAGES. THIS IS AMERICA AND A PERSON CAN QUIT THEIR JOB IF THEY ARE NOT COMFORTABLE AND I CAN GUARANTEE YOU THERE WILL BE A COMPETENT PERSON READY AND WILLING TO TAKE THEIR PLACE. WHEN A PERSON IS INTERVIEWED FOR A HIGH PAYING JOB THEY SHOULD BE INFORMED OF THE MANY UNCOUNTABLE RISKS INVOLVED IN THE WORK AND THAT THE COST TO CUSTOMERS TO TRY TO COMPLETELY ELIMINATE ALL RISK IS SIMPLY TOO HIGH. HENCE THE GREAT WAGES AND COMPENSATION. MUCH THE SAME AS A PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE THOUGH THE RISKS AND WAGES ARE COMPARATIVELY LESS. I'M SURE ALL OF YOU READING THIS HAVE A GOOD IDEA OF THE DIFFERENT CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH YOUR ELECTRIC BILL. I WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THE PORTION CALLED THE 'FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT' SINCE THE AMOUNT OF IT IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THIS SUBJECT. IN THE POWER PLANTS MOST OF THE EQUIPMENT HAS REDUNDANCY BUILT IN MEANING WHEN A PIECE OF EQUIPMENT IS IMPORTANT TO THE

12/27/2016

PROCESS THERE ARE TYPICALLY 2 OR 3 OF THE SAME THING OR THE EQUIPMENT CAN BE BYPASSED OR TAKEN OUT OF SERVICE WITH ONLY MINOR TEMPORARY EFFECT TO THE SYSTEM. THESE SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT CAN BE REPAIRED WITH THE UNIT ON-LINE. I BRING THIS UP BECAUSE MANY, MANY TIMES THE SAFETY RULES AND 'REGULATIONS' PREVENT



Complaint ID 104909

Date Filed 12/27/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name JIM GOODYEAR Home Phone Cell Phone

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Mailing Address Email Address GOODYEARJIM@YMAIL.COM

City CARBONDALE

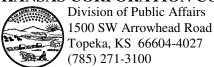
State KS Zip Code

#### **Narrative**

REPAIRING THE EQUIPMENT ON LINE FOR ANY NUMBER OF REASONS, MANY OF WHICH END UP BEING WORKER COMFORT, NOT SAFETY, SUCH AS WORKING IN A HOT AREA OR ON A HOT PIECE OF EQUIPMENT. WAITING UNTIL THE UNIT COMES OFF OR TAKING THE UNIT OFF BECAUSE OF THESE CONDITIONS HAS A TREMENDOUS IMPACT ON THE FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT BY CAUSING MORE EXPENSIVE UNITS TO PICK UP THE LOAD AND BY EXTENDING UNIT OFF TIME OR INCREASE OUTAGE COST, DUE TO INCREASED MAN HOURS BECAUSE OF WORK LOAD THAT MANY TIMES COULD BE DONE ON-LINE. THESE DECISIONS ARE MANY TIMES THE RESULT OF WORKERS WHO WOULD 'RATHER NOT' WORK ON THE EQUIPMENT AS IS AND MANAGEMENT WHO FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS SUCH AS LACK OF EXPERIENCE OR RISK OF RETALIATION FROM THEIR SUPERIORS IF A WORKER DOES GET HURT ARE RELUCTANT TO DEMAND THE WORK BE DONE ON-LINE. WHEN I SAY GET HURT, IN THEIR ENVIRONMENT IT COULD BE SOMETHING AS SMALL AS A BLISTER FROM A HOT SURFACE OR SOMETHING COMPARABLE. THERE ARE GREATER DANGERS AT TIMES BUT SKILLED WORKERS UNDERSTAND THESE DANGERS AND KNOW HOW TO WORK AROUND THEM WITH SOME RISK. CONTINUOUSLY ALLOWING 'ABSOLUTELY SAFE' CONDITIONS TO DETERMINE HOW WORK WILL BE PERFORMED WITHOUT REGARD TO THE COST ASSOCIATED WITH THE DECISION IS DRIVING COSTS AND ELECTRIC RATES UP TREMENDOUSLY. THESE ARE THE TYPES OF RULES STEMMING FROM THE 'REGULATIONS' THIS IS ALL ABOUT. BY NOW YOU ARE WONDERING WHAT THIS HAS TO DO WITH THE MERGER. I UNDERSTAND THE FACT THAT SOME OF THE SMALLER COAL UNITS ARE GOING TO BE SHUT DOWN. YOU SAY OLDER UNITS BUT I KNOW POWER PLANT MAINTENANCE AND OLDER IS NOT SYNONYMOUS WITH UNIT PROFITABILITY. MOST OF THE 'OLDER' COAL FIRED UNITS HAVE BEEN UPGRADED THROUGH THE MANY YEARS AND ARE

12/27/2016

AS MODERN OPERATIONALLY AS 'NEWER' UNITS. SOME MAY HAVE A SLIGHTLY HIGHER HEAT RATE TAKES A SMALL PERCENTAGE MORE FUEL TO MAKE THE SAME MEGAWATTS BUT THESE OLDER UNITS ARE ALL AND I MEAN ALL, OVERBUILT AND MUCH MORE ROBUST THAN THE NEWER. LARGER UNITS. THIS IS A FACT NO ONE CAN TRUTHFULLY DENY. THE 'OLDER' UNITS TYPICALLY REQUIRE LESS MAINTENANCE THAT TYPICALLY FAR OFFSETS THE HIGHER HEAT RATE IN OPERATING COST. 'SMALLER' IS A MORE CORRECT TERM FOR COAL UNITS SIMPLY BECAUSE OF THE ECONOMIES OF SCALE. IT TYPICALLY TAKES MORE TOTAL MAN-HOURS PER MEGAWATT TO RUN A SMALL COAL FIRED UNIT THAN A LARGER ONE. THIS ALL BEING SAID, THE NEW TRUMP ADMINISTRATION MAY WELL BACK OFF ON THE CLEAN AIR ACT 'REGULATIONS' ALSO AND THESE OLDER SMALLER COAL PLANTS MAY WELL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE TO RUN FOR YEARS LONGER THAN PREVIOUSLY EXPECTED. IF THIS IS THE CASE THE RATEPAYER BENEFITS OF THE MERGER DUE TO A COMBINED COMPANY ABSORBING SMALLER UNITS BEING SHUT DOWN MAY NOT HAPPEN. IF SO THE BIGGEST BENEFIT I PERSONALLY COULD HOPE TO SEE IS A PARENT COMPANY TAKING OVER WESTAR WITH A NEW VISION OF SUPERVISION AND INDIVIDUAL WORKER RESPONSIBILITY WHERE CORPORATE GOALS ARE NOT BASED AS MUCH ON SAFETY AS THEY ARE ON INDIVIDUAL WORKER AND COMPANY PERFORMANCE AND DOING ALL POSSIBLE TO KEEP RATES DOWN. WESTAR IS VERY PROUD OF THEIR SAFETY RECORD AND THEY DO NOT PUBLICIZE THE ACTUAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH IT. SAFETY IS SO INTERTWINED IN WHAT IS CONSIDERED 'THE COST OF DOING BUSINESS' THAT IT IS VERY HARD NOW TO PUT AN ACTUAL PRICE ON IT. I KNOW THAT WHEN CONTRACTORS BID JOBS FOR WESTAR, THE BID IS TYPICALLY AND CONSERVATIVELY 25 OR MORE THAN IT WOULD BE ANYWHERE ELSE BECAUSE



Complaint ID 104909

Date Filed 12/27/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name JIM GOODYEAR Home Phone Cell Phone

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Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address GOODYEARJIM@YMAIL.COM

City CARBONDALE

State KS Zip Code

**Narrative** 

OF THE CONSTRAINTS PUT ON THE CONTRACTOR ON SITE THAT PREVENTS GETTING WORK DONE. WORKERS AT WESTAR MUST SIT AND TALK ABOUT THE WORK BEFORE ACTUALLY GOING TO WORK AND SIGN PAPER WORK VERIFYING THEY TALKED ABOUT THE WORK. WESTAR CONTINUOUSLY STATES THEIR SAFETY RULES GO ABOVE AND BEYOND OSHA REGULATIONS.

AGAIN THE WORD

12/27/2016

'REGULATION'. DONALD TRUMP WAS ELECTED BECAUSE THE PUBLIC AGREES THAT THERE ARE TOO MANY 'REGULATIONS'. OSHA REGULATIONS ARE A GOOD PORTION OF WHAT THE BATTLE IS ABOUT. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE ALL OF OSHA'S AUTHORITY REMOVED AND THEY BECOME WHAT THEY USED TO BE, AN ENTITY WITH SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO MAKE THINGS BETTER IF ASKED AND WITH NO JURISDICTION. THEIR RULES AND REGULATIONS ARE OUT OF CONTROL AND BORDERLINE RIDICULOUS. I WOULD LOVE TO SEE A PARENT COMPANY COME TO WESTAR EMPLOYEES AND DEMAND THEY GET BACK TO WORK. STOP THE SPREAD OF THIS SAFETY CULTURE WESTAR IS SO PROUD OF AND THAT TYPICAL BUSINESS AND MANUFACTURING CANNOT AFFORD, AND HELP 'MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN' BY 'MAKING AMERICANS WORK AGAIN. I HAVE HEARD IT SAID MANY TIMES, THIS WILL ONLY BE THE LAND OF THE FREE AS LONG AS IT IS THE HOME OF THE BRAVE'. I BELIEVE WESTAR HAS ALLOWED THE LAZY AND THE FAINTEST OF HEART DETERMINE THE ACTIONS OF THE BRAVEST AND HARDEST WORKERS. IF, IN THE END. IT IS SIMPLY BUSINESS AS USUAL FOR THE LARGER COMPANY THAT IS FORMED AND THE OPERATING METHODS ARE SO SIMILAR AS TO SEE NO DIFFERENCES ONCE THE ACQUISITION IS COMPLETE, I CONTEND THAT WESTAR IS ALREADY 'LEAN AND MEAN' IF THEY STILL OPERATE IN THE SAME MANNER AS BEFORE AND IT IS HARD TO IMAGINE ENOUGH SAVINGS COMING FROM THE ACQUISITION TO PAY BACK THE HUGE PREMIUM BEING PAID WITHOUT RAISING RATES. I DO SEE HUGE STOCK HOLDER BENEFITS AS THE STOCK PRICE SWINGS DRAMATICALLY DURING THE PROCESS BUT I HOPE THIS IS MORE ABOUT THE RATE PAYERS THAN THE STOCK HOLDERS. P.S. YOU FOLKS MAY REMEMBER MY QUESTION ON THE NIGHT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING AT THE HIGH SCHOOL ON DEC 5TH IN WHICH I RAISED THE QUESTION OF THE EFFECTS OF WIND GENERATION ON FOSSIL UNITS. I RAISED THE QUESTION TO BRING AN IMPORTANT SUBJECT TO LIGHT THAT I WANT EVERYONE TO BE AWARE OF. THAT IS THAT IN MOST IF NOT ALL WIND FARMS, THE UTILITIES ARE REQUIRED TO BUY WHATEVER THE GENERATION IS AT A GIVEN RATE. GENERATION REQUIREMENTS ARE MOST TIME EXTREMELY LOW AT

12/27/2016

NIGHT AND THE WIND BLOWS A LOT AT NIGHT. THE WIND GENERATION IS NOT SUFFICIENT DURING THE DAYTIME HOURS SO THE LARGE FOSSIL UNITS MUST PICK UP THE EXCESS LOAD DURING THE DAY. AT NIGHT THE FOSSIL UNITS ARE NO LONGER NEEDED AND ARE ASK TO 'DROP LOAD'. THE TURN-DOWN RATIO I REFERRED TO IS THE AMOUNT THESE LARGE UNITS CAN DROP TO WITHOUT SHUTTING COMPLETELY OFF. MANY TIMES THESE UNITS CAN NOT DROP AS LOW AS THE ELECTRICAL DISPATCHERS WOULD LIKE AND THE POWER HAS TO BE SOLD AT A UNIT OPERATING LOSS TO PREVENT HUGE STARTUP COSTS WHEN NEEDED. THESE TURN DOWN RATIOS ARE DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY EQUIPMENT OPERATION REQUIRED BY EPA EMISSION REGULATIONS AND BY NFPA NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION ACT, RULES THAT CAN BE OVERRIDDEN TEMPORARILY AT NIGHT WITH WHAT COULD BE CONSIDERED VERY LITTLE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT VERY SAFELY AND IF DONE REGULARLY AND CORRECTLY, COULD



Complaint ID 104909

Date Filed 12/27/2016

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name JIM GOODYEAR Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address GOODYEARJIM@YMAIL.COM

City CARBONDALE

State KS Zip Code

#### **Narrative**

SAVE RATE PAYERS A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT. IN CLOSING I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT I HOPE THE PUBLIC THAT ELECTED DONALD TRUMP FOR PRESIDENT UNDERSTAND AS I DO WHAT THEY WERE ASKING FOR WHEN WE ELECTED HIM. I ALSO HOPE THAT TRUMP FOLLOWS THROUGH WITH HIS PROMISES TO THE LEVELS I POINT TO IN THESE COMMENTS THAT WILL TRULY MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND THAT PEOPLE LIKE YOU IN POSITIONS SUCH AS YOU ARE IN WILL DO WHAT IS NECESSARY TO HELP THIS PROCESS AND HELP 'MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN'. IT WILL NOT HAPPEN WITHOUT SACRIFICE FROM EVERYONE AND WE DO NOT NEED TO SACRIFICE WAGES TO MAKE IT HAPPEN BUT PEOPLE WILL BE 'PUT IN HARMS WAY' AT TIMES AT WORK IF WE ARE GOING TO 'BACK UP' TO TIMES WHEN AMERICA WAS THE GREAT LAND WE ARE REFERRING TO. 'SAFER' FOR THE INDIVIDUAL IS NOT ALWAYS 'BETTER' FOR THE COUNTRY.



Complaint ID 104917
Date Filed 12/29/2016
Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name BRET GLASPEY Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 1145 ROCK CREEK RD. Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

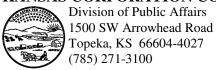
City POMONA

State KS Zip Code 66076

Docket OpinionNumber of PetitionsCompany IDDocket NumberConsumer OpinionSignatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 



Complaint ID 104950

Date Filed 01/10/2017

Investigator SEISENBA

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name WILLIAM FRANKLIN Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City **OLATHE** 

State KS Zip Code

Docket OpinionNumber of PetitionsCompany IDDocket NumberConsumer OpinionSignatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

01/10/2017 I AM HAPPY WITH WESTAR. I SEE NO ADVANTAGE TO THE MERGER. I AM VERY UNHAPPY WITH

KCPL.



Complaint ID 104974

Date Filed 01/14/2017

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name LUDWINA G HANCOCK Home Phone (316)788-7058 Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 1217 BRIARWOOD RD Fax #

City **DERBY** 

State KS Zip Code 67037

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

01/14/2017 UTILITY RATES HAVE CONTINUED TO RISE TO EXORBITANT AMOUNT SO IT'S NO AMAZING FACT

THAT MANY PEOPLE ARE LEAVING KANSAS TO LIVE IN A MORE ECONOMICAL STATE. I AM EXTREME OPPOSED TO THE RATE INCREASE BECAUSE THE INCREASES NEVER STOP AND THE

SERVICE NEVER INCREASES.



Complaint ID 104975 Date Filed 01/14/2017 Investigator **SYSTEM** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name FRANK D HANCOCK Home Phone (316)788-7058 Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address 1217 BRIARWOOD RD Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address MULEVARN58@GMAIL.COM

City **DERBY** 

State KS Zip Code 67037

**Docket Opinion** 

Number of Petitions Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures **KCPE** 

16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0 0

**Narrative** 

01/14/2017 I AM VERY MUCH OPPOSED TO ANOTHER RATE INCREASE. UTILITIES KEEP GOING UP SO MUCH

IT IS NO WONDER THAT PEOPLE ARE LEAVING KANSAS IN DROVES. UTILITIES ARE SO HIGH IN KANSAS ON THE RESIDENTIAL SIDE AND ASTRONOMICAL ON THE COMMERCIAL SIDE. SOF HIGH

IN FACT THAT AFTER 43 YEARS WE CLOSED OUR EXCAVATING BUSINESS.



Complaint ID 104984

Date Filed 01/16/2017

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name PAUL R CRAWFORD Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 2610 NW 62ND ST. Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address PRC68@HOTMAIL.COM

City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66618

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

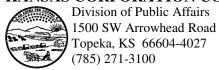
\*\*COPT\*\* 10 (COPT\*\* 500 ACC)

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

01/16/2017 DO NOT FEEL THIS IS NEEDED. I AM ALSO NOT IN FAVOR OF THE SELLING OF WESTAR TO KCPL!

DO NOT FEEL THIS MERGER IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE KANSAS CUSTOMERS!



Complaint ID 104995

Date Filed 01/17/2017

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name MICHAEL O'DONNELL Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City WICHITA

State KS Zip Code 67203

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

01/17/2017 SEE ATTACHED LETTER SENT TO ALL THREE COMMISSIONERS

104995



# MICHAEL O'DONNELL, II Commissioner - Second District

# BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

COUNTY COURTHOUSE \* SUITE 320 \* 525 NORTH MAIN \* WICHITA, KANSAS 67203-3759 TELEPHONE (316) 660-9300 \* FAX (316) 383-8275 e-mail: michael.o'donnell@sedgwick.gov

January 17, 2017

Pat Apple Chairman, Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604-4027

To Chairman Apple and Commissioners,

The State of Kansas is at an important crossroads in our effort to meet the energy demands of today while also preparing for the requirements of tomorrow. Two of our most important, long-time partners in addressing our state's energy needs have been Westar Energy and KCP&L. Their mutual commitment to building a diversified portfolio of generation mitigates our risk for what the future may hold while continuing to keep our current energy costs low, which, as you know, is key to attracting businesses, investment and residents to our great state.

A key contributor to our success in growing Kansas' economy will be keeping the price of energy low, expanding infrastructure to move our resources to market and expanding the options available to employers who wish to invest in renewables. I also will continue to support an all-inclusive energy policy that supports local production of affordable and reliable energy. In all of these efforts, KCP&L and Westar Energy have been valuable partners.

As you know, both KCP&L and Westar are critically important companies to our state, both in terms of the jobs they create as well as the energy they supply to our communities. We need them to be successful and, knowing that they were considering a sale, I was relieved when it was announced earlier this year that KCP&L was the company that won the bidding to acquire Westar.

This transaction is a significant opportunity for Kansas and one that will have a substantial impact on citizens throughout our state. I am pleased that a company that has operated in Kansas for more than 100 years is combining with Westar. To endorse a transaction of this nature, I wanted to understand more about the plan for the combined company and what it will mean for Kansas residents and businesses. After

Pat Apple Chairman, Kansas Corporation Commission

Page 2

speaking with the management teams of both companies and hearing from them regarding their plans for the future, I support this transaction and believe it will bring many benefits for the future of Kansas.

Starting with the initial announcement, KCP&L and Westar leadership have both made it abundantly clear that this merger is about creating a stronger and more efficient utility to serve Kansans while preserving the local jobs and community engagement that have been a hallmark of Westar over the years. Unlike other likely buyers, the combined company will have nearly two-thirds of its customers in Kansas. If Kansas does not have competitive electric rates to help facilitate strong economic growth, then Kansas will not prosper and neither will KCP&L. Not only has KCP&L publicly announced plans to keep the current Westar headquarters in Topeka, they also have committed to placing senior leadership in that location. Clearly, the KCP&L leadership team knows how important Westar and its employees are to our State.

KCP&L and Westar have made public commitments that their combination will help maintain affordable energy rates in Kansas by creating significant operational savings. In addition, both KCP&L and Westar are committed to renewable energy. Once combined, KCP&L and Westar will have one of the largest portfolios of wind energy in the United States, and the vast majority of it is in Kansas, representing billions of dollars in investment in our state, creating local jobs and fostering local economic development. Small businesses, agriculture, industry and our residents all stand to benefit from this merger and the commitments to Kansas that come with it.

When it comes to economic development, KCP&L is one of the most aggressive and accomplished electric utilities in the United States. KCP&L has a full-time staff devoted to recruiting companies and good paying jobs to Kansas. With rates that are below the national average, coupled with tools enabled by this Commission such as economic development riders, incentives and revenue justification to extend electrical infrastructure to companies interested in locating in Kansas, KCP&L is a relentless steward for our business friendly state. In addition, KCP&L is the only regulated utility in the U.S. to be a fully accredited economic development organization by the International Economic Development Council.

In so many ways, this merger makes perfect sense for both companies, their customers and our region. KCP&L has been operating in Kansas for over 100 years. They know Kansas and they are committed to helping us achieve our full potential. The two companies also have a number of joint assets and have been partners for a number of years, so I expect the integration process to be smooth and beneficial for employees, customers and Kansas.

Thank you for your consideration and support of this transaction and for your important service to our State.

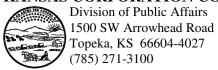
Sincerely,

Michael O'Donnell Chair Pro Tem

Sedgwick County Commission

cc: Commissioner Shari Feist Albrecht

Commissioner Jay Emler



Complaint ID 104996 Date Filed 01/17/2017 Investigator **KSCHUETZ** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name JOE SEIWERT Home Phone Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax#

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City PRETTY PRAIRIE

State KS Zip Code 67570

**Docket Opinion** 

**Number of Petitions** Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures **KCPE** 0

S 16-KCPE-593-ACQ

**Narrative** 

01/17/2017 SEE ATTACHED LETTER

104996

# State of Kansas House of Representatives

State Capitol Topeka, KS 66612 800-432-3924 joe.seiwert@house.ks.gov



Joe Seiwert Representative, 101st District Chair: Utilities and Telecommunications

1111 E. Boundary Road Pretty Prairie, KS 67570 620-727-2053 joeselwert@onemain.com

January 12, 2017

Jay Scott Emler Chairman, Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604-4027

To Chairman Emler and Commissioners,

It is my pleasure to write today in support of the proposed sale of Westar Energy to Great Plains Energy, Inc., the parent company of KCP&L. As Chairman of the House Energy, Utilities, and Telecommunications Committee I have had the opportunity to work closely with both Westar and KCP&L and I am very happy to hear they will be joining forces to continue working for the people of Kansas.

Both Westar and KCP&L have shown a commitment to providing answers to the growing need for power in Kansas and the changing ways in which it can be provided. Their mirrored commitment to diversity of generation means they are well positioned for whatever challenges we may face in the future and I am confident that, by working together as one company, they will be able to meet those challenges head on.

Since the announcement of the merger, the leadership teams of both companies have been more than accommodating. They have made a commitment to answering all questions as quickly as possible and to being partners in this process. They have made themselves available not only to members of the Legislature but also to the people of Kansas who rightly have wondered if this was the right move. I believe they have clearly demonstrated it is.

The logic behind this merger is undeniable. Both companies are committed to continuing to work for the people and communities they call home. They are committed to keeping their headquarters and employees right here in Kansas,

something that was not at all certain with other companies interested in acquiring Westar. The two companies already share multiple power plants, are members of the same regional transmission organization, serve adjacent territories, are intimately familiar and have partnered with each other on many projects, and will be able to provide better and more reliable service at lower costs through reducing redundant costs. This merger just makes sense.

Westar and KCP&L are a natural fit. This is the best possible outcome for the people of Kansas. Westar has been purchased by a local company that is committed to keeping its operations in Kansas and continuing to provide tremendous service to their customers. I look forward to working with them going forward and I offer my full support to this merger.

Thank you for consideration.

Respectfully,

Representative Joe Seiwert

Chairman,

Energy, Utilities, and Telecomunications



Complaint ID 104999 Date Filed 01/18/2017 Investigator **SYSTEM** 

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name THERYNE SCHIMKE Home Phone Cell Phone

**Business** Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax#

Mailing Address **Email Address** 

City WICHITA

State KS Zip Code

**Docket Opinion** 

Number of Petitions Company ID **Docket Number Consumer Opinion** Signatures

**KCPE** 16-KCPE-593-ACQ 0 0

**Narrative** 

01/18/2017 I STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS MERGER OF THE GREAT PLAINS ENERGY INCORPORATED 'GPE', THE

KANSAS CITY POWER LIGHT COMPANY 'KCPL' AND WESTAR ENERGY, INC. 'WESTAR'. I REQUEST

THIS APPLICATION FOR MERGER BE DENIED.



Complaint ID 105001

Date Filed 01/18/2017

Investigator KSCHUETZ

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name RON RYCKMAN JR Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone (785)296-2302 ext

Street Address 300 SW 10TH ST Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66612

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

\*\*COPT\*\* 10 (COPT\*\* 500 ACC)

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

**Narrative** 

01/18/2017 ATTACHED IS A LETTER WHICH SHARES MY THOUGHTS REGARDING THE FUTURE OF WESTAR

ENERGY. DUE TO THE MANY ADVANTAGES OF MERGING WESTAR INTO KCP&L, WHICH ARE LISTED IN THE ATTACHMENT, I AM GIVING THIS TRANSACTION MY FULL SUPPORT. PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT MY OFFICE IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT I HAVE SHARED

WITH YOU.

105001

January 17, 2017

Pat Apple Chairman, Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604-4027

To Chairman Apple and Commissioners,

The State of Kansas is at an important crossroads in our effort to meet the energy demands of today while also preparing for the requirements of tomorrow. As Speaker of the Kansas House of Representatives, my long-time partners in addressing our state's energy needs have been Westar Energy and KCP&L. Their mutual commitment to building a diversified portfolio of generation mitigates our risk for what the future may hold while continuing to keep our current energy costs low, which, as you know, is key to attracting businesses, investment and residents to our great state.

In my role in the House, I have come to know and respect both of these companies greatly. When we call them for questions, we speak directly with their leadership team. Their executives all live and work right here in our region, so they just like us, want to do everything they possibly can to support Kansas and our residents. As individual companies they are both committed to Kansas; together, they will still be our local electric utility, only stronger and better equipped to keep electric rates affordable.

Initially, I was concerned when I heard the rumors that Westar Energy might be up for sale. This is clearly not the time for our state to lose a major employer and taxpayer. I have worked closely with Westar over the past few years, and I was worried that the significant momentum we have generated would be lost through an acquisition by a company that does not know Kansas. When KCP&L announced in late May that they would be merging with Westar, I was relieved. After learning more about the transaction and KCP&L's plans, I am happy to offer my wholehearted support. I am writing you today to ask that you approve this transaction in order to unlock the benefits that this will bring to our great state.

The combination of KCP&L and Westar just makes common sense. There are many strategic and operational advantages to combining these companies:

- KCP&L and Westar share multiple power plants, including the Wolf Creek nuclear plant;
- KCP&L and Westar are in the same regional transmission organization, the Southwest Power Pool;
- KCP&L and Westar have adjacent service territories and will be able to improve customer service and reliability like no other combination by leveraging each other's assets and strengths;
- KCP&L and Westar are familiar with each other and have worked together on multiple projects;

- KCL&L and Westar together will be able to find operational savings through eliminating redundant costs, having greater scale and spreading any increased costs over a larger service territory and more customers; and
- KCP&L and Westar are companies who have both operated in Kansas for more than 100
  years, they live and work here and will be responsive to the needs of local communities and
  Kansas.

Starting with the initial announcement, KCP&L has made their intentions for Kansas very clear. They plan to keep the current Westar headquarters in Topeka and committed that key leadership and functions will be located there. KCP&L also has confirmed that they will continue to support Westar's philanthropic and community focus. Since the announcement, KCP&L's CEO, Terry Bassham, has met repeatedly with community and civic leaders so that they could hear directly from him and that he understands the concerns of his future employees and the customers the company will serve. Once this merger is complete, KCP&L will have nearly two thirds of its customers in Kansas, making Kansas the most significant and important part of the combined company's operations.

Westar and KCP&L are both a natural and great fit together. This truly is the best possible outcome that could have happened to our state. Westar has sold to a local company that has made public commitments that will result in the continuation of a major employer and taxpayer remaining here. Most importantly, KCP&L knows Kansas and has been doing business in our state for more than 100 years. I look forward to what their combined efforts will do for our state over the next 100 years.

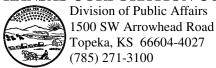
Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely

The Honorable Non Ryckman

Speaker of the Kansas House

cc: Commissioner Shari Feist Albrecht Commissioner Jay Emler



Complaint ID 105005

Date Filed 01/18/2017

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name JAMES D WORRELL Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 1211 SW HILLSDALE ST Fax #

City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66604

Docket Opinion

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

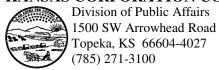
KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

01/18/2017 DO NOT ALLOW THEM TO PURCHASE OR MERGE WITH WESTAR. WE NEED TO KEEP WESTAR IN

TOPEKA AND SOLELY OWNED BY WESTAR. WE SHOULDN'T OF EVER ALLOWED KPL TO BE DISSOLVED AND SPLIT UP INTO TWO COMPANIES. IT WILL ONLY LEAD TO ;LESS CONTROL AND

MORE EXPENSE TO US THE CUSTOMERS.



Complaint ID 105008

Date Filed 01/18/2017

Investigator GLIPPERT

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name **JEFF COLYER, M.D., LIEUTENANT** Home Phone Cell Phone

GOVERNOR Work Phone (785)296-2213 ext

Business OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
Street Address CAPITOL BUILDING ROOM 252-

Email Address LT.GOVERNOR@KS.GOV

Mailing Address SOUTH

City TOPEKA

State KS Zip Code 66612

Docket Opinion

Number of Petitions

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ S 0

Narrative

01/18/2017 SEE ATTACHED LETTER ADDRESSED TO ALL THREE COMMISSIONERS



Capitol Building Room 252-South Topeka, KS 66612

Jeff Colyer, M.D., Lieutenant Governor

January 18, 2017

Sam Brownback, Governor

Phone: (785) 296-2213

Fax: (785) 296-5669

lt.governor@ks.gov

Commissioner Pat Apple
Kansas Corporation Commission
Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection
1500 SW Arrowhead Road
Topeka, KS 66604-4027
Docket Number: 16-KCPE-593-ACQ

Dear Commissioner Apple and Commissioners:

I write to you today in support of the proposed merger of Westar and Kansas City Power and Light (KCP&L). As a former member of the Kansas House, Senate, and the current Lieutenant Governor of Kansas, I am very aware of the changing and expanding need for energy in our state. The sale of Westar to KCP&L is a big step in addressing that need. They are a pair of companies dedicated to a diversified portfolio of energy sources that will help sustain Kansas' future energy needs.

I have worked closely with both companies and I have come to know them as conscientious and generous partners. They have shown a willingness to help when asked and to provide any information requested in a manner both quick and efficient. Their leadership teams are easily accessible and they have demonstrated their commitment to the citizens of Kansas, which only makes sense as they live and work in our communities.

I was tremendously relieved when I heard that the sale of Westar was to KCP&L. I was worried about what may happen to Westar if it were sold to an entity that was not part of Kansas, that did not know or care about our citizens. I was delighted to learn that the opposite was true and that Westar would be merging with KCP&L and they would continue to be right here where they belong with a firm commitment to keeping their Westar headquarters here in Topeka.

The purchase of Westar by KCP&L is more than a simple financial decision. It is more than just one company purchasing another. It is a logical merging of two companies that makes both stronger. They share infrastructure, provide services in adjacent areas, have a history of working together, are local companies familiar with the needs of their customer, and by merging can improve customer service and reliability while reducing costs through the elimination of redundancy.

Westar and KCP&L are a great fit. This is the best possible scenario for the sale of Westar. They are committed to the future of Kansas and will be strong partners moving forward. I offer my whole hearted support to this merger.

Yours,

Jeff Colyer, M.D. Lieutenant Governor



Complaint ID 105009

Date Filed 01/18/2017

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name KATHY M WINTERS Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City **OLATHE** 

State KS Zip Code 66061

**Docket Opinion** 

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

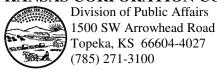
\*\*COPT\*\* To KOPT\*\* The ACC STATE OF T

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

01/18/2017

I HAVE BEEN A CUSTOMER 415 YEARS AT WESTAR. IN THE LAST COUPLE YEARS BILL HAS DOUBLED. WINSTAR AND OTHER UTILITY COMPANIES HAVING A MONOPOLY IN THE AREA WHICH IS IS ILLEGAL WHAT I WAS TAUGHT IN SCHOOL. THEY ARE ALLOWED THIS MONOPOLY BECAUSE CUSTOMERS HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO PAY WHATEVER AMOUNT NO MATTER HOW OUTRAGEOUS IT IS REQUIRED BY WINSTAR. WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOT PAY THE BILL PROTEST AND THEN THEY TURN YOUR LIGHTS OFF THEREFORE YOU LOSE ANY ELECTRICITY YOU LOSE POWER TO YOUR REFRIGERATOR FREEZER AND YES EVEN TO YOUR HEAT BECAUSE IT IS REGULATED BY ELECTRICITY. IN TODAY'S SOCIETY YOU CAN NOT FUNCTION WITHOUT ELECTRICITY AND WESTERN IS AWARE OF THIS AND WILL RAISE RATES UNTIL THEY ARE STOPPED FIND A GOVERNMENT AGENCY REGULATES THEM AND STOP THEM RAISING RATES THAT ARE UNFAIR AND SOME PEOPLE CANNOT AFFORD. WILL IT BE SAD WHEN CITIZENS HAVE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN ELECTRICITY AND FOOD FOR THE CHILDREN. WESTAR BILL IS ALMOST DOUBLE BUT MY OTHER BILLS ARE THIS IS SHAMEFUL AND MUST BE STOPPED NOW



Complaint ID 105010

Date Filed 01/18/2017

Investigator BDONOHUE

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by P Consumer Class R

Name BILL MILLER Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City

State KS Zip Code

Docket OpinionNumber of PetitionsCompany IDDocket NumberConsumer OpinionSignatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

01/18/2017 AS A CONSUMER OF WESTAR AND KANSAS RESIDENT NOTHING GOOD COULD COME OF THIS

MERGER. I WOULD HAVE NO RECOURSE OF A MISSOURI OWNED COMPANY IF ANY PROBLEMS ARRISE. I APPRECIATE WESTAR'S EFFORTS OF OTHER SOURCES OF ENERGY AND DO NOT

KNOW IF GREAT PLAINS WOULD SHOW THE SAME LEVEL OF INVESTMENT.



Complaint ID 105013

Date Filed 01/18/2017

Investigator SYSTEM

**Account Information** 

Account No Notified KCC by E Consumer Class R

Name SUSIE V TANGEMAN Home Phone Cell Phone

Business Work Phone ext

Street Address 2200 N. MAIN Fax #

Mailing Address Email Address

City NORTH NEWTON

State KS Zip Code 67117

Docket Opinion

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Signatures

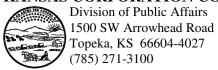
KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

01/18/2017 COULD YOU OPERATE A FEW YEARS WITHOUT A RATE INCREASE? WE ON SOCIAL SECURITY

INCOME HAVE TO FUNCTION WITHOUT AN ANNUAL INCREASE. YOU SEEM TO BE APPLYING

EVERY 6 MONTHS FOR AN INCREASE.



Complaint ID 105024
Date Filed 01/19/2017
Investigator SEISENBA

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Business Work Phone ext

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City LAWRENCE

State KS Zip Code 66047

Docket OpinionNumber of PetitionsCompany IDDocket NumberConsumer OpinionSignatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

01/19/2017 SEE ATTACHED LETTER

105024

Rebecca Tolbert 2901 Atchison Ave. Lawrence, KS 66047

Kansas Corporation Commission
Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection
1500 SW Arrowhead Road
Topeka, KS 66604-4027

RE: Docket No. 16-KCPE-593-ACQ

January 16, 2017

To Whom It Concerns:

With regards to Westar Energy's application to be acquired by Great Plains Energy, I feel once again that the interests of consumers are being ignored in favor of big business. Westar Energy has spent a great deal of money over the five years that I have lived in Kansas on so-called 'green' initiatives, including everything from developing wind farms to reducing labor costs using remote monitoring. While some of these initiatives may have reduced environmental impact, all too many of them showed little or no measurable difference. And while the initiatives were promoted as costing customers little or nothing, most were paid for by rate increases, many of which were hidden by breaking down their own operating expenses into separate charges they then passed on to their customers.

Now Westar Energy would appear to have over-extended their resources and wish to avoid the consequences by selling out to another company with no guarantees that customers won't face even higher rates in the near future. Utilities companies already have practical monopolies by virtue of their lack of competition in any given market. When one large utility company buys a neighboring utility it expands its influence without any benefit to the consumer.

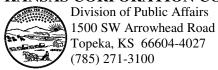
It is clear that if Westar Energy has in truth over-extended its resources that a solution must be found. Citizens of Kansas cannot be left in the dark because an electric utility is unable to hire competent administrators to avoid spending more than they take in. Nonetheless it behooves the Commission to seek guarantees that this acquisition does not result in either a mere delay of the collapse or in rate increases that break our already strained state economy. There is a bottom to any well and it is time utility companies, as any big business, learns to do more than simply keep asking for more money. For the sake of the consumers this commission is supposed to protect, require some guarantees that prices will not soar before giving approval to this acquisition.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Tolbert

Robert Toller



Complaint ID 105090

Date Filed 01/17/2017

Investigator GLIPPERT

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Docket Opinion

Company ID Docket Number Consumer Opinion Number of Petitions Signatures

KCPE 16-KCPE-593-ACQ O 0

**Narrative** 

01/25/2017 SEE ATTACHED LETTER

JAN 2 5 2017 PUBLIC AFFAIRS ansas Corporation Commission 5005W annoled Road Tapela, Kansas 66604-4027 OCH 16 KCPE 593-ACQ Justion of Wester Energy by Guttlainenergy Ladies & Gentlemen, How is it that Great Plannengy KCPU has enough money to buy Keland They still askers there Missouri austomers a money money through rate increases of these rate increases Tout the last 10 wears) book like there helping them Equire another company Is this part of those Gate increases How could we know. There is so much wrong with this deal for the companys and the rate payers. It sound like KPI needs someone despiritly to buy them up and KCPl is willing to go inte debt by time to do that, Guess who is army to any for ther to the litter end!! holosed is a KC Star article about is deal in the article they say they can sove I billion in lo years by letting people go and other personnel changes. But there we no mention of other means of cost

reduction. Like getters ril of there H / sub contractor Par Electric Pretty soon it well be Kepe / Par Election of the little cony deal is not brokery, also they Add to find a person or persons that can run the business to the point that they are not coming to the ratepayer all the time for things that they bear fix. Have they ever heard of a Industrial Engineer May be the commissions should give them some examples of utility companys that due mande they busidess well Question: Why wasn't all the information on the table to start with in this hearing? Atkey want the commissions to hear all the heasons for rate increase, they better layall there chillson the table. Mr. Caisley shouldn't have the dome & clome attitude that it all going down the tube in 9 years, that really don't help the situation. Quit sitting around criping, and get the sol done Dan apposed to the deal bleause it will generate to smuch debt that despite what anybody say the rate pager will pay for and a the commissioners will be dealing with a heady fund of some pend. here seable heed to industand that a hery people and at some point the stove.

# Regulators want info about Great Plains-Westar merger declassified

BY STEVE VOCKRODT svockrodt@kcstar.com

Kansas utility regulators are seeking to make public confidential information that could impact the proposed acquisition of Westar Energy by the owner of Kansas City Power & Light Co.

Staff of the Kansas Corporation Commission, which is examining Great Plains Energy's proposed \$12.2 billion acquisition of Topeka-based Westar, sand this week that both utilities have made public statements about the benefits of the merger that don't square with confidential information about the deal.

The commission staff filed a motion asking that all information marked confidential by the utilities in testimony and other documents be declassified.

The regulators said both utilities failed to specify how they would be harmed by public disclosure of the confidential information.

"The potential impact of consolidating these two entities is astounding," the commission's filing said, "and the public has an interest in knowing exactly what the future might hold before commenting in support or opposition of the proposal. The results of this transaction, if completed, would be long felt, as it would be impossible to undo the transaction once competed."

The filing comes weeks after the Kansas Corporation Commission staff recommended that its three-member commission reject Great Plains Energy's bid to acquire Westar because of its concerns that the transaction will hurt the Kansas economy and result in a consolidated company that has too much debt.

Executives of both utilities have stridently opposed the commission's comments and argued that the acquisition would result in \$2 billion in savings over 10 years, which would benefit ratepayers in Kansas.

The combined company would serve 1.5 million customers in large swaths of eastern Kansas and most of the Kansas City area. Both companies have said customers won't finance the acquisition through electric rates.

Chuck Caisley, a spokesman for Great Plains, said certain details related to the merger have been kept from the public's view because it contains confidential business information.

"I would say as we go through the process we will sort through it and see what more of it may be made completely publicly available," Caisley said.

The Kansas Corporation Commission filing said the confidential information relates to savings estimates, analyst reports, job cuts, plant closings, service performance metrics and financial forecasts. Agency staffers argued that public hearings before the commission, scheduled to start later this month and last for 10 days or more, would be more effective if commissioners didn't have to continually close segments of it off from the public to discuss private information.

Other parties have filed to intervene in the proceedings, including the Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board and the Board of Public Utilities in Wyandotte County, both of which expressed reservations about the proposed deal.

The commission also said that Great Plains and Westar have made public comments about the benefits of the merger that "cannot be easily reconciled" with information

that's been kept confiden-

One example, according to the commission, is a statement on KCP&L's website that said the merger will create jobs, which is contradicted by confidential information (Linda Berry, a spokeswoman for the Kansas Corporation Commission, said regulatory staff and commissioners can view the confidential informa-

Caisley acknowledged

that there would be staff reductions if the acquisition goes through, but he would not commit to specific figures.

"Over the short term, there's absolutely going to be reductions through attrition and retirement where there are redundancies and unneeded positions," Caisley said.

"That would be a portion of where the cost savings would come from. Over the long term, we would expect that having the

companies located here and not somewhere else, we believe, will lead to more jobs in the region."

Caisley predicted that neither utility would survive independently for another five years before an out-of-town company sought to buy them, potentially resulting in job losses to the region.

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#### 16-KCPE-593-ACQ

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