

facts within the knowledge of the parties. Data requests which require conclusions of law or answers to hypothetical questions are generally not permitted. Cross-examination through the use of data requests is not appropriate. Copies of data requests shall be served upon all other parties to the proceeding, unless a party requests otherwise. Responses are to be provided to any party which requests them. Data requests and responses may be served by facsimile transmittal or electronic mail if agreed to by the parties. Requests for information that are received after 3:00 p.m. shall be deemed to have been received the following business day.

3. Data Request Responses. Responses to Staff data requests are due within seven days, not counting Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays. Responses to all other data requests are due within 10 days, not counting Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays. In computing the period of time for responding, the day on which the data request is issued is not counted. Parties may agree to extensions or reductions of time in which to respond to or object to a data request. Responses to data requests shall be verified and shall identify the person(s) who actually prepared the response and can answer additional questions relating to the response. Each discovery request shall be answered separately and preceded by the request to which the answer pertains. Responses shall be clearly identified and, if consisting of several pages, shall be labeled and organized in a manner that makes review of the pages convenient. Parties are under a continuing duty to supplement their discovery responses upon learning that the information disclosed is incomplete or incorrect in any material respect. If a response to a data request requires the duplication of voluminous material or if material that is not easily copied because of its binding or size, a party may require that any party other than Commission Staff review the voluminous material on its own premises. If duplication of voluminous material can be accomplished without undue burden, the voluminous material may be copied at the expense of the requesting party.

Voluminous material is defined as documents comprised of 500 pages or more.

4. Objections to Data Requests. If a party objects to answering a particular data request, the party shall object in writing within five days of receipt of the data request, not counting Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays. The written objection shall specifically explain all grounds relied upon for objecting to each data request. Any objections not provided at this time will be considered to be waived. If an objection pertains only to a part of a question, that part shall be clearly identified and the responding party shall provide any non-objectionable information covered by the remainder of the data request. Parties shall negotiate in good faith to resolve discovery disputes. If resolution is not possible, the party seeking discovery may file a motion to compel with the Commission. Motions to compel must have the data request and response at issue attached. Motions to compel are required to be served by hand-delivery, facsimile or next-day delivery service. Responses to motions to compel are to be filed within three days after the motion is received, not counting Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays. The Commission may act immediately on motions to compel if necessitated by time constraints or the procedural schedule in the case.

5. Limitations on Discovery. The Commission may limit discovery to protect a party against unreasonable, cumulative or duplicative discovery requests; to prevent undue delay in the proceeding; to avoid unnecessary burden, expense or harassment; or to otherwise maintain the orderly and efficient progress of the proceeding. Upon finding that a party has abused the discovery process, the Commission may deny the party the right to continue discovery.

6. Protective Order. The Commission has a standard Protective Order that establishes procedures and requirements for the production of information or data designated as confidential. Any party may file a motion for a Protective Order.

7. Sanctions. A motion for sanctions for discovery violations may be filed at any time during the proceeding or may be initiated by the Commission. A motion is to contain sufficient factual allegations to detail the violation and must specify the relief requested. Motions for sanctions are required to be served by hand-delivery, facsimile or next-day delivery service. Responses to motions for sanctions are to be filed within 10 days, not counting Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays.

a. The Commission will consider any relevant factors when reviewing a motion for sanctions, including whether discovery has been conducted in bad faith or for an improper purpose such as causing unnecessary delay or needless increase in the cost of the proceeding; whether the discovery process has been abused in seeking or resisting discovery; and whether parties have failed to obey Commission Orders.

b. Sanctions imposed by the Commission may include limiting or disallowing further discovery; holding that designated facts be deemed admitted for purposes of the proceeding; refusing to allow a party to support or oppose a claim or defense or prohibiting the party from introducing designated matters in evidence; disallowing in whole or in part requests for relief by the offending party and excluding evidence in support of such requests; striking pleadings or testimony; staying further proceedings until an order is obeyed; disallowing a party's right to participate in the proceeding; dismissing the application or filing with or without prejudice; requiring the offending party to pay the reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, incurred by other parties because of the sanctionable behavior; and imposing any other sanction or remedy available to the Commission by law.

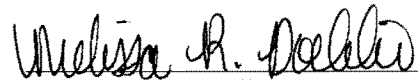
WHEREFORE, THE PREHEARING OFFICER FINDS AND CONCLUDES AS FOLLOWS:

A. This Discovery Order shall govern the handling of discovery matters in the docket.

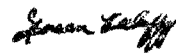
B. Parties have 15 days from the date of service of this Order in which to petition the Commission for reconsideration. K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 77-529(a)(1).

C. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and parties for the purpose of entering such further order, or orders, as it may deem necessary and proper.

Dated: March 28, 2011


Melissa R. Doebelin
Prehearing Officer

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ORDERED MAILED
MAR 28 2011
 EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

11-ITCE-644-MIS

MAR 28 2011

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Discovery Order by Prehearing Officer was served by electronic mail this 28th day of March, 2011, to the following parties who have waived receipt of follow-up hard copies:

NIKI CHRISTOPHER, ATTORNEY
CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD
1500 SW ARROWHEAD ROAD
TOPEKA, KS 66604
Fax: 785-271-3116
n.christopher@curb.kansas.gov
Hand Delivered

C. STEVEN RARRICK, ATTORNEY
CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD
1500 SW ARROWHEAD ROAD
TOPEKA, KS 66604
Fax: 785-271-3116
s.rarrick@curb.kansas.gov
Hand Delivered

DELLA SMITH
CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD
1500 SW ARROWHEAD ROAD
TOPEKA, KS 66604
Fax: 785-271-3116
d.smith@curb.kansas.gov
Hand Delivered

SHONDA SMITH
CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD
1500 SW ARROWHEAD ROAD
TOPEKA, KS 66604
Fax: 785-271-3116
sd.smith@curb.kansas.gov
Hand Delivered

DAVID SPRINGE, CONSUMER COUNSEL
CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD
1500 SW ARROWHEAD ROAD
TOPEKA, KS 66604
Fax: 785-271-3116
d.springe@curb.kansas.gov
Hand Delivered

CARL A. HUSLIG, PRESIDENT
ITC GREAT PLAINS, LLC
1100 SW WANAMAKER ROAD, SUITE 103
TOPEKA, KS 66604
Fax: 785-783-2230
chuslig@itctransco.com

BRETT D LEOPOLD, SENIOR ATTORNEY
ITC GREAT PLAINS, LLC
1100 SW WANAMAKER ROAD, SUITE 103
TOPEKA, KS 66604
bleopold@itctransco.com

ALAN K. MYERS, VICE PRESIDENT-TECHNICAL
ITC GREAT PLAINS, LLC
1100 SW WANAMAKER ROAD, SUITE 103
TOPEKA, KS 66604
amyers@itctransco.com

BRIAN THUMM, MANAGER, REGULATORY STRATEGY
ITC HOLDINGS CORP
27175 ENERGY WAY
NOVI, MI 48377-3639
bthumm@itctransco.com

JOHN R. WINE, JR.
410 NE 43RD
TOPEKA, KS 66617
Fax: 785-246-0339
jwine2@cox.net

ORDER MAILED MAR 28 2011

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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DANA BRADBURY, LITIGATION COUNSEL
KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION
1500 SW ARROWHEAD ROAD
TOPEKA, KS 66604-4027
Fax: 785-271-3167
d.bradbury@kcc.ks.gov
Hand Delivered

PATRICK T. SMITH, LITIGATION COUNSEL
KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION
1500 SW ARROWHEAD ROAD
TOPEKA, KS 66604-4027
Fax: 785-271-3167
p.smith@kcc.ks.gov
Hand Delivered

MARTIN J. BREGMAN, EXEC DIR, LAW
PRAIRIE WIND TRANSMISSION, LLC
818 S KANSAS AVENUE
PO BOX 889
TOPEKA, KS 66601-0889
Fax: 785-575-8136
marty.bregman@westarenergy.com

CATHRYN J. DINGES, CORPORATE COUNSEL
PRAIRIE WIND TRANSMISSION, LLC
818 S KANSAS AVENUE
PO BOX 889
TOPEKA, KS 66601-0889
Fax: 785-575-8136
cathy.dinges@westarenergy.com

JAMES P. ZAKOURA, ATTORNEY
SMITHYMAN & ZAKOURA, CHTD.
7400 W 110TH STREET
SUITE 750
OVERLAND PARK, KS 66210
Fax: 913-661-9863
jim@smizak-law.com

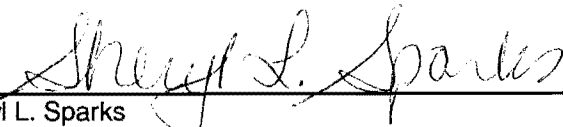
SUSAN B. CUNNINGHAM, COUNSEL
SNR DENTON US LLP
7028 SW 69TH ST
AUBURN, KS 66402-9421
Fax: 816-531-7545
susan.cunningham@snrdenton.com

ERIN E. CULLUM, ATTORNEY
SOUTHWEST POWER POOL, INC.
415 N MCKINLEY ST STE 140
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72205-3020
Fax: 501-664-9553
ecullum@spp.org

TESSIE KENTNER, ATTORNEY
SOUTHWEST POWER POOL, INC.
415 N MCKINLEY ST STE 140
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72205-3020
Fax: 501-664-9553
tkentner@spp.org

KELLY B. HARRISON, VP - TRANSMISSION &
ENVIRONMENTAL
WESTAR ENERGY, INC.
818 S KANSAS AVENUE
PO BOX 889
TOPEKA, KS 66601-0889
kelly.b.harrison@westarenergy.com

C. MICHAEL LENNEN, VP REGULATORY AFFAIRS
WESTAR ENERGY, INC.
818 S KANSAS AVENUE
PO BOX 889
TOPEKA, KS 66601-0889
Fax: 785-575-8119
michael.lennen@westarenergy.com



Sheryl L. Sparks
Administrative Specialist

ORDER ^eMAILED MAR 28 2011
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