THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

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Mark Sievers, Chairman

Ward Loyd

Thomas E. Wright

In the Matter of a General Investigation of)	
Energy-Efficiency Policies for Utility)	Docket No. 12-GIMX-337-GIV
Sponsored Energy-Efficiency Programs.)	

PREHEARING OFFICER ORDER GRANTING INTERVENTION TO BLACK HILLS ENERGY

The above-captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) for consideration and decision. On November 9, 2011, the Commission designated Melissa Doeblin, Advisory Counsel, to act as Prehearing Officer in this proceeding. Order Opening Docket, Setting Prehearing Conference and Appointing Prehearing Officer, November 9, 2011, paragraph 5 (November 9, 2011 Order, ¶ 5). Having reviewed the files and records, and being duly advised in the premises, the Prehearing Officer makes the following findings:

- 1. On November 9, 2011, the Commission opened this general investigation docket to investigate the need for clarification to the Commission's previous orders in Docket Nos. 08-GIMX-441-GIV (441 Docket) and 08-GIMX-442-GIV (442 Docket). Parties to both dockets were sent notice of this general investigation. Those parties wishing to intervene in the present docket are required to file a petition to intervene on or before November 29, 2011. November 9, 2011 Order, ¶ 6.
- 2. Black Hills Energy (Black Hills), a party to the 441 and 442 Dockets, filed a Petition to Intervene with the Commission on November 17, 2011, requesting leave to intervene in this proceeding. Petition to Intervene, November 17, 2011, paragraph 3 (Black Hills Petition,

- ¶ 3). In its petition, Black Hills stated it is a natural gas public utility operating in the state of Kansas pursuant to certificates of convenience and necessity issued by the Commission. Black Hills Petition, ¶ 1. Its principal place of business in the state of Kansas is located at 110 East 9th Street, Lawrence, Kansas 66044. Black Hills Petition, ¶ 1. Black Hills requests permission to intervene to represent the interests of its customers in Kansas, which it states are not adequately represented by existing parties, and since the Commission may issue an Order that will apply to Black Hills. Black Hills Petition, ¶¶ 4-5.
- 3. The Commission has broad discretion to grant a petition for intervention if it is in the interests of justice, if the intervention will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceeding, and if the party has stated facts demonstrating its legal rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other legal interests may be substantially affected by the proceeding. K.S.A. 77-521(b); K.A.R. 82-1-225(b). At any time during a proceeding, the Commission may impose limitations on an intervener's participation. K.S.A. 77-521(c).
- 4. The Prehearing Officer finds and concludes that Black Hills has met the requirements of K.A.R. 82-1-225 and should be granted intervention. Black Hills will be added to the mailing list, service of pleadings, communications, and correspondence should be delivered to counsel of record, as follows:

James G. Flaherty # 11177 Anderson & Byrd, LLP 216 S. Hickory, P.O. Box 17 Ottawa, Kansas 66067 (785) 242-1234 (785) 242-1279 Fax jflaherty@andersonbyrd.com

5. In addition to the counsel of record for Black Hills listed above, the service of notices, pleadings, and correspondence should be delivered to Black Hills' other designees:

Margaret A. McGill Regulatory Manager Black Hills Energy 1102 East 1st Street Papillion, Nebraska 68046 margaret.mcgill@blackhillscorp.com

Matthew Daunis
Director, Energy Efficiency Programs
Black Hills Energy
110 E 9th Street
Lawrence, KS 66044
matt.daunis@blackhillscorp.com

WHEREFORE, THE PREHEARING OFFICER FINDS AND CONCLUDES AS FOLLOWS:

- A. Black Hills Energy is granted intervention in the above-captioned proceeding. Counsel of record for the petitioner, and its other designees, shall receive service of all pleadings in this matter, as set forth above.
- B. Parties have 15 days, plus three days if service of this Order is by mail, 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: NOWINDER 28, 2011

Melissa R. Doeblin Prehearing Officer

mch/mrd

ORDER MAILED NOV 2 8 2011

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

NOV 2 8 2011

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I, the undersigned, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Prehearing Officer Order Granting Intervention to Black Hills Energy was placed in the United States mail, postage prepaid, or hand-delivered this 28th day of November, 2011, to the following:

JAMES G. FLAHERTY, ATTORNEY ANDERSON & BYRD, L.L.P. 216 SOUTH HICKORY PO BOX 17 OTTAWA, KS 66067 Fax: 785-242-1279 iflaherty@andersonbyrd.com

JAMES W. BARTLING, MGR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION 25090 W 110TH TERR OLATHE, KS 66061 Fax: 913-768-4924 james.bartling@atmosenergy.com

KAREN P WILKES
ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION
1555 BLAKE ST 400
DENVER, CO 80202
karen.wilkes@atmosenergy.com

tipemberton@sbcglobal.net

MARGARET A (MEG) MCGILL, REGULATORY MANAGER
BLACK HILLS/KANSAS GAS UTILITY COMPANY, LLC
D/B/A BLACK HILLS ENERGY
BLACK HILLS ENERGY
1102 EAST 1st STREET
PAPILLION, NE 68046
Fax: 402-221-2501
margaret.mcgill@blackhillscorp.com
TERRI PEMBERTON, ATTORNEY
CAFER LAW OFFICE, L.L.C.
3321 SW 6TH STREET
TOPEKA, KS 66606
Fax: 785-233-3040

JAMES PRICE
ATMOS ENERGY
PO BOX 650205
5430 LBJ FREEWAY, THREE LINCOLN CENTRE
DALLAS, TX 75265-0205
james.price@atmosenergy.com

GARY MILLIGAN, SALES MGR - KS REGION ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION 25090 W 110TH TERRACE OLATHE, KS 66061 gary.milligan@atmosenergy.com

MATTHEW DAUNIS, DIRECTOR, ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS BLACK HILLS/KANSAS GAS UTILITY COMPANY, LLC D/B/A BLACK HILLS ENERGY 110 E 9TH LAWRENCE, KS 66044 matt.daunis@blackhillscorp.com

GLENDA CAFER, ATTORNEY CAFER LAW OFFICE, L.L.C. 3321SW 6TH STREET TOPEKA, KS 66606 Fax: 785-233-3040 gcafer@sbcglobal.net

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***

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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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***

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

W. SCOTT KEITH, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND REGULATORY EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY 602 S JOPLIN AVE (64801) PO BOX 127 JOPLIN, MO 64802 Fax: 417-625-5169 skeith@empiredistrict.com

DENISE M. BUFFINGTON, CORPORATE COUNSEL KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY ONE KANSAS CITY PLACE 1200 MAIN STREET (64105) P.O. BOX 418679 KANSAS CITY, MO 64141-9679 Fax: 816-556-2787 denise.buffington@kcpl.com

MATTHEW SPURGIN, ASSISTANT LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD ROAD TOPEKA, KS 66604-4027 Fax: 785-271-3167 m.spurgin@kcc.ks.gov ***Hand Delivered****

CATHRYN J. DINGES, CORPORATE COUNSEL WESTAR ENERGY, INC. 818 S KANSAS AVENUE PO BOX 889 TOPEKA, KS 66601-0889 Fax: 785-575-8136 cathy.dinges@westarenergy.com DELLA SMITH
CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD
1500 SW ARROWHEAD ROAD
TOPEKA, KS 66604
Fax: 785-271-3116
d.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

TODD W. TARTER
EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY
602 S JOPLIN AVE (64801)
PO BOX 127
JOPLIN, MO 64802
Fax: 417-625-5169
ttarter@empiredistrict.com

MARY TURNER, DIRECTOR, REGULATORY AFFAIRS KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY ONE KANSAS CITY PLACE 1200 MAIN STREET (64105) P.O. BOX 418679 KANSAS CITY, MO 64141-9679 Fax: 816-556-2110 mary.turner@kcpl.com

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

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Sheryl L. Sparks
Administrative Specialist