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DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
LARRY W. LOOS
KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
DOCKET NO. 12-KCPE-764RTS

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

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

LARRY W. LOOS

**ON BEHALF OF
KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
TO MODIFY ITS TARIFFS TO CONTINUE THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS REGULATORY PLAN**

DOCKET NO. 12-KCPE-____-RTS

1 **I. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW**

2 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

3 A. My name is Larry W. Loos. My address is 42830 W. Kingfisher Drive, Maricopa,
4 Arizona 85138.

5 **Q. What is your occupation?**

6 A. Prior to my retirement from full-time employment in May 2011, Black & Veatch
7 Corporation (Black & Veatch) employed me for 41 years. While at Black & Veatch, I
8 served in the Company's Management Consulting Division as an engineer, project
9 engineer, project manager, partner, vice president, and director. In this engagement, I
10 serve as a consultant and independent contractor to Black & Veatch.

11 **Q. For whom are you testifying in this matter?**

12 A. I am testifying on behalf of Kansas City Power & Light Company ("KCP&L" or the
13 "Company").

1 **Q. What is the purpose of your direct testimony?**

2 A. In this case, I will be recommending the basis for allocating capacity-related costs among
3 the Company's jurisdictions. Specifically, I will focus on whether the 12 monthly
4 coincident peak demands ("12CP") or the 4 monthly coincident peak demands ("4CP") is
5 the more appropriate allocation methodology to allocate capacity-related costs between
6 the Company's Kansas and Missouri customers. My conclusion is that the 4CP is the
7 more appropriate allocation methodology for KCP&L. This allocation change represents
8 an increase in revenue requirement of \$10.4 million, as set forth in the testimony of
9 Company witness, Mr. John Weisensee.

10 **Q. Have you previously submitted testimony on behalf of KCP&L regarding this issue?**

11 A. Yes, I have. I addressed this issue as well as other jurisdictional allocation issues in
12 KCP&L's prior rate case, Docket No. 10-KCPE-415-RTS ("415 Docket"), before this
13 Commission. I also addressed jurisdictional allocation issues in KCP&L's rate cases
14 before the Missouri Public Service Commission, Case Nos. ER-2009-0089 and ER-2010-
15 0355.

16 **Q. What is your educational background?**

17 A. I am a graduate of the University of Missouri at Columbia, with a Bachelor of Science
18 Degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Masters Degree in Business Administration.

19 **Q. Are you a registered professional engineer?**

20 A. No, currently I am not registered.

21 **Q. To what professional organizations do you belong?**

22 A. I am a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the Society of
23 Depreciation Professionals.

1 **Q. What is your professional experience?**

2 A. I have been responsible for numerous engagements involving electric, gas, and other
3 utility services. Clients served include both investor-owned and publicly owned utilities;
4 customers of such utilities; and regulatory agencies. During the course of these
5 engagements, I have been responsible for the preparation and presentation of studies
6 involving cost classification, cost allocation, cost of service, allocation, rate design,
7 pricing, financial feasibility, weather normalization, normal degree-days, cost of capital,
8 valuation, depreciation, and other engineering, economic and management matters.

9 **Q. Please describe Black & Veatch.**

10 A. Black & Veatch has provided comprehensive construction, engineering, consulting, and
11 management services to utility, industrial, and governmental clients since 1915. The
12 Company specializes in engineering and construction associated with utility services
13 including electric, gas, water, wastewater, telecommunications, and waste disposal.
14 Service engagements consist principally of investigations and reports, design and
15 construction, feasibility analyses, cost studies, rate and financial reports, valuation and
16 depreciation studies, reports on operations, management studies, and general consulting
17 services. Present engagements include work throughout the United States and numerous
18 foreign countries. Including professionals assigned to affiliated companies, Black &
19 Veatch currently employs approximately 9,000 people.

20 **Q. Have you previously appeared as an expert witness?**

21 A. Yes, I have. I have presented expert witness testimony before this Commission (“KCC”
22 or “Commission”) on a number of occasions. I have also testified before the Federal
23 Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”) and regulatory bodies in the states of

1 Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, North
2 Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, and Wyoming. I have
3 also presented expert witness testimony before courts in Colorado, Iowa, Kansas,
4 Missouri, and Nebraska; and before the Courts of Condemnation in Iowa and Nebraska. I
5 have also served as a special advisor to the Connecticut Department of Public Utility
6 Control.

7 **II. BACKGROUND ON KCP&L'S ALLOCATION METHODOLOGY**

8 **Q. What methodology has KCP&L historically used to allocate capacity-related costs**
9 **to its Kansas customers?**

10 A. KCP&L has been using the 12CP method.

11 **Q. Does the stipulation and agreement approved by the Commission in Docket No. 04-**
12 **KCPE-1025-GIE ("1025 S&A") provide that the parties agree to use the 12CP**
13 **method to allocate capacity costs to the Kansas jurisdiction during the term of that**
14 **agreement?**

15 A. Yes, it does. I understand that the 415 Docket was the final rate case controlled by the
16 1025 S&A and that KCP&L's filings in this and future rate filings are not subject to that
17 agreement.

18 **Q. In your testimony in the 415 Docket, what jurisdictional allocation basis did you**
19 **indicate that you would recommend to the Commission in this case?**

20 A. I indicated that I planned to recommend in this case a jurisdictional allocation that
21 includes the following:

22 1) Allocate capacity-related power supply costs based on each jurisdiction's contribution
23 to the four summer month coincident peak demands (4CP).

- 1 2) Classify and allocate the margin associated with off-system sales in the same manner
2 as the fixed costs associated with KCP&L's generating resources used to generate the
3 energy sold off-system.
- 4 3) Classify production costs related to environmental protection and control as energy-
5 related and allocate accordingly.
- 6 4) Classify boiler maintenance expense excluding KCP&L labor as energy-related and
7 allocate accordingly.
- 8 5) Classify and allocate transmission system costs on the same basis as the classification
9 and allocation of fixed production related costs.

10 I made these recommendations in the Company's 2009 and 2010 Missouri rate cases
11 (Case Nos. ER-2009-0089 and ER-2010-0355, respectively). These cases were settled
12 without the Missouri Commission specifically addressing jurisdictional allocation issues.

13 **Q. Are your recommendations in this case the same as those you indicated to the**
14 **Commission that you planned to make?**

15 A. No, they are not. The Company decided not to address jurisdictional allocation issues in
16 its current Missouri rate case. The Company asked that in this Kansas case, I limit my
17 recommendation to the appropriate basis (4CP or 12CP) to allocate capacity-related costs
18 among jurisdictions.

19 **Q. How have capacity-related costs been allocated to KCP&L's Missouri customers in**
20 **KCP&L's prior rate cases in Missouri?**

21 A. Historically, Missouri has used a 4CP allocator.

1 **Q. Does use of the different allocation factors in the Kansas and Missouri jurisdictions**
2 **result in any problem?**

3 A. Yes, it does. For multi-jurisdictional utilities, the use of different jurisdictional allocation
4 bases usually results in the company either not recovering its entire revenue requirement
5 or over recovering its revenue requirement. This result (over- or under-recovery) is
6 determined through the consequences of the actions of the Commissions. In KCP&L's
7 situation, the Company does not recover its entire revenue requirement because of the use
8 of different allocation bases in each of its jurisdictions, including different capacity cost
9 allocators.

10 The Kansas jurisdiction operates at a lower load factor than the other jurisdictions
11 (Missouri and FERC). A 12CP capacity (demand) allocator will nearly always allocate
12 lower cost to the lower load factor jurisdiction than use of a 4CP allocator. For example,
13 the capacity cost responsibility for the Kansas jurisdiction amounts to 46.86 percent using
14 a 4CP allocator whereas the cost responsibility for the Kansas jurisdiction amounts to
15 45.64 percent using a 12CP allocator. Thus, the lower cost allocated to the Kansas
16 jurisdiction by using the 12CP allocator amounts to 1.22 percent of capacity-related cost.

17 Conversely, the Missouri jurisdiction operates at a higher load factor than the other
18 jurisdictions (Kansas and FERC). A 12CP capacity (demand) allocator will nearly
19 always allocate more cost to the higher load factor jurisdiction than use of a 4CP
20 allocator. For example, the capacity cost responsibility for the Missouri jurisdiction
21 amounts to 53.69 percent using a 12CP allocator whereas the cost responsibility for the
22 Missouri jurisdiction amounts to 52.49 percent using a 4CP allocator. Thus, the lower

1 cost allocated to the Missouri jurisdiction by using the 4CP allocator amounts to
2 1.20 percent of capacity-related cost.

3 Thus, the implication of using the 12CP allocator in Kansas and using the 4CP
4 allocator in Missouri is KCP&L's failure to recover from retail customers about
5 1.2 percent of its capacity-related costs.

6 **Q. How do you organize the balance of your direct testimony?**

7 A. The sole issue that I address is whether the 4CP or 12CP allocation basis is more
8 appropriate for KCP&L. I will describe the analyses that I rely on to determine that
9 KCP&L has a dominant summer peak and thus the more appropriate basis to allocate
10 capacity-related costs is the 4CP allocator. In this regard, I will analyze:

- 11 1) Monthly system peak demands for the calendar years 2006 through 2011;
- 12 2) Hourly load for calendar year 2011;
- 13 3) Monthly coincident demands by jurisdiction for calendar year 2011;
- 14 4) Monthly system peak demands for the calendar years 2006 through 2011 by season;
- 15 and
- 16 5) Various system demand tests relied on by the FERC.

17 **Q. Do you sponsor any Schedules?**

18 A. Yes, I do. I sponsor the following Schedules:

- 19 ■ Schedule LWL-1 – Monthly System Peak Demands (2006-11)
- 20 ■ Schedule LWL-2 – Monthly System Peak Demands versus System Hourly Load
21 (2011)
- 22 ■ Schedule LWL-3 – Monthly Coincidental Peak Demands by Jurisdiction (2011)
- 23 ■ Schedule LWL-4 – Monthly System Peak Demands by Season (2006-11)

- 1 ▪ Schedule LWL-5 – Chapter 5 of A Guide to FERC Regulation and Rate Making of
- 2 Electric Utilities and Other Power Suppliers
- 3 ▪ Schedule LWL-6 – Excerpts from FERC Opinion No. 501
- 4 ▪ Schedule LWL-7 - FERC System Demand Tests

III. HISTORICAL MONTHLY SYSTEM PEAK DEMANDS

5 **Q. Have you evaluated the merits of KCP&L using a 4CP versus a 12CP allocator?**

6 A. Yes, I have. I prepared Schedules LWL-1 through LWL-7 to aid in evaluating the merits
7 of alternative measures of maximum demand. I refer to the 4CP and 12CP allocators as
8 measures of maximum demand.

9 **Q. Please describe Schedule LWL-1**

10 A. Schedule LWL-1 consists of a single sheet that shows monthly maximum system
11 demands for the 2006 through 2011 calendar years. In Lines 1 through 13, I show the
12 monthly system demands. In Lines 14 through 26, I show the rank for each month
13 relative to the other months in that year. In Lines 27 through 39, I show for each month,
14 the ratio of that month’s peak demand to the annual system demand.

15 In Columns B through G, I show monthly data for the 2006 through 2011 calendar
16 years. In Column H, I show the median value over the six-year period. In Columns I and
17 J, I show the six-year minimums and maximums.

18 **Q. Do you have any observations based on examination of the information you show in**
19 **Schedule LWL-1?**

20 A. Yes, I do. My observations are:

- 1 1) Clearly, any measure of maximum demand must include July and August because
2 with one exception (2009) demands in these two months exceed all other monthly
3 demands. In 2009, June had the highest demand of the year.¹
- 4 2) To a lesser degree, coincidental demands in June, and to a somewhat lesser degree
5 September, can reasonably be included as measures of maximum demand. With one
6 exception (September 2009) during the six-year period (2006 – 2011), the four
7 highest monthly demands occurred during the June through September period.
8 Demands for the three months, June through August, exceed, without exception,
9 90 percent of the annual system peak. With one exception (September 2009), the
10 demand reported for September exceeds 80 percent of the annual system peak
11 demand. Demand in no other month exceeds 80 percent of system peak demand
12 during the six-year period.
- 13 3) The maximum coincident demands during the winter months (December, January,
14 and February) generally rank as the sixth through eighth highest monthly demands
15 during the year. Maximum demands during these winter months are generally 25 to
16 35 percent less than the maximum annual demand.
- 17 4) Demands during the spring and fall months (March, April, October, and November)
18 are considerably below demands during the winter and summer, and with two
19 exceptions (November 2006 and October 2007) have the four lowest monthly
20 maximum demands during the year. Maximum demands during these four spring and
21 fall months are generally 35 to 45 percent less than the maximum annual demand.

¹ Note that over the six-year period the lowest monthly demand for the months of February, May and July through November occurred in 2009.

1 5) Demands during the month of May are usually the fifth or sixth highest of the year
2 and are generally 20 to 30 percent below the system annual demand. In many
3 respects, the load levels exhibited in May are similar to loads during the three winter
4 months. However, considering climate conditions in the Kansas City area, the load
5 characteristics in May are more closely aligned with the spring and summer months
6 than with the winter months. Therefore, for analysis purposes, I will include May
7 with the other spring months.

8 **Q. What conclusions do you reach based on your observations of the data set forth in**
9 **Schedule LWL-1?**

10 A. For purposes of analyzing monthly system peak demands, there are three periods of
11 analysis. The maximum demands occur in the summer months of June through
12 September. The lowest demands occur during the spring and fall months (March, April,
13 May, October, and November). Demands during the winter months (December, January,
14 and February) fall someplace in between.

15 **IV. ANALYSIS OF HOURLY LOADS**

16 **Q. Please describe Schedule LWL-2.**

17 A. Schedule LWL-2 is a single page and shows a summary comparison of 2011 monthly
18 system peak demands with hourly demands.

19 In Column A, I show the date and time of the monthly system peak demands ranked
20 from highest to lowest. For example, the maximum annual demand occurred at 16:00 on
21 August 1, whereas the second highest monthly demand occurred at 16:00 on July 27.

22 In Column D, I show the ratio of the monthly system peak demand to the annual
23 system peak.

1 In Columns E, F, and G, I show the number of hours during the summer, winter, and
2 other months that hourly load equals or exceeds the level shown for the maximum in
3 Column C. For example, during the summer months, in only one hour did the system
4 hourly load equal or exceed the annual system peak demand of 3,689 MW recorded at
5 16:00 on August 1. On the other hand, the lowest monthly system peak demand of
6 1,882 MW (reported at 16:00 on April 10) was equaled or exceeded 1,811 hours during
7 the four summer months; 1,051 hours during the three winter months; and 350 hours
8 during the five other months.

9 In Lines 14 through 20, I show similar information regarding the number of hours
10 that hourly load equaled or exceeded accredited base load capacity. In Lines 22 through
11 26, I show the months that are included in each period.

12 **Q. What observation do you make on examination of Schedule LWL-2?**

13 A. The information on Schedule LWL-2 shows conclusively the dominance of KCP&L's
14 summer peak demands. As shown, during 2011, hourly loads during the summer months
15 equaled or exceeded the maximum load in the non-summer months (May - 2,828 MW)
16 during 469 hours. These 469 hours represent 16 percent of the hours during the summer
17 period and over 5 percent of the annual hours.

18 Hourly loads during the summer months equaled or exceeded the maximum monthly
19 demand occurring during the winter months (February 8 - 2,646 MW) during 668 hours,
20 whereas during the other months (May) this level was exceeded during only 10 hours.

21 When compared to the maximum monthly demand occurring during the spring and
22 fall months, other than May (October 7 - 2,107 MW), hourly loads during the summer
23 months equaled or exceeded 2,107 MW during 1,417 hours, or about 48 percent of the

1 time. During the winter months, hourly loads equaled or exceeded the 2,107 MW
2 October monthly maximum, during 406 hours (14 percent of the time).

3 **Q. How do hourly loads compare to the Company's accredited capacity?**

4 A. As I show in Line 18, the Company has accredited base load capacity of 3,263 MW
5 (88.45 percent of 2011 maximum annual demand). During the summer, monthly hourly
6 load equaled or exceeded this 3,263 MW level during 146 hours. Hourly load never
7 exceeded this level in any month other than during the four summer months.

8 As I show in Line 20, considering the maintenance requirement associated with the
9 Company's largest base load unit, the Company has capacity totaling 2,700 MW or about
10 73 percent of annual system demand. During the four summer months, the hourly load
11 exceeded this level during 611 hours (21 percent of the time). Other than during the
12 four summer months, this level was exceeded during only 7 hours in the month of May.

13 **Q. What conclusions do you reach based on examination of Schedule LWL-2?**

14 A. As with Schedule LWL-1, the inescapable conclusion is that any measure of maximum
15 demand reasonably includes the four summer months of June through September.
16 Further, due to the dominance of load levels during these four summer months any
17 reasonable measure of maximum demand does not include demands during other months.

18 **V. JURISDICTIONAL LOAD LEVELS**

19 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE SCHEDULE LWL-3.**

20 A. Schedule LWL-3 consists of a single sheet that shows each jurisdiction's contribution to
21 the 2011 monthly maximum demands.

22 In Lines 1 through 13, I show monthly coincident demands in the same order that I
23 show in Schedule LWL-2. In Lines 14 through 26, I show averages over various periods.

1 In Lines 27 through 39, I show average monthly deliveries, and in Lines 40 through 53,
2 monthly and annual load factors.

3 **Q. What observation do you make on examination of Schedule LWL-3?**

4 A. In this Schedule, I focus on monthly load factors. System load factor during the four
5 summer months falls below 71.33 percent. The system load factor for these four summer
6 months is less than for any other month except for May. This same relationship generally
7 holds for both the Kansas and Missouri jurisdictions.

8 Based on these load factors, I again believe that the measure of maximum demand
9 reasonably includes the four summer months. Maximum demands in the non-summer
10 months do not reasonably belong with the four summer months.

11 **VI. MONTHLY SYSTEM PEAK DEMANDS BY SEASON**

12 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE SCHEDULE LWL-4.**

13 A. Schedule LWL-4 consists of a single sheet that shows monthly system peak demands by
14 season for the 2006 through 2011 calendar years. The data shown in this Schedule is
15 similar to that shown in Schedule 1, except the order in which I present the data, reflects
16 the grouping of the monthly data as I described previously.

17 In Lines 1 through 17, I show monthly maximum demands. In Lines 18 through 34, I
18 show the ratio of the monthly maximum demand to the annual maximum. In Lines 35
19 through 52, I show monthly average demands and in Lines 53 through 70, I show
20 monthly load factors. In Lines 14 through 17, 31 through 34, 48 through 51, and 66
21 through 69, I show averages for the four summer months, the three winter months, the
22 five spring and fall months, and the five spring and fall months excluding May. In Lines
23 52 and 70, I show annual averages.

1 In Columns C through H, I show data for each of the calendar years 2006 through
2 2011. In Column I, I show the average over the six-year period.

3 **Q. What observation do you make on examination of Schedule LWL-4?**

4 A. As with Schedules LWL-1, LWL-2, and LWL-3, examination of Schedule LWL-4 leads
5 to the inescapable conclusion that the dominance of the summer period demands requires
6 a measure of capacity responsibility that reflects conditions during the summer period
7 (4CP). Measures of capacity responsibility that include the implications of the other
8 months (12CP) are not appropriate. For example:

- 9 ■ During the four summer months, the average (six-year) monthly maximum demand
10 amounts to over 92 percent of the annual maximum (Line 31, Column I).
- 11 ■ During the three summer months (June through August), the monthly maximum
12 demand exceeds 90 percent of the maximum annual demand (Lines 19 through 21,
13 Columns C through H).
- 14 ■ With the exception of September 2009, the maximum demand in September exceeds
15 81 percent of the system annual demand (Line 22). In 2011, the maximum demand in
16 September amounts to nearly 95 percent of the maximum annual demand.
- 17 ■ During the three winter months, the monthly maximum demands never exceed
18 78 percent of the annual maximum and on only 4 occasions (December 2008 and
19 2009 and January 2009 and 2010) exceed 75 percent of annual maximum demand
20 (Lines 23 through 25).
- 21 ■ Monthly demands (six-year average) during the three winter months are over
22 29 percent less than the annual maximum demand (Column I, Line 32).

- 1 ▪ On average, monthly demands during the five spring and fall months are over
2 37 percent less than the annual maximum demand (Line 33, Column I).

3 The data I show in this Schedule again demonstrate that KCP&L is clearly a summer
4 peaking utility. Summer demands dominate. As a result, the only reasonable measure of
5 maximum demand is demands during the summer months. As an indication of the
6 dominance of demands during the summer months, over the six-year period the monthly
7 demand during July and August exceeds the maximum demand during March, April, and
8 October.

9 **VII. FERC SYSTEM DEMAND TESTS**

10 **Q. Has the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) provided any guidance**
11 **regarding the appropriate measure of peak period responsibility to use in the**
12 **allocation of capacity cost?**

13 A. Yes, FERC has addressed this issue on a number of occasions. In Schedule LWL-5, I
14 have included a copy of Chapter 5 of a publication authored by Michael E. Small entitled
15 *A Guide to FERC Regulation and Ratemaking of Electric Utilities and Other Power*
16 *Suppliers* Third Edition (1994). As shown in this material the FERC has used a variety
17 of tests, in a number of cases, to decide the issue of whether to use the 12CP or 4CP (and
18 on occasion 3CP) method. In Schedule LWL-6, I have included excerpts from FERC
19 Opinion No. 501 (123 FERC ¶ 61,047) which sets forth an even more definitive criteria
20 for use of the tests set forth in Schedule LWL-5.

1 **Q. What criteria does FERC rely on to determine the appropriate manner in which to**
2 **allocate capacity cost?**

3 A. FERC has generally found that if a utility's system demand (monthly peak demand) is
4 relatively flat from month to month, the use of a 12CP allocator is appropriate.
5 Conversely, if the "utility experiences a pronounced peak during "one, three, or four
6 consecutive months, then under FERC precedent use of another CP method would be
7 supported." As I have previously demonstrated, KCP&L experiences a pronounced peak
8 during the summer period. With this pronounced peak, use of 12CP is not appropriate.

9 **Q. Does Mr. Small identify tests that the FERC has relied on to determine whether a**
10 **utility has a pronounced peak demand?**

11 A. Yes, he did. Examination of the material I have included in Schedule LWL-5 indicates
12 four different tests. The tests identified that FERC has relied are:

- 13 ■ Test 1 - Difference between 1) the average of the system peaks during the purported
14 peak period divided by the annual peak and 2) the average of the system peaks during
15 the purported off-peak period divided by the annual peak.
- 16 ■ Test 2 - The lowest monthly peak divided by the annual peak.
- 17 ■ Test 3 - The average of the twelve monthly peaks divided by annual peak.
- 18 ■ Supplemental Test - The extent to which peak demands in the purported non-peak
19 months exceed the peak demands during the purported peak months.

20 **Q. Have you evaluated KCP&L's demands using these various tests?**

21 A. Yes, I have. I show the results of my analyses in Schedule LWL-7.

1 **Q. Please describe Schedule LWL-7.**

2 A. Schedule LWL-7 consists of a single sheet in which I evaluate KCP&L's monthly system
3 peaks using each of the four tests identified by Mr. Small. In Lines 1 through 14, I show
4 monthly maximum demands and the average of the monthly maximum demands. Unlike
5 Schedules LWL-2 through LWL-4, the order in which I show the monthly maximum
6 demands correspond to the calendar months, January through December. In Lines 15
7 through 27, I show the average of monthly peak demands over various assumed peak
8 periods and the corresponding assumed off-peak period. I also show the ratio of the
9 assumed off-peak period divided by the assumed peak period. Beginning in Line 28, I
10 show the calculation of the various test identified by Mr. Small.

11 In Columns B through G, I show data and analyses for each year 2006 through 2011.
12 In Column H, I show the median for the six-year period and in Columns I and J, the
13 minimum and maximum.

14 **Q. Please describe Test 1.**

15 A. Test 1 is the difference between the ratio of the average purported peak period demands
16 divided by the annual peak less the ratio of the average of the purported off-peak period
17 demands divided by the annual peak. FERC has held that large differences support use of
18 something other than the 12CP method. As I show in Line 37, assuming a 3-month peak
19 period (June through August) the median of this difference amounts to 28.45 percent and
20 ranges from 26.87 percent to 30.18 percent. In Line 40, I show that assuming a 4-month
21 peak period the median difference amounts to 26.87 percent and ranges from

1 22.61 percent to 33.33 percent. As shown in Schedule LWL-5, FERC has found that
2 differences above 20 percent support use of a method other than 12CP.²

3 Thus, for KCP&L, FERC Test 1 without question supports use of some method other
4 than the 12CP method.

5 **Q. Please describe Test 2.**

6 A. Test 2 is the ratio of the lowest monthly peak demand divided by the maximum annual
7 peak. FERC has found that the higher this ratio the greater the support for the 12CP. As
8 I show in Schedule LWL-6, over the six-year period, the median of this ratio amounts to
9 56.09 percent (Line 46, Column H) and ranges from 51.02 to nearly 59.55 percent. Of the
10 14 cases cited by Mr. Small, in all cases with a ratio in excess of 70 percent the FERC
11 found the 12CP method appropriate.³ With one exception, all cases with a ratio of less
12 than 70 percent the FERC found the 3CP or 4CP method appropriate. That one exception
13 relates to an Illinois Power case in which the Test 1 difference amounted to 19 percent
14 and the Test 2 ratio to 66 percent. In that case the FERC found use of the 12CP method
15 appropriate.

16 Thus, for KCP&L, FERC Test 2 without question supports use of some method other
17 than the 12CP method.

18 **Q. Please describe Test 3.**

19 A. Test 3 is the average of the 12-monthly peak demands as a percentage of maximum
20 annual demand. As shown in Line 55, during the six-year period, this ratio ranged from

² In Opinion No. 501 (Schedule LWL-6), FERC shows that the 12CP is appropriate when this ratio is equal to or less than 19 percent.

³ In Opinion No. 501 (Schedule LWL-6), FERC shows that the 12CP is appropriate when this ratio is equal to or greater than 66 percent.

1 73.68 to 75.49 percent. FERC has generally found that where this percentage is below
2 81 percent something other than the 12CP method should be used.⁴

3 Thus according to FERC Test 3, the 12CP method should not be used.

4 **Q. Please describe what you refer to in Schedule LWL-7 as the Supplemental Test.**

5 A. Another test Mr. Small identifies is the extent to which monthly system peak demands in
6 the “non-peak” months exceed system peaks during the “peak” months. As I show in
7 Line 51 of Schedule LWL-7, if the four summer months are considered the peak period,
8 on three occasions in 2009, monthly “off-peak” demands exceed monthly “peak” period
9 demands. The three months of December, January, and February 2009 exceed the
10 maximum demand for September 2009. The maximum demand for September 2009 was
11 about 600 MW below the six-year median for September and over 550 MW below the
12 second lowest demand during the 2006 through 2011 period. Clearly, the maximum
13 demand for September 2009 does not represent normal conditions.

14 Thus for KCP&L, this supplemental test supports use of the 4CP method.

15 **Q. Based on examination of the data set forth in Schedule LWL-7, what do you
16 conclude?**

17 A. Based on the tests set forth in various FERC orders, without question the 12CP method is
18 not appropriate for use to allocate capacity costs among the jurisdictions served by
19 KCP&L. I therefore recommend that the Commission order the Company use the four
20 (4) coincidental peak demands during the months of June through September to allocate
21 capacity costs among jurisdictions.

⁴ In Opinion No. 501 (Schedule LWL-6), FERC shows that the 12CP is appropriate when this ratio is equal to or greater than 81 percent.

1 **Q. What are the implications of using a 4CP to allocate capacity costs among**
2 **jurisdictions?**

3 A. Mr. Weisensee informs me that changing the capacity cost allocator from 12CP to 4CP
4 results in an increase in costs allocated to the Kansas jurisdiction of \$10.4 million.

5 **Q. Does this conclude your prepared direct testimony?**

6 A. Yes, it does.

Kansas City Power Light Company
Monthly System Peak Demands
2006 - 2011 Calendar Years

	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]	[J]
Line No.	Description	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Median	Minimum	Maximum
		MW	MW	MW	MW	MW	MW	MW	MW	MW
1	Monthly System Peak Demands - MW									
2	January	2,550	2,588	2,522	2,631	2,811	2,548	2,569	2,522	2,811
3	February	2,438	2,425	2,473	2,390	2,445	2,646	2,441	2,390	2,646
4	March	2,187	2,197	2,209	2,235	2,113	2,058	2,192	2,058	2,235
5	April	2,110	2,301	1,957	2,031	2,018	1,882	2,025	1,882	2,301
6	May	2,564	2,761	2,625	2,363	2,825	2,828	2,693	2,363	2,828
7	June	3,267	3,431	3,195	3,448	3,398	3,377	3,388	3,195	3,448
8	July	3,609	3,689	3,428	3,182	3,412	3,593	3,511	3,182	3,689
9	August	3,480	3,436	3,495	3,238	3,603	3,689	3,487	3,238	3,689
10	September	2,970	3,243	2,924	2,389	2,947	3,491	2,959	2,389	3,491
11	October	2,392	2,552	1,981	1,937	2,086	2,107	2,097	1,937	2,552
12	November	2,505	2,239	2,150	2,071	2,220	2,080	2,185	2,071	2,505
13	December	2,623	2,443	2,670	2,620	2,442	2,316	2,532	2,316	2,670
14	Monthly System Peak Demands - Rank									
15	January	7	6	7	4	6	7	6	4	7
16	February	9	9	8	6	7	6	8	6	9
17	March	11	12	9	9	10	11	9	9	12
18	April	12	10	12	11	12	12	12	10	12
19	May	6	5	6	8	5	5	5	5	8
20	June	3	3	3	1	3	4	3	1	4
21	July	1	1	2	3	2	2	1	1	3
22	August	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	2
23	September	4	4	4	7	4	3	4	3	7
24	October	10	7	11	12	11	9	11	7	12
25	November	8	11	10	10	9	10	10	8	11
26	December	5	8	5	5	8	8	7	5	8
27	Monthly System Peak Demands - Percent of Maximum Annual									
28	January	70.66%	70.15%	72.16%	76.31%	78.02%	69.07%	71.41%	69.07%	78.02%
29	February	67.54%	65.72%	70.76%	69.32%	67.86%	71.73%	68.59%	65.72%	71.73%
30	March	60.60%	59.55%	63.20%	64.82%	58.65%	55.79%	60.07%	55.79%	64.82%
31	April	58.46%	62.36%	55.99%	58.90%	56.01%	51.02%	57.24%	51.02%	62.36%
32	May	71.04%	74.83%	75.11%	68.53%	78.41%	76.66%	74.97%	68.53%	78.41%
33	June	90.51%	93.00%	91.42%	100.00%	94.31%	91.54%	92.27%	90.51%	100.00%
34	July	100.00%	100.00%	98.08%	92.29%	94.70%	97.40%	97.74%	92.29%	100.00%
35	August	96.42%	93.13%	100.00%	93.91%	100.00%	100.00%	98.21%	93.13%	100.00%
36	September	82.31%	87.89%	83.66%	69.29%	81.79%	94.63%	82.99%	69.29%	94.63%
37	October	66.27%	69.16%	56.68%	56.18%	57.90%	57.12%	57.51%	56.18%	69.16%
38	November	69.42%	60.68%	61.52%	60.06%	61.62%	56.38%	61.10%	56.38%	69.42%
39	December	72.69%	66.22%	76.39%	75.99%	67.78%	62.78%	70.23%	62.78%	76.39%

**Kansas City Power Light Company
Monthly System Peak Demands
Versus
System Hourly Load
Calendar Year 2011**

Line No.	Description	Rank	Total KCP&L MW	Ratio to Annual	Hours - Load at or Above		
					Summer MW	Winter MW	Other MW
1	Monthly System Peak Demands - MW						
2	08/01/11 16:00	1	3,689	100.00%	1	-	-
3	07/27/11 16:00	2	3,593	97.40%	10	-	-
4	09/01/11 16:00	3	3,491	94.63%	43	-	-
5	06/30/11 16:00	4	3,377	91.54%	87	-	-
6	05/10/11 16:00	5	2,828	76.66%	469	-	1
7	02/08/11 18:00	6	2,646	71.73%	668	1	10
8	01/13/11 07:00	7	2,548	69.07%	780	6	18
9	12/05/11 18:00	8	2,316	62.78%	1,099	112	40
10	10/07/11 15:00	9	2,107	57.12%	1,417	406	66
11	11/28/11 18:00	10	2,080	56.38%	1,461	464	75
12	03/09/11 18:00	11	2,058	55.79%	1,495	526	90
13	04/10/11 16:00	12	1,882	51.02%	1,811	1,051	350
14	Accredited Base Load Capacity						
15	Wolf Creek		545				
16	Steam		2,703				
17	Wind		15				
18	Total		<u>3,263</u>	88.45%	146	-	-
19	Largest Unit (Hawthorne 5)		<u>563</u>				
20	Total Less Largest Unit		<u>2,700</u>	73.19%	611	-	7
21	Total Hours in Period				2,928	2,904	2,928
22	Months in Period				June	December	March
23					July	January	April
24					August	February	May
25					September		October
26							November

Kansas City Power Light Company
Monthly Coincidental Peak Demands
2011 by Jurisdiction

	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]
Line No.	Description	Rank	Total KCP&L MW	Missouri MW	Kansas MW	FERC MW
1	Monthly Coincident Peak Demands					
2	08/01/11 16:00	1	3,689	1,929	1,737	23
3	07/27/11 16:00	2	3,593	1,893	1,677	24
4	09/01/11 16:00	3	3,491	1,828	1,640	23
5	06/30/11 16:00	4	3,377	1,778	1,577	22
6	05/10/11 16:00	5	2,828	1,536	1,277	15
7	02/08/11 18:00	6	2,646	1,421	1,202	23
8	01/13/11 07:00	7	2,548	1,372	1,156	20
9	12/05/11 18:00	8	2,316	1,263	1,036	17
10	10/07/11 15:00	9	2,107	1,181	915	11
11	11/28/11 18:00	10	2,080	1,154	910	16
12	03/09/11 18:00	11	2,058	1,143	899	16
13	04/10/11 16:00	12	1,882	1,014	858	10
14	Average					
15	1CP		3,689	1,929	1,737	23
16	Portion of Total		100.00%	52.30%	47.07%	0.62%
17	4CP		3,538	1,857	1,658	23
18	Portion of Total		100.00%	52.49%	46.86%	0.65%
19	3 Winter Months		2,503	1,352	1,131	20
20	Portion of Total		100.00%	54.00%	45.20%	0.80%
21	5 Spring and Fall Months		2,191	1,206	972	13
22	Portion of Total		100.00%	55.03%	44.36%	0.61%
23	12CP		2,718	1,459	1,240	18
24	Portion of Total		100.00%	53.69%	45.64%	0.67%
25	Annual		1,854	1,057	786	12
26	Portion of Total		100.00%	56.97%	42.36%	0.66%
27	Average Monthly Deliveries					
28	Aug 11		2,265	1,264	987	15
29	Jul 11		2,563	1,414	1,132	17
30	Sep 11		1,682	967	704	10
31	Jun 11		2,131	1,197	922	13
32	May 11		1,629	939	680	10
33	Feb 11		1,903	1,083	805	15
34	Jan 11		1,972	1,114	843	15
35	Dec 11		1,773	1,014	747	13
36	Oct 11		1,563	913	640	9
37	Nov 11		1,612	936	664	11
38	Mar 11		1,652	957	684	12
39	Apr 11		1,498	875	614	9
40	Load Factor					
41	Aug 11		61.41%	65.52%	56.82%	63.17%
42	Jul 11		71.33%	74.69%	67.54%	70.66%
43	Sep 11		48.17%	52.92%	42.92%	44.62%
44	Jun 11		63.11%	67.30%	58.44%	58.54%
45	May 11		57.59%	61.14%	53.25%	63.38%
46	Feb 11		71.90%	76.20%	66.98%	63.64%
47	Jan 11		77.41%	81.22%	72.91%	76.56%
48	Dec 11		76.55%	80.26%	72.08%	73.55%
49	Oct 11		74.16%	77.32%	69.92%	87.91%
50	Nov 11		77.48%	81.14%	72.99%	68.37%
51	Mar 11		80.27%	83.71%	76.02%	73.52%
52	Apr 11		79.61%	86.31%	71.51%	95.93%
53	Annual		50.27%	54.76%	45.24%	53.55%

Kansas City Power Light Company
Monthly System Peak Demand
2006-11 Calendar Years by Season

Line No.	Description	Rank	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
			2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Average		
			MW	MW	MW	MW	MW	MW	MW	MW	MW
1	Monthly Peak Demands - MW										
2	June	3	3,267	3,431	3,195	3,448	3,398	3,377	3,353		
3	July	2	3,609	3,689	3,428	3,182	3,412	3,593	3,486		
4	August	1	3,480	3,436	3,495	3,238	3,603	3,689	3,490		
5	September	4	2,970	3,243	2,924	2,389	2,947	3,491	2,994		
6	December	7	2,623	2,443	2,670	2,620	2,442	2,316	2,519		
7	January	6	2,550	2,588	2,522	2,631	2,811	2,548	2,608		
8	February	8	2,438	2,425	2,473	2,390	2,445	2,646	2,469		
9	March	11	2,187	2,197	2,209	2,235	2,113	2,058	2,166		
10	April	12	2,110	2,301	1,957	2,031	2,018	1,882	2,050		
11	May	5	2,564	2,761	2,625	2,363	2,825	2,828	2,661		
12	October	10	2,392	2,552	1,981	1,937	2,086	2,107	2,176		
13	November	9	2,505	2,239	2,150	2,071	2,220	2,080	2,211		
14	Average Summer		3,331	3,450	3,261	3,064	3,340	3,538	3,331		
15	Average Winter		2,537	2,485	2,555	2,547	2,566	2,503	2,532		
16	Average Spring/Fall		2,352	2,410	2,184	2,127	2,252	2,191	2,253		
17	Excluding May		2,299	2,322	2,074	2,069	2,109	2,032	2,151		
18	Ratio to Annual Maximum Demand										
19	June	3	90.51%	93.00%	91.42%	100.00%	94.31%	91.54%	93.46%		
20	July	2	100.00%	100.00%	98.08%	92.29%	94.70%	97.40%	97.08%		
21	August	1	96.42%	93.13%	100.00%	93.91%	100.00%	100.00%	97.24%		
22	September	4	82.31%	87.89%	83.66%	69.29%	81.79%	94.63%	83.26%		
23	December	7	72.69%	66.22%	76.39%	75.99%	67.78%	62.78%	70.31%		
24	January	6	70.66%	70.15%	72.16%	76.31%	78.02%	69.07%	72.73%		
25	February	8	67.54%	65.72%	70.76%	69.32%	67.86%	71.73%	68.82%		
26	March	11	60.60%	59.55%	63.20%	64.82%	58.65%	55.79%	60.43%		
27	April	12	58.46%	62.36%	55.99%	58.90%	56.01%	51.02%	57.12%		
28	May	5	71.04%	74.83%	75.11%	68.53%	78.41%	76.66%	74.10%		
29	October	10	66.27%	69.16%	56.68%	56.18%	57.90%	57.12%	60.55%		
30	November	9	69.42%	60.68%	61.52%	60.06%	61.62%	56.38%	61.61%		
31	Average Summer		92.31%	93.50%	93.29%	88.87%	92.70%	95.89%	92.76%		
32	Average Winter		70.30%	67.36%	73.10%	73.87%	71.22%	67.86%	70.62%		
33	Average Spring/Fall		65.16%	65.31%	62.50%	61.70%	62.51%	59.39%	62.76%		
34	Excluding May		63.69%	62.94%	59.35%	59.99%	58.54%	55.08%	59.93%		
35	Monthly Average Demands - MW										
36	June	3	2,017	2,051	2,039	2,078	2,226	2,131	2,090		
37	July	2	2,267	2,336	2,256	2,021	2,332	2,563	2,296		
38	August	1	2,195	2,274	2,152	2,030	2,389	2,265	2,218		
39	September	4	1,788	1,834	1,738	1,668	1,796	1,682	1,751		
40	December	7	1,832	1,870	1,953	1,943	1,893	1,773	1,877		
41	January	6	1,871	1,920	1,929	1,936	2,025	1,972	1,942		
42	February	8	1,777	1,829	1,908	1,757	1,941	1,903	1,852		
43	March	11	1,634	1,625	1,664	1,636	1,662	1,652	1,646		
44	April	12	1,518	1,562	1,575	1,587	1,541	1,498	1,547		
45	May	5	1,619	1,672	1,619	1,603	1,672	1,629	1,635		
46	October	10	1,568	1,614	1,585	1,565	1,521	1,563	1,569		
47	November	9	1,653	1,658	1,670	1,572	1,616	1,612	1,630		
48	Average Summer		2,067	2,124	2,047	1,949	2,186	2,160	2,089		
49	Average Winter		1,827	1,873	1,930	1,879	1,953	1,883	1,891		
50	Average Spring/Fall		1,824	1,875	1,919	1,847	1,983	1,938	1,897		
51	Excluding May		1,593	1,615	1,624	1,590	1,585	1,581	1,598		
52	Average Annual		1,813	1,855	1,841	1,784	1,885	1,854	1,839		
53	Monthly Load Factor										
54	June	3	61.73%	59.77%	63.83%	60.28%	65.50%	63.11%	62.37%		
55	July	2	62.81%	63.32%	65.81%	63.52%	68.34%	71.33%	65.86%		
56	August	1	63.08%	66.19%	61.58%	62.68%	66.30%	61.41%	63.54%		
57	September	4	60.19%	56.58%	59.45%	69.83%	60.95%	48.17%	59.19%		
58	December	7	69.83%	76.55%	73.15%	74.16%	77.51%	76.55%	74.62%		
59	January	6	73.37%	74.20%	76.48%	73.60%	72.04%	77.41%	74.52%		
60	February	8	72.90%	75.43%	77.17%	73.50%	79.38%	71.90%	75.05%		
61	March	11	74.72%	73.97%	75.34%	73.20%	78.64%	80.27%	76.02%		
62	April	12	71.93%	67.87%	80.49%	78.15%	76.36%	79.61%	75.74%		
63	May	5	63.17%	60.55%	61.66%	67.82%	59.18%	57.59%	61.66%		
64	October	10	65.55%	63.26%	79.99%	80.78%	72.92%	74.16%	72.78%		
65	November	9	65.99%	74.08%	77.69%	75.92%	72.81%	77.48%	73.99%		
66	Average Summer		62.03%	61.57%	62.77%	63.62%	65.44%	61.07%	62.75%		
67	Average Winter		72.00%	75.37%	75.54%	73.76%	76.11%	75.21%	74.66%		
68	Average Spring/Fall		77.56%	77.80%	87.83%	86.80%	88.04%	88.43%	84.41%		
69	Excluding May		69.31%	69.54%	78.27%	76.87%	75.15%	77.82%	74.49%		
70	Annual		50.22%	50.28%	52.69%	51.74%	52.32%	50.27%	51.25%		

Chapter Five—Functionalization, Classification, and Allocation

In allocating costs to a particular class of customers, there are three major steps (if all cost of service issues have been resolved): (1) functionalization, (2) classification, and (3) allocation. FERC has indicated that a guiding principle for this step is that the allocation must reflect cost causation. *See, e.g., Kentucky Utilities Co.*, Opinion No. 116-A, 15 FERC ¶61,222, p. 61,504 (1983); *Utah Power & Light Co.*, Opinion No. 113, 14 FERC ¶61,162, p. 61,298 (1981).¹³³

A. Functionalization

Generally, plant or expense items are first functionalized into five major categories:

- (1) Production;
- (2) Transmission;
- (3) Distribution;
- (4) General and Intangible; and
- (5) Common and Other.

See 18 C.F.R. §35.13(h)(4)(iii) (plant); 18 C.F.R. §35.13(h)(8)(i) (O&M expenses). Each plant or expense item will be segregated into the category with which it is most closely related.

While functionalization for most items is relatively straightforward, and not usually litigated, problems do arise with respect to the functionalization of administrative and general expenses (A&G)¹³⁴ and general plant expenses.¹³⁵ FERC stated that:

The Commission normally requires that A&G and General Plant expenses be allocated on the basis of total company labor ratios. Under such allocation method, A&G and General Plant expense items are 'functionalized,' or segregated into...

¹³³ Where a company has significant non-jurisdictional business, the above cost incurrence principle is important in keeping FERC within its jurisdictional constraints. *See Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Co. v. FPC*, 324 U.S. 635, 641-42 (1945) ("the Commission must make a separation of the regulated and unregulated business...Otherwise the profits or losses...of the unregulated business would be assigned to the regulated business and the Commission would transgress the jurisdictional lines which Congress wrote into the Act").

¹³⁴ A&G expenses include salaries of officers, executives, and office employees, employee benefits, insurance, etc.

¹³⁵ General plant includes office furniture and equipment, transportation vehicles, lockers, tools, lab equipment, etc.

production, transmission, distribution, customer accounts, customer service, information, and sales. This 'functionalization' is in proportion to the ratio of the labor cost in each major function to total labor costs less A&G and General Plant labor. Each functionalized component is allocated to customer groups.

Utah Power & Light Co., Opinion No. 308, 44 FERC ¶61,166, p. 61,549 (1988). See also *Minnesota Power & Light Co.*, Opinion No. 20, 4 FERC ¶61,116, p. 61,268 (1978) (general plant will be functionalized by labor ratios unless it is shown that the use of labor ratios produces unreasonable results). In many cases, FERC has allowed labor ratios to be used to functionalize general plant. See, e.g., *Utah Power & Light Co.*, Opinion No. 308, 44 FERC at 61,549; *Kansas City Power & Light Co.*, 21 FERC ¶63,003, p. 65,034 (1982), *aff'd*, 22 FERC ¶61,262 (1983); *Delmarva Power & Light Co.*, 17 FERC ¶63,044, p. 65,204 (1981), *aff'd*, Opinion No. 185, 24 FERC ¶61,199 (1983); *Philadelphia Electric Co.*, 10 FERC ¶63,034, pp. 65,355-56, *aff'd*, 13 FERC ¶61,057 (1980). Similarly, FERC has required that most A&G expenses be functionalized on the basis of labor ratios. *Missouri Power & Light Co.*, Opinion No. 31, 5 FERC ¶61,086, pp. 61,137-38 (1978); *Kansas City Power & Light Co.*, 21 FERC at 65,035; *Delmarva Power & Light Co.*, 17 FERC at 65,204. An exception to this has been established for property insurance which has been functionalized on plant ratios. *Pacific Gas & Electric Co.*, 16 FERC ¶63,004, pp. 65,015-16 (1981), *aff'd*, Opinion No. 147, 20 FERC ¶61,340 (1982); *Kansas-Nebraska Natural Gas Co.*, Opinion No. 731, 53 FPC 1691, 1722 (1975).

Common plant and intangible plant also have been analogized to general plant and functionalized on the basis of labor ratios. *Kansas City Power & Light*, 21 FERC at 65,035; *Delmarva Power & Light Co.*, 17 FERC at 65,204; *Philadelphia Electric*, 10 FERC at 65,355-56.

Another issue that has arisen is the calculation of the labor ratios. Usually, the labor ratio consists of total labor costs in the denominator with the labor costs associated with a particular category in the numerator. In a number of proceedings, companies have attempted to change the ratio by only including production, transmission, and distribution-related labor costs in the denominator, thereby excluding customer service related labor costs. FERC rejected this in at least one case. *Kansas City Power & Light*, 21 FERC at 65,033-34.

B. Classification

After functionalizing, the next step is to classify those expenses or costs into one of three categories (1) demand, (2) energy, or (3) other. See 18 C.F.R. §35.13(h)(8)(ii)(A).

FERC's Staff for a number of years has used the predominance method for classifying production O&M accounts. Under this method if an account is *predominantly* (51-100%) energy-related, it will be classified as energy. The same also is true with respect to demand related costs. FERC has accepted this method in a number of cases. See, e.g., *Arizona Public Service Co.*, 4 FERC ¶61,101, pp. 61,209-10 (1978); *Illinois Power Co.*, 11 FERC ¶63,040, pp. 65,255-56 (1980), *aff'd*, 15 FERC ¶61,050, p. 61,093 (1981); *Kansas City Power & Light*

Co., 21 FERC ¶63,003, p. 65,037 (1982), *aff'd*, 22 FERC ¶61,262 (1983); *Minnesota Power & Light Co.*, Opinion No. 86, 11 FERC ¶61,312, pp. 61,648-49 (1980).¹³⁶

In addition to FERC's adoption of Staff's predominance method, FERC also has adopted Staff's classification index of production O&M accounts. *Arizona Public Service Co.*, 4 FERC at 61,209-10; *Kansas City Power & Light*, 21 FERC at 65,037; *Minnesota Power & Light Co.*, 11 FERC at 61,648-49. In *Montaup Electric Co.*, Opinion No. 267, 38 FERC at 61,864, FERC rejected a proposed rate tilt, finding that the "proposal is inconsistent with the classification table of predominant characteristics for operation and maintenance accounts used by Staff, which has been approved by the Commission." In *Southern Company Services*, Opinion No. 377, 61 FERC ¶61,075, p. 61,311 (1992), *reh. denied*, 64 FERC ¶61,033 (1993), FERC, however, stated that the Staff index is not mandatory. FERC accepted a departure from the Staff's index, though it held that a party proposing a departure has the burden of justifying that departure.

C. Allocation

After classifying costs to demand, energy, and customer categories, the next step is to allocate these costs to the various classes to determine their respective cost responsibilities. In the past, the most hotly litigated allocation issue involved demand cost allocation. Typically, FERC has allocated demand costs on a coincident peak (CP) method. *Houlton v. Maine Public Service Co.*, 62 FERC ¶63,023, p. 65,092 (1992) ("Maine Public has cited a legion of Commission decisions affirming the use of a coincident peak demand allocator.... And, it denies knowledge of 'any decision, involving an electric utility since the FERC came into existence in 1977, where FERC did not follow a coincident peak method of allocating demand costs' "). In *Lockhart Power Co.*, 4 FERC ¶61,337, p. 61,807 (1978), FERC stated that its "general policy is to allocate demand costs on the basis of peak responsibility as is demonstrated by the overwhelming majority of decided cases." See also *Houlton v. Maine Public Service Co.*, 62 FERC at 65,092. Under a CP method, the demands used in the allocation are the demands of a particular customer or class occurring at the time of the system peak for a particular time period. The basic assumption behind this method is that capacity costs are incurred to serve the peak needs of customers.

1. Coincident Peak Allocation

In most cases, FERC has accepted one of four CP methods—1 CP, 3 CP, 4 CP, and 12 CP, with the largest number of companies using a 12 CP allocation. Under a 1 CP method, the allocator for a particular wholesale class will be developed by dividing the wholesale class's CP for the peak month by the total company system peak. Similarly, for 3, 4, and 12

¹³⁶ If a company is able to justify a percentage split, such as 70-30, in an account, then FERC may accept that split. However, in light of FERC precedent on this subject, any party proposing a deviation from the predominance method likely will have the burden of justifying its proposed split.

CP companies the numerator would consist of the average of the wholesale class's coincident peaks for each of the peak months, while the denominator would consist of the average of the total system peaks for each of the peak months. FERC has held that interruptible loads should not be reflected in this demand allocation.¹³⁷ See *Delmarva Power & Light Co.*, Opinion No. 189, 25 FERC at 61,121; *Delmarva Power & Light Co.*, Opinion No. 185, 24 FERC ¶61,199, p. 61,462 (1983).

While FERC has not established a hard and fast rule for determining which allocation method is appropriate, it has stated that the following factors should be considered:

[T]he full range of a company's operating realities including, in addition to system demand, scheduled maintenance, unscheduled outages, diversity, reserve requirements, and off-system sales commitments. (footnote omitted).

Carolina Power & Light Co., Opinion No. 19, 4 FERC ¶61,107, p. 61,230 (1978); *Commonwealth Edison Co.*, 15 FERC ¶63,048, p. 65,196 (1981), *aff'd*, Opinion No. 165, 23 FERC ¶61,219 (1983); *Illinois Power Co.*, 11 FERC ¶63,040, pp. 65,247-48 (1980), *aff'd*, 15 FERC ¶61,050 (1981). See also *Houlton v. Maine Public Service Co.*, 62 FERC at 65,092 (applying FERC's various tests in finding that a 12 CP was appropriate).

a. System Demand Tests

If a utility's system demand curve is relatively flat, then that supports the use of a 12 CP method under FERC precedent. If a utility experiences a pronounced peak during one, three, or four consecutive months, then under FERC precedent the use of another CP method would be supported.

In determining whether a utility experiences a pronounced peak during a particular time period, FERC considers a number of tests. First, FERC has compared the average of the system peaks during the purported peak period, as a percentage of the annual peak, to the average of the system peaks during the off-peak months, as a percentage of the annual peak. FERC has held that large differences between these two figures lends support to using something other than a 12 CP method, while a smaller difference supports 12 CP, as shown below:¹³⁸

- (1) *Louisiana Power & Light Co.*,
Opinion No. 813,
59 FPC 968 (1977)
(31% difference—4 CP);

¹³⁷ FERC ordered that the revenues from the interruptible loads be credited to the cost of service. *Delmarva Power & Light Co.*, 28 FERC ¶61,279, p. 61,510 (1984).

¹³⁸ See also *Houlton v. Maine Public Service Co.*, 62 FERC ¶63,023, p. 65,092 (1992) (the ALJ stated that "using established Commission tests that compare average monthly peaks with the annual peak, lowest monthly peak to the annual peak, average monthly demand peaks of the peak season to the monthly demand peaks of the off-peak service" Maine Public is a 12 CP company).

- (2) *Louisiana Power & Light Co.*,
Opinion No. 110,
14 FERC ¶61,075 (1981)
(26% difference—4 CP);
- (3) *Lockhart Power Co.*,
Opinion No. 29,
4 FERC ¶61,337 (1978)
(18% difference—12 CP);
- (4) *Illinois Power Co.*,
11 FERC at 65,248,
(19% difference—12 CP);
- (5) *Commonwealth Edison Co.*,
15 FERC at 65,196
(16.4-24.9% differences—4 CP);
- (6) *Southwestern Public Service Co.*,
18 FERC at 65,034
(average difference of 22.9%; high of 28.3%—3 CP).

FERC also has used a second test involving the lowest monthly peak as a percentage of the annual peak. The higher the percentage, the greater the support for 12 CP. This test has been used in the following cases:

- (1) *Louisiana Power & Light Co.*,
Opinion No. 813,
59 FPC 968 (1977)
(56%—4 CP);
- (2) *Idaho Power Co.*,
Opinion No. 13,
3 FERC ¶61,108 (1978)
(58%—3 CP);
- (3) *Southwestern Electric Power Co.*,
Opinion No. 28,
4 FERC ¶61,330 (1978)
(55.8%—4 CP);
- (4) *Lockhart Power Co.*,
Opinion No. 29,
4 FERC ¶61,337 (1978)
(73%—12 CP);

- (5) *Southern California Edison Co.*,
Opinion No. 821,
59 FPC 2167 (1977)
(79%—12 CP);
- (6) *Alabama Power Co.*,
Opinion No. 54,
8 FERC ¶61,083 (1979)
(75%—12 CP);
- (7) *Illinois Power Co.*,
11 FERC at 65,248
(66%—12 CP);
- (8) *Commonwealth Edison Co.*,
15 FERC at 65,198
(64.6–67.8%—4 CP);
- (9) *Louisiana Power & Light Co.*,
Opinion No. 110,
14 FERC ¶61,075 (1981)
(61.9%—4 CP);
- (10) *El Paso Electric Co.*,
Opinion No. 109,
14 FERC ¶61,082 (1981)
(71%—12 CP);
- (11) *Carolina Power & Light Co.*,
Opinion No. 19,
4 FERC ¶61,107 (1978)
(72%—12 CP);
- (12) *New England Power Co.*,
Opinion No. 803,
58 FPC 2322 (1977)
(80%—12 CP);
- (13) *Southwestern Public Service Co.*,
18 FERC at 65,034
(on average, almost 67 percent—3 CP); and

- (14) *Delmarva Power & Light Co.*,
17 FERC at 65,201
(71.4%—12 CP).

Another test that has been utilized by FERC is the extent to which peak demands in non-peak months exceed the peak demands in the alleged peak months. In *Carolina Power & Light Co.*, Opinion No. 19, 4 FERC at 61,230, FERC adopted a 12 CP approach where the monthly peaks in three nonpeak months exceeded the peaks in two of the alleged peak months. In *Commonwealth Edison Co.*, 15 FERC at 65,198, FERC adopted a 4 CP method where over a four year period, a peak in one of the 4 peak months was exceeded only once by a peak from a non-peak month. See also *Southwestern Public Service Co.*, 18 FERC at 65,034 (monthly peak in any non-peaking month exceeded the monthly peak in peak month only once and 3 CP adopted).

A last test involves the average of the twelve monthly peaks as a percentage of the highest monthly peak and has been used in the following cases:

- (1) *Illinois Power Co.*,
11 FERC at 65,248-49
(81%—12 CP);
- (2) *El Paso Electric Co.*
Opinion No. 109,
14 FERC ¶61,082 (1981)
(84%—12 CP);
- (3) *Lockhart Power Co.*,
Opinion No. 29,
4 FERC ¶61,337 (1978)
(84%—12 CP);
- (4) *Southern California Edison Co.*,
Opinion No. 821,
59 FPC 2167 (1977)
(87.8%—12 CP);
- (5) *Louisiana Power & Light Co.*,
Opinion No. 110,
14 FERC ¶61,075 (1981)
(81.2%—4 CP);
- (6) *Commonwealth Edison Co.*,
15 FERC at 65,198
(79.4-79.5%—4 CP);

(7) *Southwestern Public Service Co.*,
18 FERC at 65,035
(80.1%—3 CP); and

(8) *Delmarva Power & Light Co.*,
17 FERC at 65,202
(83.3%—12 CP).

b. Tests Relating to Reserves/Maintenance

To the extent a utility uses the off-peak months to perform its scheduled maintenance, FERC has found that supportive of the use of a 12 CP method. *Alabama Power Co.*, Opinion No. 54, 8 FERC ¶61,083, p. 61,327 (1979); *Illinois Power Co.*, 11 FERC at 65,249; *New England Power Co.*, Opinion No. 803, 58 FPC 2322, 2338 (1977); *Delmarva Power & Light Co.*, 17 FERC at 65,202. *But see Commonwealth Edison*, 15 FERC at 65,199.¹³⁹

However, the scheduled maintenance must be considered together with the reserves available after the maintenance. To the extent the reserve margins are fairly stable after maintenance, then a 12 CP method is supported. If the reserve margins drop substantially to marginal levels during certain months, then a method other than 12 CP may be supported. *See, e.g., Illinois Power Co.*, 11 FERC at 65,249 (46 percent reserves after maintenance non-summer months and 34.5 percent for summer months—12 CP); *Commonwealth Edison Co.*, 15 FERC at 65,200 (for 1979 36.63 percent reserves after maintenance for 8 non-summer months and 22.15 percent for 4 summer months—4 CP).

c. Projection of CP and Total System Demands

In a number of cases, parties and the FERC Staff have challenged the filing company's estimated coincident peak or total system demand estimates.¹⁴⁰ While FERC appears to have established few hard and fast rules, the following cases provide some guidance. First, parties have challenged projections on the basis that the historical periods used were not representative. In some cases, FERC has held that multiple years of historical data should be

¹³⁹ In *Southwestern Public Service Co.*, Opinion No. 337, 49 FERC ¶61,296, p. 62,132 (1989), FERC declined to depart from the 3 CP method based on “monthly load patterns and reserve margins as affected by scheduled maintenance” which “show that Southwestern’s capacity requirements are largely determined by the peak demands imposed on the system during a three-month summer period.”

¹⁴⁰ In *Blue Ridge Power Agency v. Appalachian Power Co.*, Opinion No. 363, 55 FERC ¶61,509, p. 62,788 (1991), FERC accepted the Staff’s method for deriving a coincident peak estimate. The Staff asserted that the noncoincident peak estimate must be divided by the diversity factor to convert each noncoincident peak demand into a comparable coincident peak demand. 55 FERC at 62,788–89. The “diversity factor is the noncoincident peak demand divided by the coincident peak demand.” 55 FERC at 62,788 n. 87. FERC, however, stated that “[n]ormally, we would calculate the coincident peak demand for the sales for resales group by looking at its consumption at the time of Appalachian’s peak. In this case, however, we have the forecasted monthly noncoincident peak demands for the customer group” and that “[u]sing the historical diversity factor for the group, we can derive the calculated coincident peak.” *Id.*

used in developing the estimate and not just one year. See, e.g., *Otter Tail Power Co.*, Opinion No. 93, 12 FERC ¶61,169, p. 61,429 (1980); *Commonwealth Edison Co.*, 15 FERC at 65,190, *aff'd*, Opinion No. 165, 23 FERC ¶61,219 (1983) (3 year average adopted); *Southern California Edison Co.*, Opinion No. 359-A, 54 FERC at 62,020 (accepted system peak demand and energy sales forecasts based on 1967-1981 data and 1981 coincidence factors). In other cases, FERC, however, has adopted CP projections based on the use of one year's data. See, e.g., *Carolina Power & Light Co.*, Opinion No. 19, 4 FERC at 61,229-30.

Second, FERC has expressed concern that the numerator and the denominator be developed on similar bases. In *Otter Tail Power Co.*, Opinion No. 93, 12 FERC at 61,429, FERC modified a demand allocator to provide for the use of the same number of years data in the derivation of both the numerator and the denominator.

Finally, FERC has held that billing demands should be consistent with the demands used in the demand allocator. See *El Paso Electric Co.*, Opinion No. 109, 14 FERC ¶61,082, p. 61,147 (1981).

123 FERC ¶ 61,047
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

OPINION NO. 501

Golden Spread Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Lyntegar Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Farmers' Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Roosevelt County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Docket No. EL05-19-002

v.

Southwestern Public Service Company

Southwestern Public Service Company

Docket No. ER05-168-001

Issued: April 21, 2008

123 FERC ¶ 61,047
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Before Commissioners: Joseph T. Kelliher, Chairman;
Sudeen G. Kelly, Marc Spitzer,
Philip D. Moeller, and Jon Wellinghoff.

Golden Spread Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Lyntegar Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Farmers' Electric Cooperative, Inc.
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Docket No. ER05-168-001

OPINION NO. 501

OPINION AND ORDER ON INITIAL DECISION

(Issued April 21, 2008)

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I. Introduction

1. This case arises in part out of a complaint, filed on November 2, 2004, by several cooperatives (the Cooperative Customer Group, CCG, or complainants).¹ These cooperatives purchase requirements service from Southwestern Public Service Company (SPS).² SPS, a subsidiary of Xcel Energy Inc., is an operating utility engaged primarily in the generation, transmission, distribution and sale of electricity. SPS serves approximately 386,000 electric customers in portions of Texas and New Mexico, and also operates in Oklahoma and Kansas.

2. The complaint, filed under section 206 of the Federal Power Act (FPA),³ alleges that SPS has historically violated, and continues to violate, the fuel cost adjustment clause (FCAC) provisions of its wholesale customers’ rate schedules and the Commission’s FCAC regulations. Complainants assert that SPS may be flowing through

¹ When the complaint was filed, CCG included Golden Spread Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Golden Spread), Lyntegar Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Lyntegar), Farmers’ Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Farmers’), Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Lea County), Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Central Valley), and Roosevelt County Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Roosevelt County). However, since that time, Golden Spread and Lyntegar have resolved with SPS all issues except one in a settlement filed on December 3, 2007 (Settlement Agreement). Therefore, in this order, CCG will only include Farmers’, Lea County, Central Valley, and Roosevelt County.

² All of the cooperatives involved in this proceeding are full requirements customers, except Golden Spread, which is a partial requirements customer.

³ 16 U.S.C. § 824e (2000).

Because the ROE in this case will apply to a diverse group of companies, the entire range of results yielded by the subset is relevant here. Thus, we find that using the midpoint is the most appropriate measure for determining a single ROE for all Midwest ISO [transmission operators], since it fully considers that range. Selecting the most refined measure of central tendency, as might be achieved with use of the median, is not the Commission's goal in this case, given that we are not selecting a ROE for a single utility of average risk.¹²⁹

64. Here, we are determining the just and reasonable ROE for a single utility of average risk and find the median to be appropriate for setting the ROE. In *Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corp.*,¹³⁰ the Commission determined that setting the ROE at the median of the zone of reasonableness lessens the impact of any single proxy company whose ROE is atypically high or low. While there are no concerns of extremes here, using the median also has the advantage of taking into account more of the companies in a proxy group rather than only those at the top and bottom. We decline to place SPS in the upper half of the zone of reasonableness because we conclude, based on the S&P Safety Rank and Business Profile factors, SPS does not have any higher risk than the proxy group, despite SPS' arguments to the contrary.¹³¹ SPS cites *Southern California Edison*, a case in which the Commission placed the utility in the upper half of the zone of reasonableness because it found the company to be more risky than the proxy group.¹³² Unlike in *Southern California Edison*, here we find that SPS is not more risky than the proxy group. Accordingly, we affirm the use of the median in establishing the ROE for SPS.

65. We reverse the ALJ's finding that there should be a 37 basis point interest rate adjustment. Instead, the adjustment should be 6 basis points, because the rates at issue here are for a locked-in period. Therefore, the ROE should be 9.33 percent (9.27 plus 6 basis points). As CCG correctly noted, where the rate under consideration is "locked-in" (that is, the rate being litigated has been superseded or is otherwise no longer in

¹²⁹ *Midwest ISO*, 106 FERC ¶ 61,302 at P 10.

¹³⁰ 84 FERC ¶ 61,084, *aff'd* Opinion No. 414-B, 85 FERC ¶ 61,323 (1998).

¹³¹ Trial Staff Brief Opposing Exceptions at 23-25.

¹³² *Southern California Edison*, 92 FERC ¶ 61,070, at 61,266 (2000) ("[W]e find that SoCal Edison is more risky than the comparison group. Therefore, the appropriate ROE for SoCal Edison should be above the midpoint of returns indicated for the comparison group").

effect),¹³³ the Commission updates the equity allowance for the locked-in period based on the change in average yields on ten-year constant maturity U.S. Treasury bonds.¹³⁴ Instead of following the Commission's methodology for adjustments applicable to locked-in period rates, the ALJ used the Commission's method for updating based on open-ended rates. This was inconsistent with Commission policy, as the rates at issue here were for a locked-in period. Accordingly, we adopt the adjustment required by Commission precedent for locked-in rates, 6 basis points instead of 37 basis points.

B. Coincident Peak Basis (3 CP v. 12 CP)¹³⁵

66. Demand allocation refers to the method of apportioning fixed capacity costs among customer classes. The Commission typically uses a coincident peak method to allocate demand costs, in which demand costs are allocated based on the customer class' demand at the time of (coincident with) the system peak demand.¹³⁶ The coincident peak may be based, for example, on a single peak month (1 CP), the average of three peak months (3 CP), or the average of peaks in twelve months (12 CP). A company that has a relatively flat demand curve throughout the year would typically allocate demand on a 12 CP basis, which assumes that a utility's demand is relatively constant throughout all twelve months of the year. A summer (or winter) peaking company would more typically allocate demand on a 3 CP basis, which assumes demand will peak during the three peak usage months.

¹³³ As noted, the rates at issue here are for the locked-in period from January 1, 2005 to July 1, 2006.

¹³⁴ *E.g., Jersey Cent. Power & Light Co.*, Opinion No. 408, 77 FERC ¶ 61,001, at 61,009-10 (1996).

¹³⁵ Initial Decision at P 10-24 (Issue I.A). We note that the issue of the Coincident Peak Basis is the sole issue that the Settling Parties did not resolve in the Settlement Agreement. Therefore, this portion of the order applies to both the Settling Parties and non-settling parties.

¹³⁶ *See generally Delmarva Power & Light Co.*, 17 FERC ¶ 63,044, at 65,199-203 (1981), *aff'd in relevant part*, Opinion No. 185, 24 FERC ¶ 61,199 (1983) (*Delmarva Initial Decision*) (discussing method of demand cost allocation).

1. Initial Decision

67. The ALJ concluded that SPS remains a 3 CP system,¹³⁷ not a 12 CP system as Cap Rock, SPS, and CCG propose. The ALJ cited *Louisiana Power & Light Co.*,¹³⁸ in rejecting calls for changing SPS' demand allocation method. *Louisiana P&L*, the ALJ explained, states that the demand allocation method should not be changed except when there are changed circumstances or a change in policy.¹³⁹ The ALJ concluded that the data suggest modest changes but not "major shifts" in the load curve.¹⁴⁰ The ALJ further observed that one of the factors that may have caused the movement in the direction of a flatter demand curve – the increase in intersystem sales caused by the availability of excess power due to the shift of Golden Spread to a partial requirements customer – has run its course.¹⁴¹ Moreover, the ALJ found that one cannot assume the continuation of whatever flattening of the demand curve occurred.¹⁴²

2. Briefs on Exceptions

68. CCG,¹⁴³ Cap Rock,¹⁴⁴ and SPS¹⁴⁵ argue that SPS is now a 12 CP system, and they disagree with the ALJ's conclusion that SPS remains a 3 CP system. They claim that SPS' peak load ratios and other operating realities have changed substantially since the Commission last examined the SPS system in 1989. They claim that analyses by Cap Rock, SPS, and others in the proceeding take into account factors besides the availability of excess power due to the shift of Golden Spread to a partial requirements customer,

¹³⁷ Cf. *Southwestern Pub. Serv. Co.*, Opinion No. 162, 22 FERC ¶ 61,341, at 61,589-591, *reh'g denied*, 23 FERC ¶ 61,406 (1983) (Opinion No. 162) (affirming that SPS is a 3 CP system); *Southwestern Pub. Serv. Co.*, Opinion No. 337, 49 FERC ¶ 61,296, at 62,132 (1989), *reh'g denied*, Opinion No. 337-A, 51 FERC ¶ 61,130 (1990) (Opinion No. 337) (same).

¹³⁸ Opinion No. 110, 14 FERC ¶ 61,075, at 61,128, *reh'g denied*, 15 FERC ¶ 61,297 (1981) (Opinion No. 110 or *Louisiana P&L*).

¹³⁹ Initial Decision at P 22.

¹⁴⁰ *Id.* P 24.

¹⁴¹ *Id.*

¹⁴² *Id.*

¹⁴³ CCG Brief on Exceptions at 3-23.

¹⁴⁴ Cap Rock Brief on Exceptions at 12-61.

¹⁴⁵ SPS Brief on Exceptions at 61-65.

such as large retail customers seeking to firm up service previously taken on an interruptible service basis and SPS' rapidly increasing growth in high load factor oil field load. They state that the evidence clearly establishes that SPS is now a 12 CP system.

69. For example, CCG states that during the hearing they introduced updated analyses of various aspects of SPS' system demand curve and other system characteristics, based on data from recent years, to show the appropriate wholesale demand cost allocator in light of current conditions, and that, in total five witnesses concluded that SPS has now become a 12 CP system.¹⁴⁶ CCG argues that the Initial Decision does not discuss or dispute this evidence, undermining its ruling that a 3 CP allocator should continue to be used.¹⁴⁷

70. CCG, Cap Rock, and SPS also claim that the burden of proof for a change in methodology is satisfied by a just and reasonable standard, and that the ALJ broke with precedent set in *Louisiana P&L* by ruling that "there should be a strong reason for changing allocation methodologies," and parties seeking to do so must show "major shifts in the load curve."¹⁴⁸ They claim that Opinion No. 110¹⁴⁹ states that the demand allocator should not be changed "except where there are changed circumstances or a change in policy."

3. Brief Opposing Exceptions

71. Golden Spread argues that the Initial Decision was correct in concluding that SPS' operating realities remain consistent with a 3 CP system.¹⁵⁰ Golden Spread submits that its demand allocation testimony demonstrates that SPS remains a 3 CP system, and that its evidence complies with the requirements set forth in *Illinois Power Co.*¹⁵¹ Golden Spread asserts that Cap Rock, CCG, and SPS failed to meet the burden of proof, and shifting to a 12 CP would impose a significant cost shift on the sole entity that has done anything of significance on the system to curtail summer demand. Golden Spread claims that the ALJ recognized its comprehensive analysis and correctly concluded that "there

¹⁴⁶ CCG Brief on Exceptions at 4.

¹⁴⁷ *Id.* at 4-5, 7-11.

¹⁴⁸ Initial Decision at P 24.

¹⁴⁹ 14 FERC ¶ 61,075.

¹⁵⁰ Golden Spread Brief Opposing Exceptions at 17-22.

¹⁵¹ *Id.* at 17 (citing *Illinois Power Co.*, 11 FERC ¶ 63,040, at 65,247-48 (1980), *aff'd in relevant part*, 15 FERC ¶ 61,050, at 61,093 (1981) (*Illinois Power*)).

should be a strong reason for changing allocation methodologies, given the impact on customers' expectations and the shifting price signal effects associated with a change in methodology."¹⁵²

72. Golden Spread claims that what little change has occurred in the SPS system in metrics can be attributed to the response by Golden Spread to the 3 CP price signal. Golden Spread states that it built a highly efficient generating facility that tempered the growth of the SPS summer peak, limiting cost increases to the SPS ratepayers, and providing significant energy cost savings. Golden Spread states that affirming the ALJ would ensure that customers will not be penalized for merely responding to price signals and reducing the burden they impose on a summer peaking system.

73. Golden Spread points out that the Trial Staff witness who advocated the switch to 12 CP in prefiled testimony was not as certain during the hearing, and admitted that a 12 CP would probably produce a price signal that would not discourage customers to reduce their summer load, but rather have the opposite effect.¹⁵³

4. Commission Determination

74. We reverse the Initial Decision's finding that the 3 CP methodology remains the correct demand cost allocator for the SPS system. Although the Commission previously determined that SPS was a 3 CP system, we find that the ALJ misapplied the *Louisiana P&L* standard and overlooked numerical data in concluding that demand changes on the SPS system do not provide a "strong reason" for shifting the demand allocator to a 12 CP methodology.¹⁵⁴

75. While the Commission has not established hard and fast rules for determining whether the 3 CP or 12 CP allocation method is appropriate, we have explained that the following factors should be considered when determining which allocation to use: "[t]he full range of a company's operating realities including, in addition to system demand, scheduled maintenance, unscheduled outages, diversity, reserve requirements, and off-system sales commitments."¹⁵⁵

¹⁵² Initial Decision at P 24.

¹⁵³ Tr. 2469:2-10 (Sammon).

¹⁵⁴ Initial Decision at P 9.

¹⁵⁵ *Carolina Power & Light Co.*, Opinion No. 19, 4 FERC ¶ 61,107, at 61,230 (1978); *Illinois Power*, 11 FERC ¶ 63,040 at 65,247-48; *see also Delmarva Initial Decision*, 17 FERC ¶ 63,044 at 65,199-203 ("The Commission has not adopted any one

76. Historically, the Commission has considered three tests in determining whether a system is better characterized as 3 CP or 12 CP. First, the Commission compares the average of the system peaks during the purported peak period, as a percentage of the annual peak, to the average of the system peaks during the off-peak months, as a percentage of the annual peak – the On and Off Peak test. Generally, the Commission has held that a nineteen percentage point or less difference between these two figures supports using the 12 CP method.¹⁵⁶ The second test, the Low-to-Annual Peak test, involves the lowest monthly peak as a percentage of the annual peak. The Commission considers a range of sixty-six percent or higher as indicative of a 12 CP system.¹⁵⁷ The third test is the Average to Annual Peak test, and it computes the average of the twelve monthly peaks as a percentage of annual peak. Generally, the range for a utility to be considered 12 CP is eighty-one percent or higher.¹⁵⁸

77. The Commission is persuaded by testimony and evidence submitted by SPS, Cap Rock, the full requirements customers,¹⁵⁹ and Golden Spread that substantive changes have occurred on the SPS system since the Commission last addressed the issue in 1989. The chart below is a comparison of previously accepted ratios from the peak tests indicative of a 12 CP system to the ratios submitted as evidence by various parties at trial regarding SPS' system. Differences in ratio values can be attributed to the inclusion or exclusion of interruptible loads, off-system sales, and the number of years used to calculate the average ratios shown below. The chart illustrates that applying the same

method . . . its determination of the appropriate allocation method has rested on the facts of each case.”).

¹⁵⁶ See, e.g., *Illinois Power*, 11 FERC ¶ 63,040 at 65,248-49 (comparing average summer peak of ninety-four percent of annual peak to eight-month average peak of seventy-five percent of annual peak, a difference of nineteen percentage points).

¹⁵⁷ *Id.* (approving 12 CP where lowest monthly peak as percentage of annual peak was sixty-six percent); *Delmarva Initial Decision*, 17 FERC ¶ 63,044 at 65,201 (stating that Commission favors 12 CP method and citing 12 CP cases with low monthly peaks).

¹⁵⁸ See, e.g., *Illinois Power*, 11 FERC ¶ 63,040 at 65,249 (approving 12 CP where average monthly peak for five-year period was eighty-one percent); *Lockhart Power Co.*, Opinion No. 29, 4 FERC ¶ 61,337, at 61,807 (1978) (approving 12 CP where average monthly demand was eight-four percent of annual system peak); *El Paso Elec. Co.*, Opinion No. 109, 14 FERC ¶ 61,082, at 61,147 (1981) (approving 12 CP where twelve-month average was eighty-four percent of maximum peak).

¹⁵⁹ Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., Farmers' Electric Cooperative, Inc., Lea County Electric Cooperative, Inc., and Roosevelt County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

analytical criterion that was primarily used in Opinion Nos. 162 and 337 to determine that SPS was a 3 CP system now clearly demonstrates it is a 12 CP utility. Even Golden Spread's witness Linxwiler's ratios, who testified in support of SPS remaining a 3 CP utility, meet the acceptable range.

	Lowest-To-Peak	On-Peak-Off-Peak	Average-To-Peak
Historical Commission Range for 12 CP	66% or higher	19% or less	81% or higher
Heintz, SPS-37 at 16	68%	19%	82%
Saffer FRC-2 Pro Forma	70%	18%	84%
Linxwiler, GSL - 1 at 9-10	67.55%	19%	82.05%
Diller, CRE-1 at 18	70%	18%	84%

78. In addition, in the years since Opinion Nos. 162 and 337, Golden Spread switched from a full-requirements, high summer-peaking customer on SPS' system to a partial requirements customer with a year-around, fixed contract. SPS testified that this and other factors have increasingly flattened its load profile to a point inconsistent with a 3 CP utility, as illustrated by the peak ratio percentages submitted by SPS and others.¹⁶⁰ We agree and will reverse the ALJ's finding that SPS is a 3 CP utility and conclude that use of the 12 CP demand allocation methodology appropriately reflects SPS' system.

C. Demand Cost Allocation Factors¹⁶¹ and Post Test Year Adjustments¹⁶²

1. Initial Decision

79. The ALJ determined that the interruptible load deductions¹⁶³ issue was resolved in the Joint Trial Stipulation, and that Cap Rock is free to further pursue the matter in

¹⁶⁰ See SPS Brief on Exceptions at 64 (citing Tr. 1560:3-9).

¹⁶¹ Initial Decision at P 108-113 (Issue I.J).

¹⁶² *Id.* P 114-119 (Issue I.K).

Kansas City Power Light Company
Merits of Alternative Capacity Cost Allocation Bases
FERC System Demand Tests

	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]	[J]
Line No.	Description	2006 MW	2007 MW	2008 MW	2009 MW	2010 MW	2011 MW	Median MW	Minimum MW	Maximum MW
1	Monthly Coincident Peak Demands - MW									
2	January	2,550	2,588	2,522	2,631	2,811	2,548	2,569	2,522	2,811
3	February	2,438	2,425	2,473	2,390	2,445	2,646	2,441	2,390	2,646
4	March	2,187	2,197	2,209	2,235	2,113	2,058	2,192	2,058	2,235
5	April	2,110	2,301	1,957	2,031	2,018	1,882	2,025	1,882	2,301
6	May	2,564	2,761	2,625	2,363	2,825	2,828	2,693	2,363	2,828
7	June	3,267	3,431	3,195	3,448	3,398	3,377	3,388	3,195	3,448
8	July	3,609	3,689	3,428	3,182	3,412	3,593	3,511	3,182	3,689
9	August	3,480	3,436	3,495	3,238	3,603	3,689	3,487	3,238	3,689
10	September	2,970	3,243	2,924	2,389	2,947	3,491	2,959	2,389	3,491
11	October	2,392	2,552	1,981	1,937	2,086	2,107	2,097	1,937	2,552
12	November	2,505	2,239	2,150	2,071	2,220	2,080	2,185	2,071	2,505
13	December	2,623	2,443	2,670	2,620	2,442	2,316	2,532	2,316	2,670
14	Average	2,725	2,775	2,636	2,545	2,693	2,718	2,706	2,545	2,775
15	Average Monthly Coincident Peak Demands									
16	Jul - Aug	3,544	3,563	3,462	3,210	3,508	3,641	3,499		
17	Other Months	2,561	2,618	2,471	2,412	2,531	2,533	2,508		
18	Ratio	72.25%	73.48%	71.37%	75.12%	72.15%	69.58%	72.20%	69.58%	75.12%
19	Jun - Aug	3,452	3,519	3,373	3,289	3,471	3,553	3,462		
20	Other Months	2,482	2,527	2,390	2,296	2,434	2,440	2,410		
21	Ratio	71.91%	71.83%	70.87%	69.81%	70.13%	68.66%	70.50%	68.66%	71.91%
22	Jun - Sep	3,331	3,450	3,261	3,064	3,340	3,538	3,336		
23	Other Months	2,421	2,438	2,323	2,285	2,370	2,308	2,342		
24	Ratio	72.67%	70.68%	71.26%	74.56%	70.96%	65.25%	71.11%	65.25%	74.56%
25	May - Sep	3,178	3,312	3,133	2,924	3,237	3,396	3,207		
26	Other Months	2,401	2,392	2,280	2,274	2,305	2,234	2,291		
27	Ratio	75.54%	72.22%	72.77%	77.76%	71.21%	65.79%	72.50%	65.79%	77.76%
28	FERC Test 1 - On-Peak less Off-Peak									
29	Average of the Monthly System Peaks During the On-Peak Months as a Percentage of the Annual Peak, less									
30	Average of the Monthly System Peaks During the Off-Peak Months as a Percentage of the Annual Peak									
31	Ratio to Annual System Peak									
32	Jul & Aug	98.21%	96.56%	99.04%	93.10%	97.35%	98.70%	97.78%	93.10%	99.04%
33	Other Months	70.95%	70.96%	70.69%	69.94%	70.23%	68.67%	70.46%	68.67%	70.96%
34	Difference	27.26%	25.61%	28.35%	23.16%	27.12%	30.03%	27.19%	23.16%	30.03%
35	Jun - Aug	95.64%	95.37%	96.50%	95.40%	96.34%	96.31%	95.98%	95.37%	96.50%
36	Other Months	68.78%	68.51%	68.39%	66.60%	67.56%	66.13%	67.97%	66.13%	68.78%
37	Difference	26.87%	26.87%	28.11%	28.80%	28.78%	30.18%	28.45%	26.87%	30.18%
38	Jun - Sep	92.31%	93.50%	93.29%	88.87%	92.70%	95.89%	93.00%	88.87%	95.89%
39	Other Months	67.09%	66.08%	66.48%	66.26%	65.78%	62.57%	66.17%	62.57%	67.09%
40	Difference	25.22%	27.42%	26.81%	22.61%	26.92%	33.33%	26.87%	22.61%	33.33%
41	May - Sep	88.06%	89.77%	89.65%	84.80%	89.84%	92.05%	89.71%	84.80%	92.05%
42	Other Months	66.52%	64.83%	65.24%	65.94%	63.97%	60.55%	65.04%	60.55%	66.52%
43	Difference	21.53%	24.93%	24.41%	18.86%	25.87%	31.49%	24.67%	18.86%	31.49%
44	FERC Test 2 - Lowest to Peak									
45	Lowest Monthly Peak as a Percentage of the Annual Peak									
46	Minimum Peak/Maximum	58.46%	59.55%	55.99%	56.18%	56.01%	51.02%	56.09%	51.02%	59.55%
47	FERC Test 3 - Average of Peak									
48	Average of 12-Monthly Peak Demands as a Percentage of the Maximum Annual Demand									
49	Average/Maximum	75.49%	75.22%	75.41%	73.80%	74.75%	73.68%	74.99%	73.68%	75.49%
50	Supplemental FERC Test									
51	Number of Monthly Demands in Off-Peak Months Which Exceed Monthly Demands During the On-Peak Months									
52	Jul & Aug	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
53	Jun - Aug	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
54	Jun - Sep	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
55	May - Sep	1	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-