

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

Before Commissioners:      Shari Feist Albrecht, Chair  
                                 Jay Scott Emler  
                                 Pat Apple

In the Matter of the Application of Westar      )  
Energy, Inc. for a Siting Permit for the      )  
Construction of a 345 kV Transmission Line      )      Docket No. 15-WSEE-365-MIS  
in Riley and Pottawatomie Counties, Kansas.      )

**ORDER GRANTING SOUTHWEST POWER POOL, INC. INTERVENTION**

This matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) for consideration and decision. Having reviewed the pleadings and record, the Commission makes the following findings:

1.      On February 20, 2015, Westar Energy, Inc. (Westar) filed an Application with the Commission for a siting permit granting Westar the right to construct a 345 kV transmission line from Westar's Jeffrey Energy Center Substation to Westar's East Manhattan Substation, located near Manhattan, Kansas.

2.      On March 3, 2015, Southwest Power Pool, Inc. (SPP) filed its Petition to Intervene.<sup>1</sup> SPP explained it is a Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and is responsible for taking all reasonable steps, including planning and general oversight duties, necessary to maintain and enhance the reliability of the electric transmission network operated by its member companies in Kansas and adjacent states.<sup>2</sup> SPP further stated the need for Westar's proposed transmission line was determined by SPP's Integrated Transmission Plan (ITP), and SPP was responsible for

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<sup>1</sup> Petition to Intervene, March 3, 2015.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*, ¶ 2.

conducting the studies related to the ITP, including the proposed line.<sup>3</sup> SPP asserted its interests would be substantially affected by the outcome of this proceeding, and the interests of justice and the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings will not be impaired by allowing intervention.<sup>4</sup> Finally, SPP stated it has an essential interest in the outcome of this proceeding which cannot be adequately represented by any other party.<sup>5</sup>

3. The Commission finds SPP has demonstrated an interest in this proceeding.

Therefore, pursuant to K.S.A. 77-521, the Commission grants SPP's Petition for Intervention.

4. SPP will be added to the official service list. Service of pleadings, communications, and correspondence should be delivered to counsel of record and SPP's other designees, as follows:

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5. SPP also requested permission to file testimony based on the studies demonstrating the need for and benefit of the proposed line ahead of the procedural schedule in this docket so other parties may consider such testimony when responding to Westar's

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<sup>3</sup> *Id.*, ¶¶ 3-4.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*, ¶ 6.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*, ¶ 7.

Application for Siting Permit. SPP attached the proposed testimony to its Petition to Intervene as Exhibit A. SPP's request to file testimony ahead of the procedural schedule is accepted. The testimony attached to the Petition to Intervene as Exhibit A shall be entered into the record.

**THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

A. Southwest Power Pool Inc.'s Petition to Intervene is granted pursuant to K.S.A. 77-521.

B. The parties have 15 days from the date of electronic service of this Order to petition the Commission for reconsideration.<sup>6</sup>

C. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and parties for the purpose of entering such further orders as it deems necessary.

**BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.**

Albrecht, Chair; Emler, Commissioner; Apple, Commissioner

Dated: MAR 19 2015



Neysa Thomas  
Acting Secretary

**EMAILED**

MAR 19 2015

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<sup>6</sup> K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 77-529(a)(1).

MAR 19 2015

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

15-WSEE-365-MIS

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Order Granting Southwest Power Pool, Inc. Intervention was served by electronic mail this 19th day of March, 2015, to the following parties who have waived receipt of follow-up hard copies:

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***EMAILED***

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

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***EMAILED***

MAR 19 2015