

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

In the Matter of Westar Energy, Inc. and)
Kansas Gas and Electric Company Seeking)
Commission Approval to Implement Changes) Docket No. 16-WSEE-375-TAR
in their Transmission Delivery Charges Rate)
Schedules.)

STAFF'S STATUS UPDATE

The Staff of the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (“Staff” and “Commission,” respectively), hereby provides this Status Update to the Commission regarding Staff’s review of Westar Energy, Inc. and Kansas Gas and Electric Company’s (Westar’s) Application seeking approval to update its Transmission Delivery Charge (TDC). In its Status Update, Staff states as follows:

1. On February 15, 2016, Westar filed an Application with the Commission seeking approval to update its TDC Tariff to recover costs associated with Westar’s transmission of electric power.¹
2. On March 31, 2016, the Commission issued an Order granting Westar’s Application to implement changes in its TDC on a subject-to-refund basis.²
3. Consistent with the Commission’s March 31, 2016, Order in the above captioned proceeding, and Staff’s March 10, 2016, Motion for Approval of Westar’s TDC Tariff Subject-to-Refund,³ Staff is providing the Commission with an update regarding Staff’s review of Westar’s TDC Application.

¹ Tariff for Westar Energy and Kansas Gas and Electric for 2016 Transmission Delivery Charge, p. 1 (Feb. 15, 2016).

² Order Granting Application to Implement Changes in Transmission Delivery Charge Subject-To-Refund (Mar. 31, 2016).

³ See Motion for Approval of Westar Energy’s Transmission Delivery Charge Tariff Subject-to-Refund, p. 2 (Mar. 10, 2016).

4. On March 30, 2016, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a Letter Order accepting a Settlement Agreement between, among others, Westar and the Commission.⁴ The Settlement Agreement sets the base Return on Equity (ROE) for Westar's transmission services at 9.8 percent, with 11.0 percent as the maximum total ROE for any transmission project of Westar to which FERC has granted or will grant transmission incentives, and provides that the base ROE and maximum total ROE will be in place effective August 20, 2014.⁵

5. Staff is continuing to review Westar's TDC Application in light of the recently approved Settlement Agreement, and is working to incorporate the terms of the Settlement Agreement into Westar's TDC as expeditiously as possible. Staff will continue to keep the Commission apprised of its progress in this matter, and will submit either its Report and Recommendation or an additional Status Update on or before June 30, 2016.

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully requests the Commission accept this Status Update, and for any other such relief the Commission deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

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⁴ Letter Order Accepting Westar Energy, Inc.'s 6/30/15 Filing of a Settlement Agreement with the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas et al under EL14-93, 154 FERC ¶ 61,252 (Mar. 30, 2016).

⁵ See *id.* at pp. 1-2.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

16-WSEE-375-TAR

I, the undersigned, certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Staff's Status Update was served via electronic service this 27th day of May, 2016, to the following:

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