

PUBLIC VERSION
***Certain Schedules Attached To This Testimony
Contain Confidential Information And Have Been Removed.***

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

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

BRENT C. DAVIS

**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. 09-KCPE-____-RTS

1 **Q: Please state your name and business address.**

2 **A: My name is Brent C. Davis. My business address is 1201 Walnut, Kansas City, Missouri**
3 **64106.**

4 **Q: By whom and in what capacity are you employed?**

5 **A: I am employed by Kansas City Power & Light Company (“KCP&L” or the “Company”)**
6 **as the Iatan Unit 1 Project Director.**

7 **Q: What are your responsibilities?**

1 A: My responsibilities include oversight of the construction and installation of certain air
2 quality control equipment on the existing coal-fired generating unit at the Iatan
3 Generating Station (“Iatan 1”).

4 **Q: Please describe your education, experience and employment history.**

5 A: I received a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering management from the University
6 of Missouri at Rolla in 1980, followed by a Master in Business Administration from
7 Rockhurst University in 1999. I began working at KCP&L in 1981 as a maintenance
8 engineer at the Montrose Generating Station. In 1985 I left the Company for a short
9 period of time to accept a position at Dayco Manufacturing in Springfield, Missouri as
10 maintenance superintendent. I returned to KCP&L later that year. Since that time, I have
11 held various engineering and management positions at each of KCP&L’s coal-fired
12 generating facilities, *i.e.*, the Montrose Generating Station, the LaCygne Generating
13 Station, the Iatan Generating Station, and the Hawthorn Generating Station. Immediately
14 prior to accepting my current position, I was plant manager at Hawthorn.

15 **Q: Have you previously testified in a proceeding at the Kansas Corporation
16 Commission (“Commission”) or before any other utility regulatory agency?**

17 A: I have not previously testified before this Commission; however, I provided testimony to
18 the Missouri Public Service Commission (“MPSC”) about construction activities at the
19 Iatan Generating Station during the proceedings concerning the acquisition of Aquila,
20 Inc. (“Aquila”) by Great Plains Energy Incorporated (MPSC Case No. EM-2007-0374).

21 **Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?**

22 A: The purpose of my testimony is (i) to provide an overview of the Iatan 1 air quality
23 control (“AQC”) projects, including a description of the oversight of the projects; (ii) to

1 discuss the in-service criteria for the projects; (iii) to explain how the anticipated cost to
2 complete the projects compares to the initial control budget estimate; and (iv) to identify
3 the portion of the Iatan 1 / Iatan 2 common facilities that should be included in rates in
4 this case because they are necessary for the operation of Iatan 1.

5 **Q: Please summarize your role with respect to the construction and installation of the**
6 **Iatan 1 AQC projects.**

7 A: I have been involved with the Iatan 1 AQC projects since June 2006. Initially, I was
8 responsible for the overall Iatan construction project, including the Iatan 1 projects as
9 well as the construction of Iatan 2. In November of 2007, I was asked to concentrate my
10 efforts on the completion of the Iatan 1 AQC projects.

11 **Overview of the Iatan AQC Projects and Summary of Oversight**

12 **Q: Please describe the Iatan 1 AQC projects.**

13 A: Company witness Carl Churchman describes the equipment in greater detail in his Direct
14 Testimony. Briefly, however, as part of the Stipulation and Agreement, which the
15 Commission approved in Docket No. 04-KCPE-1025-GIE (“Regulatory Plan
16 Stipulation”), KCP&L committed to add to Iatan 1 (i) a selective catalytic reduction
17 facility (“SCR”); (ii) a flue gas desulphurization unit (“Scrubber”); and (iii) a fabric filter
18 system for the removal of particulates (“Baghouse”) (jointly referred to as the “AQC
19 projects” or “AQC equipment”). The SCR reduces the amount of nitrous oxides emitted
20 into the atmosphere. The Scrubber, or absorber as it is sometimes called, reduces the
21 amount of sulfur dioxide emitted into the atmosphere. The Baghouse captures
22 particulates in the flue gas before it is released into the atmosphere.

1 **Q: Who owns Iatan 1?**

2 A: Iatan 1 is jointly owned by KCP&L, Aquila, and The Empire District Electric Company
3 (“Empire”). KCP&L owns 70%. Aquila owns 18%. Empire owns 12%. The Company
4 is seeking to include in its rates as part of this case only its commensurate share of the
5 costs of the equipment. For clarity, later in my testimony when I discuss the cost of the
6 Iatan 1 AQC projects, I will be speaking in terms of the overall cost as opposed to the
7 Company’s share of that cost.

8 **Q: Who is responsible for constructing and installing the Iatan 1 AQC equipment?**

9 A: KCP&L operates the unit and is ultimately responsible for constructing and installing the
10 Iatan 1 AQC equipment. However, the design, construction, and installation of the
11 equipment are highly specialized. Consequently, KCP&L contracted with a number of
12 parties for various aspects of the construction and installation activities. KCP&L used a
13 multiple prime contracting approach, meaning that KCP&L retained several primary
14 contractors to work on different aspects of the projects.

15 **Q: Who are those entities and what are their roles?**

16 A: The first I would mention is Burns & McDonnell (“B&M”). As KCP&L’s engineer for
17 the project, B&M is responsible for designing the overall project, from foundations to the
18 various components of the AQC equipment. The next vendor is ALSTOM Power
19 Service (“ALSTOM”). ALSTOM is responsible for designing, procuring, and
20 constructing the primary components of the AQC equipment, that is, the SCR, Scrubber,
21 and Baghouse. KCP&L’s contract with ALSTOM is an engineering, procurement, and
22 construction (“EPC”) contract, which means that ALSTOM is responsible for
23 engineering the projects, procuring the labor and equipment necessary for the projects,

1 and constructing the projects. Kissick Construction Company (“Kissick”) is responsible
2 for constructing the foundations for the various components of the projects. Pullman
3 Power (“Pullman”) is another significant contractor. Pullman is responsible for erecting
4 the flue chimney that will ultimately be utilized by both units, including the liners.
5 Lastly, Automatic Systems Inc. is responsible for the limestone material handling system
6 that will supply limestone to the reagent preparation system being supplied by ALSTOM.

7 The scope and complexity of the projects require a high degree of coordination
8 among the contractors. The foundations for the AQC equipment present a good example.
9 ALSTOM had to complete their design of the equipment before it could provide load and
10 location information to B&M for its use in engineering the foundations. B&M then
11 designed the foundations and passed the designs on to Kissick, who constructed them.
12 Kissick’s work, in turn, had to be completed before the foundations could be turned over
13 to ALSTOM so that it could begin to construct the AQC equipment.

14 **Q: Under the multiple prime contracting approach, was KCP&L responsible for**
15 **managing these contractors and coordinating their efforts?**

16 A: Yes, it was. The complexity of managing the interface of these contractors was one of
17 the factors that lead KCP&L to execute a “balance of plant” contract with Kiewit Power
18 (“Kiewit”). Under that contract, which was executed in November of 2007, Kiewit is
19 responsible for the majority of the work on the Iatan 1 AQC projects that is not covered
20 by one of the contractors I described above.

21 **Q: What are the benefits of executing the balance of plant contract with Kiewit?**

22 A: Absent such an agreement, KCP&L would have needed to bring seven or eight additional
23 contractors on site and manage their interface with the existing contractors. By executing

1 the Kiewit balance of plant contract, KCP&L was able to contract for the completion of
2 the project while adding only one contractor. This minimized any additional interface
3 risk from having more contractors on site. The balance of plant contract also minimized
4 other potentially significant risks, such as labor cost and productivity. Instead of KCP&L
5 bearing that risk, as it likely would have had we continued the multiple prime contracting
6 approach, Kiewit took on much of that risk.

7 **Q: Could you please describe the oversight to which the Iatan 1 AQC projects have**
8 **been subject?**

9 **A:** The projects are subject to extensive oversight from both internal and external sources. A
10 project of this size and complexity requires the use of a sophisticated cost control system.
11 Developing and implementing such a system was also a condition of the Regulatory Plan
12 Stipulation. With the assistance of Schiff Hardin LLP (“Schiff”), KCP&L developed and
13 implemented a state-of-the-art cost control system. KCP&L also hired individuals with
14 extensive construction experience for its internal project management team. In addition
15 to myself, there is Carl Churchman, Vice President of Construction, Russ Finkle and Paul
16 Waddell, the construction managers; Steve Jones, the procurement manager; Terry
17 Foster, the project controls manager; Mike Hermsen, the safety manager; Hugh Miller,
18 the start-up manager; and Roy Douglas, the quality control manager. Each of these
19 individuals has extensive experience on large-scale construction projects. The team is on
20 site at the Iatan Generating Station and manages day-to-day construction activities. Also
21 internal to the Company is the CEP Oversight Committee, comprised of Company
22 executives from different areas of the Company. The project team periodically presents
23 information to the CEP Oversight Committee concerning the status of the project and

1 challenges being addressed by the project team. The CEP Oversight Committee provides
2 feedback and direction to the project team as necessary. KCP&L's internal audit
3 department has also played an active role with respect to the construction of the Iatan 1
4 AQC projects.

5 **Q: You also mentioned external oversight. Could you also describe the external**
6 **oversight to which the construction of the AQC equipment at Iatan 1 is subject?**

7 A: As I have noted, Schiff provides external oversight by providing an independent review
8 of the status of the construction and installation of the Iatan 1 AQC equipment both in
9 terms of cost and schedule. Schiff is nationally renowned for its expertise in the
10 oversight and management of large-scale construction projects. The members of the
11 Schiff team have significant experience with power plant construction both in the United
12 States and abroad. As described in the Direct Testimony of Company witness Kenneth
13 M. Roberts, Schiff helped KCP&L develop and implement its cost control system. Schiff
14 also provides ongoing oversight for the projects and assists with ongoing negotiations
15 with contractors. Schiff provides information concerning its reviews to the project team
16 as well as the CEP Oversight Committee. Ernst and Young also provides oversight,
17 including a review of the Company's cost control system, safety, schedule, among other
18 processes they reviewed. The projects are also subject to review from the joint owners of
19 Iatan 1, *i.e.*, Aquila and Empire. There are periodic joint owner meetings to address
20 issues related to the projects, and Aquila and Empire have diligently exercised their right
21 to audit KCP&L's construction expenditures.

22 Lastly, the Commission's Staff also plays an oversight role. KCP&L provides
23 quarterly reports to Staff concerning issues related to the projects. KCP&L then meets

1 with Staff to discuss those reports. In addition, Staff has the ability to investigate issues
2 related to KCP&L's implementation of the Regulatory Plan Stipulation.

3 **In-Service Date and Criteria**

4 **Q: What are the in-service criteria for the SCR, Scrubber, and Baghouse at Iatan 1?**

5 A: As part of the Regulatory Plan Stipulation, the signatory parties agreed to develop in-
6 service criteria for the AQC equipment to be installed on KCP&L's existing coal-fired
7 generating units. In 2007, KCP&L installed an SCR on Iatan 1 of its LaCygne
8 Generating Station ("LaCygne 1"). KCP&L and Staff agreed on in-service criteria for
9 that facility. The LaCygne 1 SCR satisfied that criteria and was included in KCP&L's
10 rates as part of its 2007 rate case (Docket No. 07-KCPE-905-RTS). In accordance with
11 the Regulatory Plan Stipulation, KCP&L will work with Staff to develop in-service
12 criteria for the Iatan 1 AQC equipment.

13 **Q: What is the basis for including the Iatan 1 SCR, Scrubber, and Baghouse in this**
14 **case?**

15 A: The Regulatory Plan Stipulation provides that KCP&L may include in this rate case new
16 investment in plant that is anticipated to be in service within ten months of filing its case.
17 The Iatan 1 SCR, Scrubber and Baghouse comprise new investment in plant that is
18 anticipated to be in service within the timeframe contemplated in the Regulatory Plan
19 Stipulation. Consequently, the equipment is appropriate for inclusion in this case.

20 **Changes in Cost and Schedule**

21 **Q: What is the currently anticipated cost of the Iatan 1 AQC projects?**

22 A: As described above, construction of the AQC equipment has not yet been completed.
23 Consequently, the Company does not know at this time the precise cost of the equipment.

1 The exact dollar amount will have to be resolved later in this case once the project is
2 complete. I can say, however, that KCP&L currently estimates that the total cost of the
3 AQC equipment will not exceed \$484.2 million. While that figure is greater than the
4 initial control budget estimate for the projects developed in December 2006 when the
5 projects were approximately 20% to 25% engineered, the current estimate is entirely
6 consistent with the results of the cost reforecast that the Company completed in April
7 2008 and presented to the Staff as part of the Company's quarterly CEP updates. A
8 summary of the results of the reforecast is attached as Schedule BDC-1 (Confidential).

9 **Q: How does the current estimated cost of completion compare to the control budget**
10 **estimate that was developed in December 2006?**

11 A: The Company's initial control budget estimate for the Iatan 1 AQC projects was
12 \$376.8 million, which is \$107.4 million less than the current estimated cost of
13 completion.

14 **Q: Please describe the differences between the results of the control budget estimate**
15 **and the reforecast cost, including the primary areas in which costs have increased.**

16 A: Of the estimated \$107.4 million increase, \$86.4 million is attributable to an anticipated
17 increase in the base estimate of the project. The remaining \$21 million of the estimated
18 increase is reserved as a contingency for potential future use should the need arise. Given
19 the complexity and risks associated with projects such as the Iatan 1 AQC projects,
20 companies routinely include a contingency in their budgets to address costs that might
21 arise after the budget for the project has been finalized.

22 As the Company has previously explained to the Commission Staff and other
23 interested stakeholders, there are four categories of costs that resulted in the base estimate

1 increase: (i) scheduling changes associated with design maturation; (ii) scope design
2 changes attributable to maturation of the projects; (iii) escalations in the price of labor
3 and supplies; and (iv) expenditures to optimize operation or construction of Iatan 1, *i.e.*,
4 to reduce the Unit's long-term operations and maintenance expenses. These four
5 categories of costs account for more than 97% of the anticipated increase in the base
6 estimate of the Iatan 1 AQC projects.

7 **Q: Was the initial control budget estimate wrong or inadequate?**

8 A: No, I would not say that. The initial control budget estimate was a good number based
9 upon the information that was available at the time it was developed.

10 **Q: If the initial control budget estimate was not flawed, why did the Company**
11 **reforecast the cost of the project?**

12 A: As a preliminary matter, I want to clarify that to say the Company "reforecast" the cost of
13 the projects earlier this year does not mean that the Company has not been actively
14 monitoring and responding to cost changes and challenges since it provided the initial
15 control budget estimate. To the contrary, the Company has continuously monitored and
16 updated cost estimates for the projects since it provided the initial control budget
17 estimate. This is a key element of the Company's cost control processes. Having said
18 that, beginning in late 2007, the Company began a comprehensive, bottom-up review of
19 the cost of the projects. This is the process that the Company completed in April of this
20 year and what is commonly referred to as "the reforecast." *See* Schedule BCD-1
21 (Confidential). There are a variety of reasons that led us to undertake that process. First,
22 the Iatan 1 projects were approximately 90% engineered at that time. Second, KCP&L
23 had just executed the balance of plant contract with Kiewit that I described earlier in my

1 testimony. Third, the Company observed that the contingency portion of the budget for
2 the projects was being depleted more rapidly than anticipated. Finally, the ongoing cost
3 monitoring, reforecasting process the Company had employed, as typified by risk and
4 opportunity tables, indicated that potentially significant cost pressures were on the
5 horizon and the Company wanted to be in a position to address them proactively and
6 holistically. It was a combination of all of these factors that led us to undertake what has
7 become known as the reforecast.

8 **Q: Please describe the reforecast process.**

9 A: The reforecast was a comprehensive, bottom-up review of the cost and schedule
10 associated with completing the Iatan 1 AQC projects. The Company looked at what it
11 would cost to complete the projects, including an assessment of the potential for certain
12 subsequent events to adversely impact the cost and schedule of the projects.

13 **Q: Does KCP&L have a cost control process in place concerning the construction of the**
14 **Iatan 1 AQC projects?**

15 A: Yes, it does. As I described earlier in my testimony, a project of this size and complexity
16 requires a sophisticated cost control process. KCP&L developed and implemented a
17 sophisticated and robust cost control system in consultation with a variety of experts in
18 the field of large-scale construction projects. Mr. Roberts describes the cost control
19 process in some detail in his Direct Testimony in this case.

20 **Q: What steps did KCP&L take to control the ultimate cost of the Iatan 1 AQC**
21 **projects?**

22 A: As a preliminary step, KCP&L entered into fixed-price contracts for a majority of the
23 Iatan 1 AQC projects. The ALSTOM EPC contract for the AQC equipment is a fixed-

1 price contract. It is the largest contract for the projects, accounting for more than sixty
2 percent of the control budget estimate. KCP&L also used a fixed-price contract for
3 several engineered equipment procurements, including the ash handling equipment,
4 electrical and controls equipment, and the economizer. Given the challenges the
5 construction industry has seen since those contracts were executed, the decision to pursue
6 fixed-price contracts was a particularly good one. Another type of contract KCP&L used
7 to control cost is a unit price, or quantity-based contract. The Kiewit balance of plant
8 contract, for example, is a quantity-based contract. Such a contract helps control cost by
9 pegging the cost of the project to the materials that comprise the project, which works to
10 shield the Company from risks associated with labor costs and productivity.

11 The cost control system that KCP&L developed and implemented for the Iatan 1
12 AQC projects tracks awarded costs and approved change orders to compute a total
13 commitment compared against the initial control budget estimate. Any subsequent
14 contract awards or change orders that are different (more or less) than the original control
15 budget estimate amount are withdrawn or added to contingency. Cost reports are updated
16 and analyzed monthly for trending data to identify potential cost exposure to the projects.
17 In addition, the output of the cost reforecast has been incorporated into this system to
18 reflect the new budget amount discussed earlier.

19 **Q: With all of these cost control efforts in place, how do you explain the discrepancy**
20 **between the current estimated cost to complete the Iatan 1 AQC projects and the**
21 **initial control budget estimate?**

22 **A:** Cost control systems, even one as sophisticated and robust as the one used by the
23 Company for the Iatan AQC projects, cannot guarantee that a project will not experience

1 cost pressures or even increases. Nothing can do that. The construction industry as a
2 whole, and in particular power plant-related construction, has experienced intense cost
3 pressures over the last few years. Global and domestic prices for general construction
4 materials and the specialized components for a project such as this have risen
5 dramatically. Operating in this environment, the Company's cost control processes have
6 worked well. Without those processes in place, the ultimate cost of the AQC projects
7 would have been much higher than it is.

8 **Common Facilities**

9 **Q: What are "Common Facilities" and why are they an issue in this case?**

10 A: Common Facilities are facilities that Iatan 1 and Iatan 2 will ultimately share once Iatan 2
11 goes into service. However, those facilities are necessary now for the operation of
12 Iatan 1 with the new AQC equipment. Because the facilities are essential for the
13 operation of Iatan 1, it is appropriate to include a portion of their cost in rates at the same
14 time the Iatan 1 AQC equipment goes into rates. However, because some portion of the
15 cost is more appropriately associated with Iatan 2, it would not be appropriate to include
16 their entire cost in rates at this time. The issue before the Commission in this case is to
17 determine what portion of Common Facilities should be included in the Company's rates
18 in this case because they are used and useful with respect to the operation of Iatan 1, and
19 what portion should be addressed in the subsequent rate case involving Iatan 2.

20 **Q: What are some examples of Common Facilities?**

21 A: The new flue gas chimney is probably the simplest example. The original Iatan 1
22 chimney could not be used with the new AQC equipment. Consequently, a new chimney
23 had to be built for Iatan 1. A chimney would also need to be constructed for Iatan 2. The

1 Company decided to build a single, shared concrete chimney with two separate liners to
2 be used by each unit because doing so is more efficient than building two separate
3 chimneys. With this consideration in mind, it is appropriate to include a portion of the
4 cost of the new chimney in rates associated with the Iatan 1 projects and to allocate a
5 portion to be in rates associated with Iatan 2. This is but one example. Other examples
6 include the various systems necessary to support the AQC equipment on both units,
7 *e.g.*, storage and handling facilities for limestone, limestone reagent preparation
8 equipment, scrubber sludge, and treatment facilities for the various waste products.

9 **Q: Please explain the basis for KCP&L's proposed allocation of the cost of Common**
10 **Facilities between Iatan 1, which are included in this case, and the remainder, which**
11 **will be proposed to be included in the rate case associated with the completion of**
12 **Iatan 2.**

13 A: The Company allocated the cost of the Common Facilities between Iatan 1 and Iatan 2
14 based on the generation capacity of the respective units, *i.e.*, 670 MW for Iatan 1 and
15 850 for Iatan 2. Cost is also allocated, based on the different ownership structures of the
16 two units, that is, KCP&L's share is based on a weighted average of its ownership
17 interest in each unit, which is approximately 61%.

18 **Q: What would such an allocation add to the Iatan 1 costs the Company seeks to**
19 **include in rates in this case?**

20 A: The allocation of Common Facilities has been included in the Plant adjustment (Adj-21)
21 reflected in Schedule JPW-2 attached to the Direct Testimony of Company witness John
22 Weisensee. The precise amount will need to be addressed later in this case once the
23 project is complete.

1 **Q: You mentioned earlier that the original Iatan 1 chimney could not be used with the**
2 **new AQC equipment. Has the original chimney been retired?**

3 **A:** The chimney has not yet been physically removed. However, for the purposes of this
4 case the Company has removed the net book value of the chimney from rate base.

5 **Q: Does that conclude your testimony?**

6 **A:** Yes, it does.

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

In the Matter of the Application of Kansas City)
Power & Light Company to Modify Its Tariffs to) Docket No. 09-KCPE-____-RTS
Continue the Implementation of Its Regulatory Plan)

AFFIDAVIT OF BRENT C. DAVIS


STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss
COUNTY OF JACKSON)

Brent C. Davis, being first duly sworn on his oath, states:

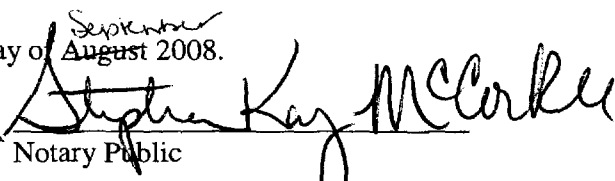
1. My name is Brent C. Davis. I work in Kansas City, Missouri, and I am employed by Kansas City Power & Light Company as Project Director, Iatan 1.

2. Attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes is my Direct Testimony on behalf of Kansas City Power & Light Company consisting of fifteen (15) pages, having been prepared in written form for introduction into evidence in the above-captioned docket.

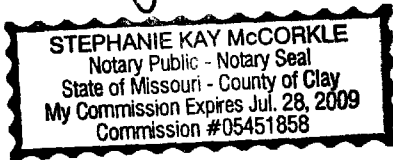
3. I have knowledge of the matters set forth therein. I hereby swear and affirm that my answers contained in the attached testimony to the questions therein propounded, including any attachments thereto, are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.


Brent C. Davis

Subscribed and sworn before me this 4th day of ~~August~~ ^{September} 2008.


Notary Public

My commission expires: July 28, 2009



SCHEDULE BCD-1

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