

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

In the Matter of a General Investigation of)
Kansas City Power & Light Company's All) Docket No. 16-GIME-576-GIE
Electric Residential Rates.

STAFF'S STATUS UPDATE

COMES NOW, the Staff of the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Staff and Commission, respectively), and files its initial Status Update as contemplated by the Commission's Procedural Order. In support of its Status Update, Staff states as follows:

I. PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

1. On June 21, 2016, the Commission issued an Order Opening General Investigation to examine Kansas City Power & Light Company's (KCP&L) all-electric residential heating rates.¹

2. On September 22, 2016, the Commission issued a Procedural Order directing interested parties to file with the Commission written reports which analyze alternative methodologies for determining benefits residential all-electric space heating customers provide to the KCP&L system and KCP&L's residential non-all-electric heating customers.² The Commission presented a number of questions parties preparing reports were directed to answer.³

3. The Commission granted interested parties 45 days from the date of the Procedural Order to submit a proposed date when parties could submit their respective reports to the Commission.⁴ The deadline to submit the initial report is therefore November 7, 2016.⁵ At that time, the Commission would then issue an Order Setting Procedural Schedule.⁶

¹ Order Opening General Investigation (Jun. 21, 2016).

² See Procedural Order, p. 2 (Sep. 22, 2016).

³ See *id.* at pp. 2-3.

⁴ See *id.* at p. 4.

4. On October 17, 2016, the Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB) filed a Motion to Extend Filing Deadline for Thirty Days.⁷

II. STATUS UPDATE

5. Staff is interested in providing the Commission information that will aid the Commission in its renewed review of KCP&L's residential all-electric heating discounts. Staff has begun preparing a report detailing the background and evolution of KCP&L's residential all-electric heating discounts, different cost-allocation methodologies, and policy considerations. Additionally, Staff intends to analyze and offer input regarding the Commission's questions to interested parties.

6. Staff recognizes CURB has undertaken the hiring of a consultant to address the Commission's questions. Staff understands that Kansas Procurement Rules prevent CURB from retaining a consultant prior to the November 7, 2016, deadline for submitting an initial proposed report date.

7. Staff anticipates interested parties to this proceeding will work collaboratively to identify and present a full and complete response to the Commission's questions. Accordingly, Staff anticipates CURB's consultant and the speed at which they are able to prepare a report will influence other parties' report preparation.

8. Because CURB's consultant will likely influence Staff's report preparation, Staff seeks permission to file its forthcoming report concurrently with CURB.

9. In the event CURB is unable to retain a consultant within CURB's requested 30-day extension, Staff will continue to research and prepare its report independently. In this event,

⁵ Forty-five days from September 22, 2016, is November 6, 2016. Pursuant to K.A.R. 82-1-217(a), the date parties are to file initial reports is therefore November 7, 2016.

⁶ See Procedural Order, p. 4.

⁷ See Motion of CURB to Extend Filing Deadline for Thirty Days.

Staff anticipates it will be able to submit a report to the Commission on April 25, 2017. Of course, Staff will comply with any procedural schedule issued by the Commission in this matter.

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully requests the Commission accept this Status Update, and for any other relief as the Commission may deem appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

16-GIME-576-GIE

I, the undersigned, certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Staff's Status Update was served by electronic service on this 7th day of November, 2016, to the following:

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