THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners: Mark Sievers, Chairman

Thomas E. Wright Shari Feist Albrecht

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Mid-) Kansas Electric Company, LLC, Lane-Scott) Electric Cooperative, Inc., Prairie Land Electric) Cooperative, Inc., Southern Pioneer Electric) Company, Victory Electric Cooperative) Association, Inc., Western Cooperative Electric) Docket No. 13-MKEE-447-MIS Association, Inc., and Wheatland Electric) Cooperative, Inc., Joint Applicants, for an) Order Approving the Transfer of Certificates of) Convenience With Respect to All of Mid-) Kansas' Retail Electric Services and for Other) Related Relief.

ORDER DESIGNATING PREHEARING OFFICER

This matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) for consideration. Having examined the files, the Commission concludes as follows:

- 1. On January 7, 2013, Mid-Kansas Electric Company, LLC, and its members, Prairie Land Electric Cooperative, Inc., Victory Electric Cooperative Association, Inc., Western Cooperative Electric Association, Inc., Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc., Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc., and Southern Pioneer Electric Company, filed an application with the Commission for an Order:
 - (i) approving the transfer of Mid-Kansas' Certificate(s) of Convenience and Necessity to its Members with respect to all of its local distribution system and retail electric utility services and operations in the State of Kansas, with Mid-Kansas retaining its certificate as to its generation and transmission assets and services, and its certificated right to provide transmission services in its currently designated retail certificated territory, and a finding the transfers of the Certificate(s) are in the public interest and approving the same;

- (ii) if required, approving a Wholesale Requirements Agreement;
- (iii) approving adoption by the Members of all applicable retail rates, rules, and tariffs with respect to the local distribution and retail electric utility services necessary to operations;
- (iv) approving the Shared Service Agreement, as supplemented, and, to the extent required, approving the Settlement Agreement, as supplemented;
- (v) approving and finding that the terms of the wholesale services and rates provided by Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. ("KEPCo") for the Victory and Prairie Land load in the to be acquired territory be the same as the terms of the currently approved wholesale services and rates provided by Mid-Kansas, as may be modified by Mid-Kansas from time to time, and that the Commission make such finding and order prior to the transfer of the Certificates of Convenience to Victory and Prairie Land; provided further, should KEPCo elect in the future to set terms of wholesale service and rates for Victory and Prairie Land that differ from the approved Mid-Kansas wholesale terms of service and rates, ordering that the wholesale terms of service and rates can be modified only after approval by the Commission;
- (vi) if required, approving the assignment of the Wholesale Requirements Agreement by and among Mid-Kansas, the Members, KEPCo and Sunflower Electric Power Corporation ("Sunflower"), as applicable;
- (vii) determining the process necessary for the Member cooperatives to become or remain exempt from Commission regulation pursuant to K.S.A. 66-104d after the transfer of the Certificate of Convenience, and modifying the Commission's Order in Docket No. 06-MKEE-524-ACQ as necessary to reflect such determination; and,
- (viii) for such other related relief that may be required to fulfill the intent and purposes of the joint application herein.
- 2. Although the Commission will conduct the evidentiary hearing in this docket, the Commission designates a prehearing officer to conduct any prehearing conferences that might be needed in this proceeding and to address any matters that are appropriately considered in a prehearing conference, including all items listed in the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act (KAPA) at K.S.A. 77-517(b). These items include, for example, conversion of the proceeding to another type; exploration of settlement possibilities; preparation of stipulations; clarification of issues; rulings on identity and limitation of the number of witnesses; objections to proffers of

evidence; determination of the extent to which direct evidence, rebuttal evidence, or cross-examination will be presented in written form, and the extent to which telephone or other electronic means will be used as a substitute for proceedings in person; order of presentation of evidence and cross-examination; rulings regarding issuance of subpoenas; discovery orders and protective orders; and such other matters as will promote the orderly and prompt conduct of the hearing.

3. The Commission concludes that a prehearing officer should be designated for this proceeding to conduct any prehearing conferences that might be needed and to address any matters that are appropriately considered in a prehearing conference, including all items listed in KAPA at K.S.A. 77-517(b). The Commission designates Brian G. Fedotin, Advisory Counsel, 1500 SW Arrowhead Road, Topeka, KS 66604-4027, telephone number 785-271-3105, email address <u>b.fedotin@kcc.ks.gov</u>, to act as Prehearing Officer in this proceeding. K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 77-514; K.S.A. 77-516; K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 77-551. The Commission, as it deems necessary, may designate other staff members to serve in this capacity.

IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

- A. The Commission designates Brian G. Fedotin to act as Prehearing Officer in this proceeding. The Commission directs the Prehearing Officer to work with the parties to develop a procedural schedule in this docket.
- B. Parties have 15 days, plus three days if service of this Order is by mail, from the date of service of this Order to petition the Commission for reconsideration. K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 77-529(a)(1).
- C. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and parties for the purpose of entering such further orders as it may deem necessary.

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Sievers, Chairma	n; Wright,	Commissioner	; Albrecht.	Commissioner.
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Dated: _____ JAN 1 6 2013

ORDER MAILED JAN 1 7 2013

Patrice Petersen-Klein Executive Director

BGF/mch

PLEASE FORWARD THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT (S) ISSUED IN THE ABOVE-REFERENCED DOCKET TO THE FOLLOWING:

NO. CERT. COPIES NO. PLAIN COPIES

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ORDER MAILED JAN 1 7 2013

The Docket Room hereby certified that on this ____ day of _______, 20______, it caused a true and correct copy of the attached ORDER to be deposited in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, and addressed to the above persons.

PLEASE FORWARD THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT (S) ISSUED IN THE ABOVE-REFERENCED DOCKET TO THE FOLLOWING:

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ORDER MAILED JAN 1 7 2013

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PLEASE FORWARD THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT (S) ISSUED IN THE ABOVE-REFERENCED DOCKET TO THE FOLLOWING:

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ORDER MAILED JAN 1 7 2013

The Docket Room hereby certified that on this <u>day of</u>, and <u>day of</u>, it caused a true and correct copy of the attached ORDER to be deposited in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, and addressed to the above persons.