

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

Before Commissioners:

Mark Sievers, Chairman
Thomas E. Wright
Shari Feist Albrecht



Received
on

MAY 15 2013

by
State Corporation Commission
of Kansas

In the Matter of the Application of Westar)
Energy, Inc. for a Siting Permit for the)
Construction of a 345 kV Transmission Line)
In Saline and Ottawa Counties, Kansas)

Docket No. 13-WSEE-676-MIS

PETITION TO INTERVENE

COMES NOW, the Southwest Power Pool, Inc. ("SPP") and pursuant to K.S.A. 77-521, petitions the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas ("the Commission") for an order granting SPP intervention in the above-captioned matter. In support of its Petition, SPP states the following:

1. On May 3, 2013, Westar Energy, Inc. ("Westar") submitted its *Application for a Siting Permit for the Construction of a 345 kV Transmission Line in Saline and Ottawa Counties, Kansas ("Application for Siting Permit")*, requesting the right to construct a 345 kV transmission line from Westar's Summit Substation to an interconnection point near Justice Road in Ottawa County (the "Project").
2. SPP, as a FERC-approved Regional Transmission Organization ("RTO"), 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 in other states in the SPP RTO Region.

3. A group of transmission upgrade projects in the SPP footprint, including the Project, was approved by the SPP Board of Directors as part of the 2012 Integrated Transmission Planning 10-Year ("ITP10") Assessment on January 31, 2012. The Project was identified to address voltage collapse at Elm Creek related to the loss of the Elm Creek – Northwest Manhattan 230 kV Line.
4. SPP was responsible for conducting the ITP10 Assessment related to the Project, and as the RTO is responsible for regional planning and reliability of the electric transmission network. Accordingly, SPP intends to file testimony based on the studies demonstrating the need for and the benefit of the Project.
5. SPP's interests would, thus, 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.
6. Accordingly, SPP has an essential interest in the outcome of this proceeding which cannot be adequately represented by any other party.

WHEREFORE, SPP respectfully requests the Commission grant its Petition to Intervene in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



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**Attorneys for Southwest Power Pool, Inc.
Petitioner**

VERIFICATION
K.S.A. 53-601

STATE OF KANSAS)
) ss:
COUNTY OF SHAWNEE)

I verify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.



John R. Wine, Jr.

Executed on May 15, 2013.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above Petition to Intervene was sent via email, this 15th day of May, 2013, to the following:

Samuel Feather, Litigation Counsel Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Rd Topeka, KS 66604-4027 Fax: 785-271-3167 s.feather@kcc.ks.gov	Andrew French, Advisory Counsel Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Rd Topeka, KS 66604-4027 Fax: 785-271-3314 a.french@kcc.ks.gov
Judy Jenkins, Litigation Counsel Kansas Corporation Commission 1500 SW Arrowhead Rd Topeka, KS 66604-4027 Fax: 785-271-3167 j.jenkins@kcc.ks.gov	Cathryn J. Dinges, Corporate Counsel Westar Energy, Inc. 818 S. Kansas Avenue P.O. Box 889 Topeka, Kansas 66601-0889 Fax: 785-575-8136 Cathy.Dinges@westarenergy.com
Kelly B. Harrison, VP – Transmission Westar Energy, Inc. 818 S. Kansas Avenue P.O. Box 889 Topeka, Kansas 66601-0889 kelly.harrison@westarenergy.com	Jeffrey L. Martin, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs Westar Energy, Inc. 818 S. Kansas Avenue P.O. Box 889 Topeka, Kansas 66601-0889 Jeff.Martin@westarenergy.com
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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John R. Wine, Jr.", positioned above a horizontal line.

John R. Wine, Jr.

Attorney for Southwest Power Pool, Inc.



HELPING OUR MEMBERS WORK TOGETHER
TO KEEP THE LIGHTS ON... TODAY AND IN THE FUTURE

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May 15, 2013

Docket Room
Patti Petersen-Klein, Executive Director
Kansas Corporation Commission
1500 SW Arrowhead Rd
Topeka, KS 66604-4027



MAY 15 2013

by
State Corporation Commission
of Kansas

RE: Docket No. 13-WSEE-676-MIS

Dear Ms. Petersen-Klein:

Please find an original and seven copies of Southwest Power Pool's Petition to Intervene. This filing was fax filed on May 15, 2013. Please file-mark one copy and send back to me in the enclosed pre-paid Federal Express Envelope.

Thank you for your assistance!

Sincerely,

Michelle Harris

Michelle Harris

Enclosures