

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

Before Commissioners: Pat Apple, Chairman  
Shari Feist Albrecht  
Jay Scott Emler

In the Matter of the Application of Great )  
Plains Energy Incorporated, Kansas City )  
Power & Light Company, and Westar ) Docket No. 18-KCPE-095-MER  
Energy, Inc. for Approval of the Merger of )  
Westar Energy, Inc. and Great Plains Energy )  
Incorporated. )

**PREHEARING OFFICER ORDER GRANTING KEPCo's**  
**MOTION TO ENLARGE TIME FOR RESPONSE**  
**TO APPLICANT'S MOTION TO COMPEL**

This matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) for consideration and decision. Having reviewed the pleadings and record, the Prehearing Officer finds:

1. On August 25, 2017, Westar Energy, Inc. and Kansas Gas and Electric Company (Westar), Great Plains Energy Incorporated (Great Plains) and Kansas City Power & Light Company (KCP&L) filed an Application seeking approval to merge. The Applicants intend to form a new, publicly traded holding company with a combined equity value of approximately \$14 billion, which will operate regulated electric utilities in Kansas and Missouri.<sup>1</sup> Westar and KCP&L would become wholly-owned subsidiaries of the new holding company.<sup>2</sup> As proposed, Westar shareholders will own approximately 52.5% of the combined company with Great Plains' shareholders owning the remaining 47.5% of the combined company.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Application, Aug. 25, 2017, ¶¶ 9-10.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*, ¶ 10.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*, ¶ 11.

2. On December 6, 2017, Joint Applicants filed a Motion to Compel concerning discovery requests to KEPCo.<sup>4</sup> Pursuant to the Discovery Order, KEPCo's response to the motion is due December 11, 2017.

3. On December 8, 2017, KEPCo filed its motion requesting an enlargement of time until December 20, 2017 to respond to Joint Applicants' Motion to Compel due to the voluminous nature of Joint Applicants' motion. KEPCo noted the Joint Applicants have no objection to the enlargement of time, provided KEPCo agrees not to oppose giving the Joint Applicants until January 3, 2018 to file their reply.<sup>5</sup>

4. K.A.R. 82-1-217(b) grants the Commission discretion to allow additional time for good cause shown. The Prehearing Officer finds that good cause exists for the enlargement of time requested due to Applicants' voluminous Motion to Compel. Therefore, KEPCo's Motion to Enlarge Time for Response to Applicants' Motion to Compel is due December 20, 2017.

**THEREFORE, THE PREHEARING OFFICER ORDERS:**

A. KEPCo's Motion to Enlarge Time for Response to Applicants' Motion to Compel is granted. KEPCo's Response is due December 20, 2017. Joint Applicants' reply is due January 3, 2018.

B. The parties have 15 days from the date of electronic service of this Order to petition for reconsideration.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Great Plains Energy Incorporated, Kansas City Power & Light Company and Westar Energy, Inc. Motion to Compel, Dec. 6, 2017.

<sup>5</sup> Motion of Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. to Enlarge Time for Response to Applicant's Motion to Compel, Dec. 8, 2017, ¶ 4.

<sup>6</sup> K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 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 deems necessary.

Dated: December 11, 2017

BGF/sc

/s/ Brian G. Fedotin

Brian G. Fedotin  
Prehearing Officer

**MAILED**  
DEC 11 2017

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

18-KCPE-095-MER

I, the undersigned, certify that the true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following parties by means of

Electronic Service on DEC 11 2017.

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