

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

Before Commissioners: Chairman Mark Sievers
 Thomas E. Wright
 Shari Feist Albrecht

In the Matter of the Applications of Westar)
Energy, Inc. and Kansas Gas and Electric) Docket No. 13-WSEE-629-RTS
Company for Approval to Make Certain)
Changes in Their Charges for Electric Service.)

PREHEARING OFFICER ORDER SETTING SCHEDULING CONFERENCE

This matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) for consideration. The Commission has designated Jay P. Van Blaricum, Advisory Counsel, to act as Prehearing Officer in this proceeding. Having reviewed the files and records, the Prehearing Officer makes the following findings:

1. On April 15, 2013, Westar Energy, Inc. and Kansas Gas and Electric Company (collectively, Westar) filed a Joint Application seeking approval of the Commission to make certain changes in their charges for electric service. In its Joint Application, Westar requested the Commission issue an order in this docket within six months of the date of filing the Joint Application.

2. In an Order issued April 24, 2013, the Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB) was granted intervention in this docket.

3. Also on April 24, Staff of the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Staff) filed a Motion for Suspension Order, requesting the Commission suspend Westar's Joint Application 240 days until December 9, 2013, to allow Staff ample time to complete its investigation.

4. On April 25, 2013, the parties communicated with the Prehearing Officer via electronic mail and agreed upon a date and time for the scheduling conference. A scheduling conference is necessary to address any pending matters, to establish a procedural schedule for the docket, and to consider any other prehearing issues, which may promote the orderly and prompt conduct of this proceeding. The Prehearing Officer therefore sets a Scheduling Conference for May 1, 2013, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Third Floor Hearing Room of the Commission's offices, 1500 SW Arrowhead Road, Topeka, Kansas 66604-4027. Prehearing Officer Jay P. Van Blaricum, telephone (785) 271-3186, email address j.vanblaricum@kcc.ks.gov, will preside.

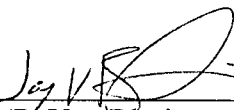
WHEREFORE, THE PREHEARING OFFICER FINDS AND CONCLUDES AS FOLLOWS:

A. A Scheduling Conference is set for May 1, 2013, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Third Floor Hearing Room of the Commission's offices, 1500 SW Arrowhead Road, Topeka, Kansas 66604-4027, as described above. Prehearing Officer Jay P. Van Blaricum will preside.

B. Parties have fifteen days, plus 3 days if service of this Order is by mail, from the date of service of this Order in which to petition the Commission for reconsideration. K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 77-529(a)(1).

C. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and parties for the purpose of entering such further order or orders as it may deem necessary.

Dated: 4-25-2013



Jay P. Van Blaricum
Prehearing Officer

JV

APR 25 2013

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

13-WSEE-629-RTS

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Prehearing Officer Order Setting Scheduling Conference was placed in the United States mail, postage prepaid, or hand-delivered this 25th day of April, 2013, to the following:

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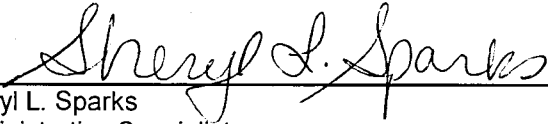
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Sheryl L. Sparks
Administrative Specialist

ORDER MAILED APR 25 2013