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January 26, 1987

Mr. Harvey G. Hubbs, Secretary Missouri Public Service Commission P. O. Box 360 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Re: Kansas City Power & Light Company Steam Service. Case No. HO-86-139

Dear Mr. Hubbs:

Public Counsel is in receipt of Intervenor's Motion for Local Public Hearings as filed in the above-referenced matter on January 14, 1987. Like all other ratepayers, KCPL's steam heat customers are entitled to the opportunity to present their views to the Commission at local public hearings. Public Counsel, therefore, does not oppose Interevenor's request for local public hearings.

Public Counsel traditionally represents the interests of the smallest ratepayers, namely the residential and small commercial utility customers. Public Counsel has made it clear to all parties in this matter that, as its traditional clients have no direct interest at risk in this proceeding. Public Counsel's role is primarily that of an interested observer and its degree of participation will be significantly less than in other rate matters. Public Counsel is confident that the overal' interests of KCPL's steam customers will be adequately represented by the numerous parties to this case.

Based on the above, and pursuant to Section 386.710(3), RSMc 1986, Public Counsel withdraws itself from the role of sponsoring and calling witnesses at the local public hearing, and suggests that the Commission designate some other party to perform this function in this matter.

Public Counsel appreciates your cooperation in bringing this to the Commission's attention.

Sincerely.

Carol L. Biellans Assistant Public Counsel

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Douglas M. Brooks **Public Counsel** 

