# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of the Application of Great Plains Energy Incorporated for Approval of its Merger with Westar Energy, Inc.

File No. EM-2018-0012

# MOTION FOR APPROVAL TO PRESENT CERTAIN WITNESSES AS A PANEL

COME NOW Great Plains Energy Incorporated ("Great Plains Energy" or "GPE"), Kansas City Power & Light Company ("KCP&L"), KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company ("GMO"), and Westar Energy, Inc. ("Westar")(all parties collectively referred to herein as "Applicants"), pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.110(4), and file this Motion requesting an Order from the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") allowing Applicants to present two witnesses at hearing as a panel. In support thereof, Applicants state as follows:

1. Concurrent with the filing of this Motion, Applicants have filed an Application seeking approval of the merger of Westar and Great Plains Energy. Included with the Application is the direct testimony of supporting witnesses from the Applicants. The direct testimonies of Mr. Mark Ruelle and Mr. Terry Bassham are filed separately, although because they negotiated the Amended Merger Agreement and will be responsible for the success of the Merger, they address similar topics from the perspective of the companies they currently lead.

2. Subject to the Commission's approval, Applicants propose to present Mr. Ruelle and Mr. Bassham together at hearing for cross-examination as a panel rather than as individual witnesses. Applicants believe this approach is more efficient as it will allow the Commission and the parties to present their questions to both witnesses so that the witness best suited can provide the answer, or both witnesses can answer if appropriate, or the party presenting the question can designate which witness the party wants to have answer a particular cross-examination question.

3. Since this method of presenting witnesses at hearing is not standard practice at the Commission, Applicants request the Commission determine in advance of the prehearing conference

(not yet scheduled) whether such approach is acceptable and issue an Order advising the parties as to whether this approach will be adopted for hearing.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons set forth above, Applicants request the Commission grant this Motion and issue an Order approving their request to present two of their witnesses, Mr. Ruelle and Mr. Bassham, as a panel at hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was served upon the parties listed below on this 31<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2017, by either e-mail or U.S. Mail, postage prepaid.

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