## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of an Investigation into	)	
the Siting and Safety of a Proposed	)	Case No. EO-2012-0271
Transmission Line in Platte County, Missouri	)	

# RESPONSE TO OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL'S MOTION TO OPEN AN INVESTIGATION

COMES NOW Kansas City Power & Light Company ("KCP&L") and KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company ("GMO") (collectively referred to as "Company") and for the Company's response to the Office of Public Counsel's ("OPC") Motion to Open an Investigation for the purpose of investigating safety issues with respect to the Iatan-Nashua transmission line project states as follows.

- 1. On June 19, 2009, KCP&L received a notice from the Southwest Power Pool to construct a 345kV transmission line from its Iatan substation to its Nashua substation. Since that time, KCP&L has been exploring options for the Iatan-Nashua transmission line project. After working for more than a year on evaluating options and listening to customer concerns, KCP&L selected its final route on February 2, 2012. In the upcoming months, the Company will perform property surveys along the route. Once the surveys are complete, the Company will contact property owners regarding easement negotiation and acquisition.
- 2. Contrary to OPC's assertion in paragraph 3 that KCP&L has not responded to concerns about the Iatan-Nashua transmission line project, KCP&L has responded to landowner concerns in multiple ways. For example, in November 2010 and 2011, public meetings were held in Smithville, Camden Point and Dearborn where more than 300 individuals attended. From November 2010 to January 2011 small group and individual meetings were held with more

than 100 individual stakeholders and representatives of more than 500 individuals. At a December 19, 2011 meeting at the Platte County Commission, the Company committed to continue to work to mitigate the concerns raised by landowners including those raised by the Concerned Citizens against Power Line 62 group. A copy of a resolution by the Platte County Commission memorializing this meeting is attached as Exhibit A. KCP&L met with many of the members of the Concerned Citizens group, both individually and in small groups and has responded to the letter from the attorney for the Concerned Citizens Group. The two-way communication, feedback, on-site visits and other meetings have been an extremely important part of the planning of the Iatan-Nashua transmission line project and the Company certainly respects the concerns of all stakeholders.

- 3. The Company is opposed to OPC's proposal to initiate a case for the purpose of investigating safety issues with respect to the Iatan-Nashua transmission line project. The basis OPC cites for initiating the proposed investigation—ensuring that safety concerns with the petroleum transmission line are being addressed (OPC Motion ¶ 4)—is best addressed by the Company once the exact route of the line is determined following surveying and property acquisition. It is not unusual for pipelines and transmission lines to be located near one another. The Company is aware of the existing ONEOK pipeline and is working with the pipeline company on easement and safety issues. The Company will follow all electric industry safety guidelines as well as those provided by ONEOK in its construction of the transmission line. The Company will only build the transmission line near the pipeline if any safety issues can be mitigated.
- 4. The Company will keep OPC and Staff informed of new developments and key decisions concerning the Iatan-Nashua transmission line project.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons stated herein, the Company respectfully requests that the Commission deny OPC's Motion to Open an Investigation.

Respectfully submitted,

### |s| Roger W. Steiner

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ATTORNEY FOR KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY and KCP&L GREATER MISSOURI OPERATIONS COMPANY

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been hand-delivered, emailed or mailed, postage prepaid, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of February 2012 to all counsel of record in this case.

s Roger W. Steiner

Roger W. Steiner



### PLATTE COUNTY COMMISSION

KATHY A. DUSENBERY
1ST DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

JASON BROWN
PRESIDING COMMISSIONER

JIM PLUNKETT
2ND DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

RESOLUTION: 2012-RES-07

KCP&L Commitment to Platte County Commission Regarding Transmission Line Segment #62

This resolution formalizes the expectations from the Platte County Commission of KCP&L regarding transmission line segment #62 on behalf of the citizens of Platte County:

- While considering the construction of new lines, we urge KCP&L to utilize existing lines, easements, and right-of-ways as the first course of action.
- Cooperate with ONEOK Partners on any easement issues, safety issues and pipeline location issues that arise.
- Acquire final determination of "No Hazard" from the Federal Aviation Administration prior to construction.
- Continue to work on mitigating interference problems with farming GPS systems, including line clearance issues, interference issues, and EMF issues for landowners.
- When KCP&L reaches an agreement with a landowner to compensate them for a
  voluntary easement, the agreed-to-compensation is paid when the easement is signed
  and KCP&L will not use the condemnation process to seek to reduce the compensation
  in an agreed-to-easement.

We, the Platte County Commission, believe all of the above mentioned issues are of fundamental importance to Platte County citizens and furthermore, we require that KCP&L continue public outreach with property owners along segment #62 to discuss their concerns, issues, and questions about this proposed project.

APPROVED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF	PLATTE COUNTY, MISSOURI, ON
THIS 17 DAY OF Janger	201
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	Vason Brown
	Presiding Commissioner
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ATTEST: CONTRACTOR OF THE CONT	Kathy A. Dusenbery
Millian	1st District Commissioner
Down Harms	AN
Joan Harms	Jim Plunkett
County Clerk	2nd District Commissioner