

*Exhibit No.*  
*Issues:* Advertising  
"Clarification," regarding  
Gross Receipts Tax (GRT)  
*Witness:* Bret G. Prenger  
*Sponsoring Party:* MoPSC Staff  
*Type of Exhibit:* Surrebuttal Testimony  
*File No.:* ER-2010-0355  
*Date Testimony Prepared:* January 5, 2011

**MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**UTILITY SERVICES DIVISION**

**SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY**

**OF**

**BRET G. PRENGER**

**Great Plains Energy, Incorporated  
KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY**

**FILE NO. ER-2010-0355**

*Jefferson City, Missouri  
January, 2011*

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1           A.     No. Curtis Blanc stated on page 53 of his Rebuttal Testimony that the  
2 Company feels that the costs incurred associated with the Connections Program benefit its  
3 customers now, and in the immediate future. Thus it is “inappropriate to delay the recovery  
4 of them over a ten-year period,” which is the Staff’s position.

5           Q.     Does Staff feel it is appropriate to amortize a portion of the costs of the  
6 Connections Program?

7           A.     Yes. Staff maintains that the costs associated with the Connections Program  
8 should be split, with half being expensed immediately, and half deferred over a 10 year period  
9 by being associated with the Staff’s Demand Side Management (DSM) program.

10          Q.     Is the Company being allowed full recovery of these advertising costs?

11          A.     Yes. Staff’s proposal allows KCPL full recovery of these deferred expenses  
12 and even allows for a rate of return at the Company’s Allowance for Funds Used During  
13 Construction (“AFUDC”) rate on the unamortized balance. These costs are for advertisements  
14 that inform KCPL’s customers about DSM programs and energy efficiency options. They are  
15 clearly DSM costs. DSM costs are not incurred to provide a benefit for a one-year period, but  
16 rather are designed to produce benefits well into the future. To charge to expense in the  
17 current period, costs that are clearly designed to produce benefits well into the future, does not  
18 make sense from either an accounting standpoint or a ratemaking perspective.

19          Q.     Why did Staff handle the Connection’s Program in this manner?

20          A.     Staff decided to defer half of the costs of the Connection Program based on  
21 Staff’s review of documentation related to this promotional campaign. Staff determined a  
22 portion of the costs were associated with informing consumers about efficient home  
23 appliances and how to be more efficient with energy use in general. In prior cases, it has been

1 Staff's goal to associate advertising costs with the project to which such advertising appears  
2 to relate (i.e. advertising supporting wind energy and specifically the Spearville Wind Farm  
3 would be charged to that project; costs regarding the Iatan 2 project were charged to that  
4 plant, etc.). Staff treated the advertising costs relating to the Connections Program in the  
5 same manner in this case as it did in the examples provided above. The advertising costs for  
6 the portion of the Connections Program that dealt with DSM-type programs/costs were  
7 assigned to DSM accounts because in Case No. ER-2009-0089 costs related to  
8 energy efficiency programs were deferred to the DSM accounts as well. Staff continues to  
9 believe this is the proper way to treat those costs.

10 Q. Does the Company offer a description of the Connections Program?

11 A. Mr. Blanc describes this program on page 53 of his Rebuttal Testimony. He  
12 states that the program includes "products and services to help customers save energy..."

13 Q. Does Staff agree with this statement?

14 A. Staff feels this is an accurate statement. In fact, that is exactly why Staff has  
15 taken the position it has in this case. Providing customers with information on products that  
16 save energy was considered by Staff as part of the Company's Energy Efficiency Program.  
17 In Case No. ER-2009-0089, these types of costs were amortized over a 10 year period for the  
18 Company's DSM Program. The Connections Program informs customers about opportunities  
19 for them to save money, including a range of payment and funding options. Staff believes this  
20 should be the main focus of the Connections Program, as there are already other  
21 Energy Efficiency Programs in place to discuss resources aimed at informing consumers  
22 about energy conservation products. Based on the existence of other Energy Efficiency

1 Programs, Staff has included as an expensed cost, half of the Connection's Program's total  
2 cost, while amortizing the other half over a 10 year period as part of the DSM program costs.

3 Q. How did Staff decide that the Program dealt with Energy Efficiency?

4 A. Staff reviewed all the Connection Program material in meetings held in late  
5 September 2010 and early October 2010. While in the review process, Staff determined that  
6 the program does provide information to assist consumers with financial need, with  
7 alternate/assistance in bill payment and also informs and educates customers about energy  
8 efficiency and energy efficient home appliances and heating and cooling methods.

9 Q. Did Staff make an adjustment of \$86,406 to General Advertising costs?

10 A. Yes. As Mr. Blanc stated on page 53 of his Rebuttal Testimony, Staff made a  
11 reduction consisting primarily of two items: 1) \$23,043 for an energy efficiency kiosk and  
12 2) \$56,872 for the development of an energy efficiency website.

13 Q. Why were these specific costs adjusted?

14 A. Staff proposed this adjustment for the same reasons mentioned in the above  
15 discussion of the costs associated with the Connections Program. These General Advertising  
16 costs deal with Energy Efficiency costs and to maintain consistency with how these costs  
17 have been treated in prior rate cases, specifically Case No. ER-2009-0089, Staff amortized  
18 these over a 10 year period as part of the Company's DSM Program. Staff's DSM adjustment  
19 is being sponsored by Staff witness Charles Hyneman.

20 **CLARIFICATION**

21 Q. Mr. Weisensee states at page 29 of his Rebuttal Testimony that you indicated  
22 that the Company had included gross receipts taxes (GRT) in prepayments. Did the Company  
23 do this?

1           A.     No. It was stated in the Cost of Service Report, on pages 46 and 47 that  
2 GRT was included by the Company in prepayments, however, they were not included in  
3 prepayments.

4           Q.     Please explain the payroll clarification described by Company witness  
5 Weisensee on page 29 of his Rebuttal Testimony.

6           A.     Page 83 of the Staff Cost of Service Report states that “Great Plains  
7 Energy (GPE) has minuscule labor costs that are to be annualized using current employee  
8 levels and current salaries. GPE provides common services such as accounting,  
9 tax consolidation, corporate legal, and governance to GPE entities...” These duties were  
10 transferred to KCPL in 2009 and are now allocated to other GPE companies. They are no  
11 longer handled by GPE and this was misstated in the Cost of Service Report.

12          Q.     Does this Correction have any financial impact?

13          A.     No, this is simply written incorrectly, the financial impact was handled  
14 correctly in the Staff Accounting Schedules.

15           **ECONOMIC RELIEF PILOT PROGRAM (ERPP)**

16          Q.     Does Staff agree with the Company’s proposal to recover costs associated with  
17 the ERPP program?

18          A.     Yes, Staff believes that the Company should receive the projected on-going  
19 level of expense of the program, as well as 12 months (1 year) of the 3 years amortization of  
20 the deferred costs of the program.

21          Q.     Does the Company agree with this position?

22          A.     No, the Company requested the Staff’s treatment plus an additional  
23 unamortized balance of deferred costs to be given Rate Base treatment.

1 Q. Why is Staff opposed to Rate Base treatment for the unamortized balance of  
2 deferred costs of the program?

3 A. Staff is opposed to this treatment because stated on page 7 of Case No.  
4 ER-2009-0089's stipulation is the following statement regarding the ERPP program. "The  
5 Signatory Parties agree that this program should be implemented, but that it should not be  
6 considered a demand side management program. (DSM)" KCPL is requesting rate base  
7 treatment of its DSM programs in this case, and given the prior statement, that the ERPP  
8 Program shouldn't be considered a DSM Program, Staff is opposed to including Rate Base  
9 treatment for the Program. Staff has included an ongoing level of costs and the amortization  
10 relating to the deferral. Staff does not believe that this type of operating cost should be  
11 afforded rate base treatment.

12 Q. Why has Staff not given the unamortized balance Rate Base Treatment?

13 A. Traditionally, items that are included in Rate Base are related more to  
14 investments made by the Company over a longer life than one year. Staff views the Program  
15 as more of a period cost or ongoing operational cost versus a Company investment and thus  
16 shouldn't be afforded Rate Base treatment.

17 Q. Does this conclude your Surrebuttal Testimony?

18 A. Yes.



