

Exhibit No.:
Issue: Minimum Filing Requirements;
Depreciation Study; Revenues;
Rate Design; and
Rules and Regulations
Witness: Tim M. Rush
Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony
Sponsoring Party: Kansas City Power & Light Company
Case No.: ER-2009-____
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MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE NO.: ER-2009-____

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

TIM M. RUSH

ON BEHALF OF

KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

**Kansas City, Missouri
September 2008**

DIRECT TESTIMONY

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Case No. ER-2009-_____

1 **Q: Please state your name and business address.**

2 A: My name is Tim M. Rush. My business address is 1201 Walnut, Kansas City, Missouri
3 64106-2124.

4 **Q: By whom and in what capacity are you employed?**

5 A: I am employed by Kansas City Power & Light Company (“KCP&L” or the “Company”)
6 as Director, Regulatory Affairs.

7 **Q: What are your responsibilities?**

8 A: My general responsibilities include overseeing the preparation of rate cases, class cost of
9 service (“CCOS”) studies and rate design for KCP&L and Aquila, Inc. dba KCP&L
10 Greater Missouri Operations Company. I am also responsible for overseeing the
11 regulatory reporting and general activities as they relate to the Missouri Public Service
12 Commission (“MPSC” or “Commission”).

13 **Q: Please describe your education, experience and employment history.**

14 A: In addition to public schools, I received a Master's Degree in Business Administration
15 from Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Missouri. I did my
16 undergraduate study at both the University of Kansas in Lawrence and the University of
17 Missouri in Columbia. I received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business
18 Administration with a concentration in Accounting from the University of Missouri in
19 Columbia.

1 **Q: Please provide your work experience.**

2 A: I was hired by KCP&L in 2001, as the Director, Regulatory Affairs. Prior to my
3 employment with KCP&L, I was employed by St. Joseph Light & Power Company
4 (“Light & Power”) for over 24 years. At Light & Power, I was Manager of Customer
5 Operations from 1996 to 2001, where I had responsibility for the regulatory area, as well
6 as marketing, energy consultant and customer services area. Customer services included
7 the call center and collections areas. Prior to that, I held various positions in the Rates
8 and Market Research Department from 1977 until 1996. I was the manager of that
9 department for fifteen years.

10 **Q: Have you previously testified in a proceeding before the MPSC or before any other**
11 **utility regulatory agency?**

12 A: I have testified on numerous occasions before the MPSC on a variety of issues affecting
13 regulated public utilities. I have additionally testified at the Federal Energy Regulatory
14 Commission and the Kansas Corporation Commission.

15 **Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?**

16 A: The purpose of my testimony is to explain how the Company satisfied the MPSC’s
17 minimum filing requirements (“MFR”) and the depreciation study requirements under 4
18 CSR § 240-3.030 and 4 CSR § 240-3.160. I am also sponsoring the retail revenue
19 adjustment to reflect the annualized and normalized revenue level for the Missouri
20 jurisdiction and the Company proposal for rate design. The proposed rate design results
21 from the MPSC’s requirement in Case No. ER-2007-0291 to file a “complete cost of
22 service and/or cost-effectiveness studies and analyses of KCP&L’s general service all-
23 electric tariffs and separately metered space heating rates.”

1 **I. MINIMUM FILING REQUIREMENTS**

2 **Q: What is the purpose of this part of your testimony?**

3 A: The purpose of this part of my testimony is to confirm that KCP&L has satisfied the
4 MPSC's MFR, as set forth in 4 CSR § 240-3.030.

5 **Q: How did KCP&L satisfy the MFR?**

6 A: The following information was prepared to address the specific requirements of the MFR
7 as outlined in 4 CSR § 240-3.030(3):

8 A: Letter of transmittal

9 B: General information, including:

- 10 1. the amount of dollars of the aggregate annual increase and percentage
11 over current revenues;
- 12 2. names of counties and communities affected;
- 13 3. the number of customers to be affected;
- 14 4. the average change requested in dollars and percentage change from
15 current rates;
- 16 5. the proposed annual aggregate change by general categories of service
17 and by rate classification;
- 18 6. press releases relative to the filing; and
- 19 7. a summary of reasons for the proposed changes.

20 **Q: Are you sponsoring this information?**

21 A: Yes, I am.

22 **Q: Was this information prepared under your direct supervision?**

23 A: Yes, it was.

1 **II. DEPRECIATION STUDY REQUIREMENTS**

2 **Q: Were the provisions of 4 CSR § 240-3.160 addressed, concerning a depreciation**
3 **study, database and property unit catalog in this filing?**

4 A. The Company requested and received a waiver from filing the depreciation study,
5 database, and property unit catalog in Case No. EE-2008-0259 until the filing of the rate
6 case associated with the anticipated completion of Iatan 2.

7 **III. ANNUALIZED/NORMALIZED REVENUES**

8 **Q: Were the retail revenues included in this filing prepared by you or under your**
9 **supervision?**

10 A: Yes, they were.

11 **Q: Will you describe the method used in developing the revenues for this case?**

12 A: Both the kWh sales and customer levels by rate class were developed by Company
13 witness George M. McCollister. Mr. McCollister explains those figures in his Direct
14 Testimony. I was then responsible to develop monthly bill frequencies for 2007 that
15 contained the actual billing units for each of the billing blocks for the various rate
16 components. For example, the residential general use rate has several billing blocks in
17 the winter period, while only one billing block in the summer period. The bill frequency
18 collects the actual usage that is billed in each of the billing blocks for each month in the
19 winter period. It also collects the actual number of customers in each of the months. By
20 applying the actual rates to the usage in each of the billing blocks, the revenues can be
21 reproduced. This method provided the basis for determining the overall revenues to be
22 used in this case. Monthly revenues were determined by applying the normalized sales
23 and customer levels for each month represented in the test period to the corresponding

1 billing frequency and the actual rates that took effect on January 1, 2008. This was done
2 for each rate for each month. The sum of these revenues was compared to the actual
3 2007 revenues to determine the revenue adjustment contained in the Direct Testimony of
4 KCP&L witness John P. Weisensee as Adj-49a on Schedule JPW-2.

5 IV. ELECTRIC RATE DESIGN

6 **Q: Are you sponsoring the electric tariffs filed in this case?**

7 A: Yes, I am.

8 **Q: Please describe some of the background to the rate design established in the last rate**
9 **case and its impact on the rate design in this case.**

10 A: As a result of KCP&L's most recent general rate case, Case No. ER-2007-0291, the
11 MPSC ordered the Company to present in its next rate case a "complete cost of service
12 and/or cost-effectiveness studies and analyses of KCP&L's general service all-electric
13 tariffs and separately metered space heating rates." The purpose of these studies and
14 analyses was to allow KCP&L the opportunity to present its preferred phase-out plan for
15 the remaining commercial and industrial customers served under the all-electric tariffs
16 and separately metered space heating rates.

17 By way of background, the MPSC Report and Order in that case also required the
18 Company to no longer offer to new commercial and industrial customers the general
19 service all-electric tariffs and/or the separately metered space heating rates. Existing
20 commercial or industrial customers currently receiving service under any of those tariffs
21 could continue to receive such service. The MPSC further ordered modifications to the
22 rate design such that KCP&L's general service all-electric and separately metered space

1 heating rates were increased more than KCP&L's corresponding standard general
2 application rates

3 **Q: Were similar adjustments made to the residential all-electric or separately metered**
4 **space heating tariffs?**

5 A: No. The residential rate schedules were increased on an equal percentage basis.

6 **Q: Has the Company performed an electric CCOS study that differentiates the**
7 **commercial and industrial all-electric and separately metered rate classifications**
8 **from the non-electric heating classes?**

9 A: Yes. The Company has prepared such a study. Company witness Paul Normand
10 provides the CCOS study and summarizes the results of the study in his Direct
11 Testimony.

12 **Q. What methodology did Mr. Normand use in preparing his CCOS?**

13 A. Mr. Normand used a methodology often referred to as the Base, Intermediate, Peak
14 ('BIP') method. Essentially, this methodology allocates costs to classes based on the
15 utilization of production facilities. This is described in great detail in Mr. Normand's
16 Direct Testimony.

17 **Q. Does the methodology for the CCOS differ from the methodology used in**
18 **determining the jurisdictional allocation between Missouri, Kansas and FERC?**

19 A. Yes. The methodology used in developing the jurisdictional allocation methodology in
20 this proceeding was developed and presented in the Direct Testimony of Company
21 witness John Weisensee and differs from Mr. Normand's CCOS methodology.

22 **Q. Is it normal for the jurisdictional allocation methodology to differ from the CCOS**
23 **methodology?**

1 A. Yes. Generally, the parties addressing CCOS and rate design issues use different
2 allocation methodologies from the jurisdictional allocation methodologies. Reasons for
3 this are often because of the granularity of data needed for the CCOS versus jurisdictional
4 studies. CCOS studies usually have greater detail and often more special studies
5 developed and applied in defining the class allocation factors. As an example, load
6 research data is often used in developing the CCOS. This often requires statistical studies
7 representative of the classes. Additionally, greater refinement to class loss studies and
8 customer demand studies are applied which do not normally occur on a jurisdictional
9 basis.

10 **Q: Were the results of the CCOS study used in developing the proposed rate design in**
11 **the context of this rate case?**

12 A: Yes. The proposed rate design for the commercial and industrial customers is based on
13 the results of the CCOS study.

14 **Q: What are the general results and conclusions from the CCOS study?**

15 A: The results of the CCOS study show that each class of customer recovers the cost of
16 service to that class and provides a return on investment. Within each class in the study,
17 the seasonal rates show the same thing. That is, the summer and winter rates for each
18 class provide recovery of the cost of service and a return on the investment.

19 The CCOS study demonstrates that rates for the non-electric heating customers
20 charged during the winter time provide a higher contribution to the average return on
21 investment than the summer rates. The study also shows that the customers who receive
22 service under the all-electric tariff or separately metered tariff in combination with the

1 general service tariff provide a lower return to the Company in the winter than the
2 summer and also provide a lower return than a comparable general service rate.

3 It is important to note that while the all-electric and separately metered space
4 heating customers are providing a lower return in the winter than the non-heating
5 customers, they are still providing a return on a fully allocated cost of service basis.

6 Another point that should be considered is that the winter non-electric heating
7 customers rates are substantially above the average return. Given this point, the winter
8 revenues for these non-electric heating customer classes should be decreased and the
9 summer revenues for the non-electric heating, all electric and separately metered space
10 heating classes increased if the goal was to achieve an equal rate of return for each class
11 on a seasonal basis.

12 **Q: Please go on.**

13 A: Another observation from the results of the CCOS study is that customer classes' overall
14 returns show that rates in the Large Power and Residential classes are earning less than
15 the average. Likewise, the Small General Service class is earning well above the average
16 return. One of the Company's primary concerns with shifting revenues between classes
17 is that it will result in customer shifts between classes. This further complicates the rate
18 design necessary to recover the total revenues. In order to address the issue, we would
19 essentially need to go back and re-bill customers on various rate structures to determine if
20 they would be better off on one rate versus another. This is an extremely time-consuming
21 and difficult task. This is one of the reasons that rate design cases are so complicated and
22 often take up to several years to complete. If these shifts are not addressed in the rate
23 design, the Company will likely not recover its entire revenue requirement.

1 **Q: Please provide some background as to how the all-electric and separately metered**
2 **electric heating rates were developed.**

3 A: The electric heating rates were originally designed to encourage customers to use electric
4 heat and consume electricity during off-peak periods. Originally, electric heating rates
5 were priced to be competitive with alternative fuels but still recover variable costs and
6 make a contribution to the fixed costs of the Company. Today, electric heating rates are
7 more than competitive with alternative fuels and make a significant contribution to the
8 fixed costs of the Company. However, as stated earlier non-heating winter rates also
9 contribute substantially more to the recovery of fixed cost than average.

10 **Q: Given your evaluation of the results of the CCOS, what are you recommending for**
11 **the proposed rate design in this proceeding?**

12 A: First of all, it is not practical at this point to eliminate the space heating and all electric
13 rates completely until the classes are addressed and the winter summer differentials
14 within the classes are addressed. I recommend that over the next few rate cases, that the
15 commercial and industrial all-electric and separately metered space heating rates be
16 phased out. Currently, these rates are not available for new customers. Also, I am
17 proposing that the separately metered space heating tariffs winter energy charges for the
18 Small General Service, Medium General Service and Large General Service tariffs be
19 increased by 5 percent prior to any increase in revenue requirement in this case. The
20 increase will be applied on a revenue neutral basis within the respective classes. I then
21 recommend that the increase in revenue requirement in this case be spread on an equal
22 percentage basis to all rates. I also recommend that the residential separately metered
23 space heating tariff be frozen and no longer available to new premises.

1 **Q. What do you envision as the next step in rate design?**

2 A. As has been presented in both the testimony of Company witness Paul Normand and
3 myself, the results of the CCOS study indicate that the rate design of all customers need
4 to be changed. Specifically, class revenue requirements should be addressed and the
5 summer winter differentials within classes need to be addressed. This is a very
6 complicated and time consuming undertaking and will likely require a phased in
7 approach over several years to mitigate large customer impacts in any given year.

8 **Q. Do other factors need to be considered while making these changes?**

9 A, Yes. As mentioned above, customer impacts, the practicality of implementing the change
10 due to constraints with changes to the billing system, and other long-term policy
11 decisions need to be addressed.

12 **Q. How would you propose to accomplish this?**

13 A: The changes made over the last two cases and the recommended changes in this case, will
14 move heating customers closer to the CCOS and an appropriate rate design. I would
15 propose that a separate rate design study case be initiated after the conclusion of the Iatan
16 2 rate case. This case could run its own course and not be tied to a rate case time
17 schedule. It would allow parties to focus on the overall rate design of the Company and
18 address many of the issues as mentioned above. This may still result in a phase out of
19 these end use rates if the results of the rate design case cause a phase in of summer/winter
20 cost based rates. Only through a comprehensive rate design case with evaluation of
21 customer impacts in total can we eliminate these end use rates in their entirety. The best
22 time to do this is in a revenue requirement neutral case after the Iatan 2 case.

1 **V. RULES and REGULATIONS**

2 **Q: Do you recommend any changes to the Company's rules and regulations?**

3 A: Yes. I recommend one change in the rules and regulations. I recommend that the date
4 for the determination of the interest rate to be paid on deposits be changed to the first
5 business day of the calendar year rather than the last business day of the preceding
6 calendar year, as presently set forth in Rule 2.07 (D)(2) on Sheet Number 1.09A.

7 **Q: Why are you requesting this change?**

8 A: KCP&L believes that the additional time of knowing the prime lending rate will allow the
9 Company to avoid errors given the additional time to code and validate the change for all
10 of our rates and versions.

11 **Q: Does that conclude your testimony?**

12 A: Yes, it does.

