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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Western Resources, Inc. and Kansas City Power & Light Company for Approval of the Merger of Kansas City Power & Light Company with Western Resources, Inc. and Other Related Relief.

Case No. EM-97-515

ORDER SUSPENDING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

On May 30, 1997, Western Resources, Inc. (WRI) and Kansas City Power & Light Company (KCPL) filed a joint application with the Commission requesting an order approving the merger of KCPL with WRI and for other related relief. On November 25, 1997, the Commission issued an order adopting a procedural schedule in this case. On January 9, 1998, KCPL, WRI, the Office of the Public Counsel (OPC), and the Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed a joint motion to suspend the procedural schedule.

The parties state that WRI's investment banker indicated that it was unable to issue a required fairness report. This report is a condition precedent to the mailing of proxy materials to the shareholders of WRI. After a meeting between WRI and KCPL to attempt to resolve the matter, the parties agreed it would be prudent to suspend the procedural schedule pending notification by the parties to proceed. The Staff also filed a memorandum in support of the suspension on January 9, 1998.

The Commission will suspend the procedural schedule in this case until notification by the parties as to the disposition of this case. However, pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.116 if no action is taken for 90 days and no party requests a continuance, this case may be dismissed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. That the procedural schedule, adopted November 25, 1997, is hereby suspended until notification by the parties as to the further disposition of this case.
- 2. Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.116 if no action is taken and no request for continuance is filed, this case may be dismissed on or after April 27, 1998.
- 3. That this order shall become effective on January 26, 1998.

BY THE COMMISSION

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(SEAL)

Joseph A. Derque III, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.120(1), (November 30, 1995) and Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 26th day of January, 1998.

STATE OF MISSOURI OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City,

Missouri, this <u>26th</u> day of <u>January</u>, 1998.

Dale Hardy Roberts

Ask Hoed Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION JEFFERSON CITY January 26, 1998

CASE NO: EM-97-515

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Enclosed find certified copy of ORDER in the above-numbered case(s).

HAL HARD BOOKS

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

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