

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

In the Matter of the Application of Great Plains Energy Incorporated for its Approval of the Merger with Westar Energy, Inc.)
Docket No. EM-2018-0012)
)
)

STATEMENT OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI

COMES now the City of Independence, Missouri, by and on behalf of its municipal utility, Independence Power and Light (together “Independence”), and respectfully submits this Statement concerning the Stipulation and Agreement submitted by Great Plains Energy Incorporated (“Great Plains Energy” or “GPE”), Kansas City Power & Light Company (“KCP&L”) and Westar Energy, Inc. (“Westar”), (collectively, “Applicants”), the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”), Brightergy, LLC (“Brightergy”), and Missouri Joint Municipal Electric Utility Commission (“MJMEUC”), in the captioned proceeding on January 12, 2018, as supplemented on March 8, 2018.

1. On August 31, 2017, Applicants filed an Application and supporting testimony in the captioned proceeding seeking approval of GPE’s merger with Westar, pursuant to the terms of an amended merger agreement between GPE and Westar.
2. On October 2, 2017, Independence was granted intervenor status in the proceeding.
3. On January 12, 2018, Applicants submitted a Stipulation and Agreement in this proceeding among Applicants, Commission Staff, Brightergy, and MJMEUC.
4. On March 8, 2018, Applicants supplemented the January 12, 2018 Stipulation and Agreement, to which the Office of People’s Counsel and Midwest Energy Consumers Group joined.

5. As a result of discussing Independence's concerns regarding the proposed merger transaction with Applicants, and in reliance on those discussions, Independence's concerns have been addressed such that Independence does not oppose the Stipulation and Agreement and supports this Commission's approval of the proposed transaction in accordance therewith.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Debra D. Roby

Debra D. Roby
Alan I. Robbins
Andrea I. Sarmentero Garzón
Jennings, Strouss & Salmon, P.L.C.
1350 I Street, N.W., Suite 810
Washington, D.C. 20005-3305
(202) 371-9030
droby@jsslaw.com
arobbins@jsslaw.com
asarmentero@jsslaw.com

/s/ Dayla Schwartz

Dayla Bishop Schwartz, MO #31399
City Counselor
City of Independence
111 East Maple Street
Independence, MO 64050
(816) 325-7217
dschwartz@indepmo.org

Dated: April 10, 2018

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have caused copies of the forgoing to be mailed, emailed or hand-delivered to all parties listed on the official service list on this 10th day of April, 2018.

/s/ Debra D. Roby

Debra D. Roby