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Normalization*

Witness: Seoung Joun Won, PhD

Sponsoring Party: MoPSC Staff

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*Case No.: ER-2018-0145 and
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MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSION STAFF DIVISION

TARIFF AND RATE DESIGN DEPARTMENT

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

SEOUNG JOUN WON, PhD

KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

CASE NO. ER-2018-0145

AND

KCP&L GREATER MISSOURI OPERATIONS COMPANY

CASE NO. ER-2018-0146

Jefferson City, Missouri

July 2018

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1 Q. Which aspects of the HLRD used by Mr. Bass are you going to address?

2 A. I am addressing two issues: (1) the sample design to produce HLRD for
3 weather normalization of GMO and (2) the Large Power Service (“LPS”) class HLRD for
4 weather normalization of both KCPL and GMO.

5 **SAMPLE DESIGN FOR GMO**

6 Q. What sample design was used to produce HLRD for Mr. Bass’ weather
7 normalization of GMO?

8 A. The Company used the samples developed for pre-GMO rate consolidation and
9 modified samples for post-GMO rate consolidation. GMO’s response to Staff data request No.
10 0124 provided:

11 Pre-GMO Consolidation, (07/16 through 02/17) load research
12 analyses were ran separately for GMO-MPS and GMO-L&P for
13 the sampled (non-census) classes using normal methodology.
14 Post-GMO Consolidation, Load research points were reviewed
15 for their pre- and post-GMO Consolidation rates. If the pre-
16 and post-GMO Consolidation rates were within the same class,
17 no changes were made, other than new class names were
18 created for any affected GMO classes.

19 Q. Is this treatment consistent with the Non-Unanimous Stipulation and
20 Agreement approved by the Commission in GMO’s last rate case, Case No. ER-2016-0156?

21 A. Given the timing of GMO’s filing for this case, yes. In the Non-Unanimous
22 Stipulation and Agreement in Case No. ER-2016-0156, GMO agreed that,

23 If GMO does not file a rate case including at least 12 months
24 of resampled consolidated rate billing data by June 30, 2019,
25 it shall file a rate design case by June 30, 2019 that
26 includes 12 months consolidated rate billing data using the
27 April 30, 2018 resample of load research as the basis of GMO’s
28 direct filing. For any rate case or rate design case filed prior to
29 June 30, 2019, GMO commits to provide hourly load data for
30 GMO’s test year and Staff’s update period no later than three
31 months and one week after the end of each period and weather

1 normalized class hourly load data for each period no later than
2 six months after the end of each period. **For any rate case or**
3 **rate design case filed prior to June 30, 2019, the data used in**
4 **GMO's analysis will utilize a prior sample design.**

5 **(Emphasis added).**

6 Q. Does the timing of GMO's filing for this case impact the reliability of the
7 weather normalization adjustment in this case?

8 A. Yes. For proper weather normalization, the HLRD would need to be
9 calculated using a sample design consistent with the new consolidated rates. The old sample
10 design, which is used for this rate case, was developed based on pre-GMO rate class
11 configurations that have two separate service districts, L&P and MPS.¹ GMO's rate
12 consolidation made a significant alteration of rates including rate design, rate structures, and
13 rate class configuration.² In addition, there are significant customer migrations between rate
14 classes because of GMO's rate consolidation.³ For these reasons, a simple redistributed
15 sample method may not properly represent GMO's consolidated rate configuration.

16 Q. Why does sample design matter for weather normalization?

17 A. Weather normalization is an adjustment process to remove abnormal
18 temperature impacts for calculating normal usage of the test year. To accurately calculate
19 normal usage, the relationship between temperature and usage must properly be analyzed.
20 Improper sampling distorts the relationship, so that the result of weather normalization would
21 be biased.

¹ L&P and MPS were rate districts in the tariff of GMO pre rate consolidation.

² See Staff's Class Cost of Service Report filed in Case No. ER-2016-0156.

³ For the number of customer changes during the period of the rate consolidation, please see direct testimonies contained in the Staff Report of Staff witnesses Kim Cox and Jose Perez and the associated workpapers.

1 Q. What is Staff's expectation to resolve this issue?

2 A. Since the rate consolidation happened during the test year of this rate case, the
3 old sample design was inevitably utilized, and, due to time constraints, it is impossible to get
4 the HLRD using a proper sample design for this rate case. Therefore, for any future cases,
5 Staff expects that either GMO uses proper HLRD based on a new sample design which is
6 matched to GMO's consolidated rate design and rate classes, or utilizes its AMI metering and
7 new Customer Information Service capabilities to present actual hourly class loads as
8 incurred, not derived from samples.

9 **LARGE POWER LOAD RESEARCH**

10 Q. What is Staff's concern in the HLRD of LPS for Mr. Bass' weather
11 normalization?

12 A. The HLRD of LPS is comprised of inconsistent customers during the test year
13 and the update period. Inconsistent customers are customers that have stopped or have started
14 being a LPS customer of KCPL or GMO at some point during the test year or update period.
15 Some of the variation in usage of the class is directly attributable to the customers that are in
16 the class for only portion of the test year and/or update period. Because of that, the
17 relationship between usage and weather is distorted, so there is a potential risk of a biased
18 adjustment of LPS weather normalization.

19 Q. Why are inconsistent customers relevant to weather normalization?

20 A. If usage is decided by inconsistent customers, the relationship between usage
21 and weather is inaccurately calculated. In other words, variation of usage is not decided by
22 temperature or seasonal variation, but by customers coming on and/or dropping off, so that
23 the result of weather normalization would be biased.

1 Q. What is the evidence that inconsistent customers are used for HLRD of LPS
2 weather normalization?

3 A. According to the Companies' responses to Staff's data request No. 0124.1, to
4 produce HLRD of LPS weather normalization, "the census classes, (which include the
5 Large Power classes), are 100% sampled." Based on the responses of data requests Nos. 97
6 and 124, the number of LPS customers used to make up HLRDs of KCPL and GMO,
7 respectively, varied between 59 through 63 and 184 through 186 during the test year and the
8 update period. Therefore, some usage changes are not caused by weather variation but
9 instead by customer inconsistency. For this rate case, even if there are some customer
10 changes, Staff has not been able to confirm that there are any significant biases in the weather
11 normalization adjustments because of the limitation of data.⁴ However, there is always the
12 possibility of significant errors because of customer inconsistency in HLRD.

13 Q. What is Staff's expectation for any future cases to resolve this issue?

14 A. Staff expects KCPL and GMO use consistent customers to produce the HLRD
15 of LPS for future weather normalization or provide the AMI hourly census data for each and
16 every customer from every class so Staff can perform the adjustment for the LPS class.

17 **CONCLUSION**

18 Q. What is the conclusion of Staff's rebuttal testimony on these issues?

19 A. Staff expects for future cases that GMO employs new sample design of HLRD
20 for weather normalization or provides actual hourly class loads as derived from AMI metering
21 and the new Customer Information System. In addition, Staff recommends the Commission

⁴ For an adequate investigation of weather normalization, Staff needs at least 24 months data of LPS individual customers. In data request No. 125, Staff requested the LPS individual customer data for the 24-month period ending December 31, 2017, but KCPL and GMO provided only 16 months of data from July 2016 through October 2017.

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1 require that KCPL and GMO utilize consistent customers to produce HLRD of LPS class or
2 provide the AMI hourly census data for each and every customer from every class so Staff
3 can perform the adjustment for the LPS class as well as every class if that is possible.

4 Q. Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?

5 A. Yes, it does.

