

Exhibit No.:  
Issue: Impact of Owning the Projects, Credit Pressures,  
and Transmission Financial Analysis  
Witness: Kevin E. Bryant  
Type of Exhibit: Surrebuttal Testimony  
Sponsoring Party: Kansas City Power & Light Company and  
KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company  
Case No.: EA-2013-0098  
EO-2012-0367  
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**MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**CASE NO.: EA-2013-0098 and EO-2012-0367**

**SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY**

**OF**

**KEVIN E. BRYANT**

**ON BEHALF OF**

**KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY  
AND  
KCP&L GREATER MISSOURI OPERATIONS COMPANY**

**Kansas City, Missouri  
March 2013**


\*\*\*  \*\*\* Designates "Highly Confidential" Information  
Has Been Removed.  
Certain Schedules Attached To This Testimony Designated "(HC)"  
Have Been Removed  
Pursuant To 4 CSR 240-2.135.

Exhibit NO. 3  
File NO. EA-2013-0098

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

2 A: My name is Kevin E. Bryant. My business address is 1200 Main Street, Kansas City,  
3 Missouri 64105.

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

5 A: I am employed by Kansas City Power & Light Company (“KCP&L”) as Vice President –  
6 Investor Relations and Strategic Planning and Treasurer for Great Plains Energy  
7 Incorporated (“GPE”)<sup>1</sup>. KCP&L and KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company  
8 (“GMO”) (collectively referred to as the “Applicants” or “Companies”) are wholly-  
9 owned subsidiaries of GPE.

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

11 A: My responsibilities include financing and investing activities, cash management, bank  
12 relations, rating agency relations, financial risk management, and investor relations. I am  
13 also responsible for strategic planning and insurance.

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

15 A: I received dual undergraduate degrees in finance and real estate from the University of  
16 Missouri-Columbia where I graduated cum laude in May 1997. I received my Masters in  
17 Business Administration with an emphasis in finance and marketing from the Stanford  
18 University Graduate School of Business in June 2002.

19 I joined GPE in 2003 as a Senior Financial Analyst and was promoted to Manager  
20 – Corporate Finance in 2005 where I was responsible for contributing to the development

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<sup>1</sup> GPE is a public utility holding company and does not own or operate any significant assets other than the stock of its operating subsidiaries KCP&L and GMO. KCP&L, through its employees and resources, is currently taking steps to move forward on the Projects, addressed in this testimony, on behalf of itself, as well as on behalf of GMO, pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the October 10, 2008 Joint Operating Agreement between KCP&L and GMO. Subsequent references in this testimony to GMO’s responsibilities with respect to the Projects are made in this context.

1 and maintenance of the sound financial health of both GPE and KCP&L through the  
2 management of corporate financing activities. In August 2006, I was promoted to Vice  
3 President – Energy Solutions for KCP&L and served in that capacity until March 2011,  
4 when I became Vice President, Strategy and Risk Management. In August of last year, I  
5 assumed my current position.

6 Prior to joining GPE, I worked for THQ Inc. from 2002 to 2003, a worldwide  
7 developer and publisher of interactive entertainment software based in Calabasas,  
8 California. I served as Manager – Strategic Planning where I was responsible for  
9 establishing corporate goals and developing and assisting with the execution of the  
10 company’s strategic plan. From 1998 to 2000, I worked as a Corporate Finance Analyst  
11 for what is now UBS Paine Webber. I worked on mergers and acquisitions for medium  
12 and large-sized companies. I also worked at Hallmark Cards as a Financial Analyst from  
13 1997 to 1998.

14 **Q: Have you previously testified in either Case No. EO-2012-0367 or Case No. EA-**  
15 **2013-0098 (the “Applications”)?**

16 A: No.

17 **Q: Have you previously testified in a proceeding before the Missouri Public Service**  
18 **Commission (“Commission” or “MoPSC”) or before any other utility regulatory**  
19 **agency?**

20 A: Yes. I testified before the Commission in Case Nos. ER-2012-0174 (KCP&L 2012 Rate  
21 Case), ER-2012-0175 (GMO 2012 Rate Case), EO-2012-0009 (GMO MEEIA Case), and  
22 EM-2007-0374 (Aquila Acquisition Case). I also testified before the Kansas Corporation  
23 Commission in Docket Nos. 12-KCPE-764-RTS (KCP&L 2012 Rate Case), 11-KCPE-

1 581-PRE (LaCygne Predetermination Case), and 08-KCPE-581-TAR (KCP&L's  
2 application for its proposed Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® program).

3 **Q: On whose behalf are you testifying?**

4 A: I am testifying on behalf of KCP&L and GMO.

5 **Q: What is the purpose of your Surrebuttal Testimony?**

6 A: The purpose of my Surrebuttal Testimony is to address statements made in the Rebuttal  
7 Testimonies of Staff witnesses Charles Hyneman and David Murray and the Office of the  
8 Public Counsel ("OPC") witness Ryan Kind relevant to: (i) the impact that owning 100%  
9 of the SPP-directed regional Iatan-Nashua and Sibley-Nebraska City 345 kV transmission  
10 projects ("Projects") would have on the financial strength of the Companies; (ii) cash  
11 flow and credit pressures stemming from the Projects; and (iii) the Transmission  
12 Financial Analysis ("TFA") that GPE used in evaluating the strategic opportunities  
13 related to various ownership scenarios for the Projects.

14 **I. IMPACT OF OWNING THE PROJECTS**

15 **Q: Do you agree with Staff and OPC's implication that maintaining full ownership of  
16 the Projects will not adversely impact the Companies?**

17 A: No. As Treasurer of the Companies, and having the fiduciary responsibility to manage  
18 the overall credit quality and risk profile of the Companies, I believe that continuing to  
19 wholly own these Projects would limit the Companies' financial flexibility. As part of  
20 the Companies' responsibility to deliver clean, safe, and reliable power, we have a  
21 significant amount of mandatory capital investment obligations across the generation,  
22 distribution, and transmission systems that are required in order to meet those  
23 responsibilities. Mandatory investments include projects such as generating plant

1 modifications required to meet increasingly stringent emission standards, delivery system  
2 improvements and replacements, customer interconnections, and construction or  
3 procurement of adequate generation – including renewables – necessary to serve our  
4 native load.

5 These obligations result in a significant level of baseline capital investment  
6 required of the Companies' in any given year. Given their relative scale, meeting these  
7 baseline capital obligations is significant. Much of the Companies' activity and ability to  
8 access low-cost capital is focused in support of these required initiatives. Raising capital  
9 beyond what is necessary to support the mandatory projects puts additional pressure on  
10 the Companies' ability to maintain a stable credit profile. Thus, if the Companies  
11 retained responsibility to build the Projects, particularly given the scale of the Projects  
12 relative to the existing asset base, it could significantly impact the Companies' financial  
13 flexibility.

14 **Q: Are the Companies irrevocably obligated to build these Projects?**

15 A: No. As explained by Applicant witness Todd E. Fridley in his Direct Testimony, the  
16 Notifications to Construct ("NTC"s) issued by Southwest Power Pool, Inc. ("SPP") to the  
17 Companies do not irrevocably obligate the Companies to construct these Projects. The  
18 ability to assign or novate the Projects, and the financial flexibility that provides, was  
19 certainly a consideration at the time that the Companies accepted the NTCs for the  
20 Projects.

1 **Q: From a financial perspective, what is the rationale for the Companies seeking to**  
2 **novate these Projects to Transource Missouri, LLC (“Transource Missouri”)?**

3 A: The financial rationale for novating these Projects to Transource Missouri is to provide  
4 the Companies the benefit of scaling back the investment in large discretionary capital  
5 investments, while simultaneously providing the Companies with longer-term, more  
6 stable, and manageable investment opportunities. As each new opportunity presents  
7 itself, we evaluate that opportunity for the Companies’ ability to make such investment in  
8 a financially prudent and cost-efficient manner. The scale, level of risk, and complexity  
9 of the Projects all present incremental challenges for the Companies. Given the  
10 Companies’ baseline capital investment requirements, the regional nature of the Projects,  
11 and the unique ability to novate these Projects, we determined it was the best course of  
12 action for the Companies to improve its financial flexibility and off lay this capital  
13 investment to Transource Energy, LLC<sup>2</sup> (“Transource Energy”). In doing so, we  
14 preserved our ability to meet existing near-term obligations and other obligations that  
15 may emerge in the future in a cost efficient manner, while also providing the Companies  
16 with future investment opportunities through GPE’s ownership in Transource Energy.

17 **Q: What is the relative magnitude of the near-term projections for the baseline and**  
18 **discretionary capital expenditures that you have discussed?**

19 A: The table below shows that the Companies’ total utility capital expenditures are projected  
20 to be approximately \$2.2 billion for 2013-2015. Of that amount, necessary capital  
21 spending on environmental projects is projected to be approximately \$393 million, or  
22 18% of the total 2013-2015 projected capital expenditures. The Projects constitute \$247

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<sup>2</sup> Transource Missouri is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Transource Energy. GPE has a 13.5% ownership share of Transource Energy.

1 million or approximately 11% of the projected capital expenditures over that time frame.  
 2 The regional nature of the Projects and the ability to novate the Projects means that the  
 3 Projects are much more discretionary in nature than the baseline capital expenditures,  
 4 including the significant level of spending for the environmental projects. Given the  
 5 magnitude of the near-term projected baseline capital expenditures, the ability to novate  
 6 the Projects, and potentially free up \$70-\$100 million of capital annually in the near term,  
 7 provides the Companies with much needed financial flexibility.

**Projected Utility Capital Expenditures**

	2013		2014		2015		Total 2013-2015	
Generating facilities	\$ 245.4	34%	\$ 230.2	32%	\$ 230.2	32%	\$ 705.8	33%
Distribution and transmission facilities <sup>(a)</sup>	192.3	27%	199.1	28%	204.4	29%	595.8	28%
<b>SPP-approved regional transmission projects</b>	<b>73.6</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>76.0</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>97.7</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>247.3</b>	<b>11%</b>
General facilities	45.7	6%	54.9	8%	53.3	7%	153.9	7%
Nuclear fuel	5.5	1%	1.6	0%	47.9	7%	55.0	3%
Environmental	162.4	22%	148.8	21%	82.0	11%	393.2	18%
<b>Total utility capital expenditures</b>	<b>\$724.9</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$710.6</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$715.5</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$2,151.0</b>	<b>100%</b>

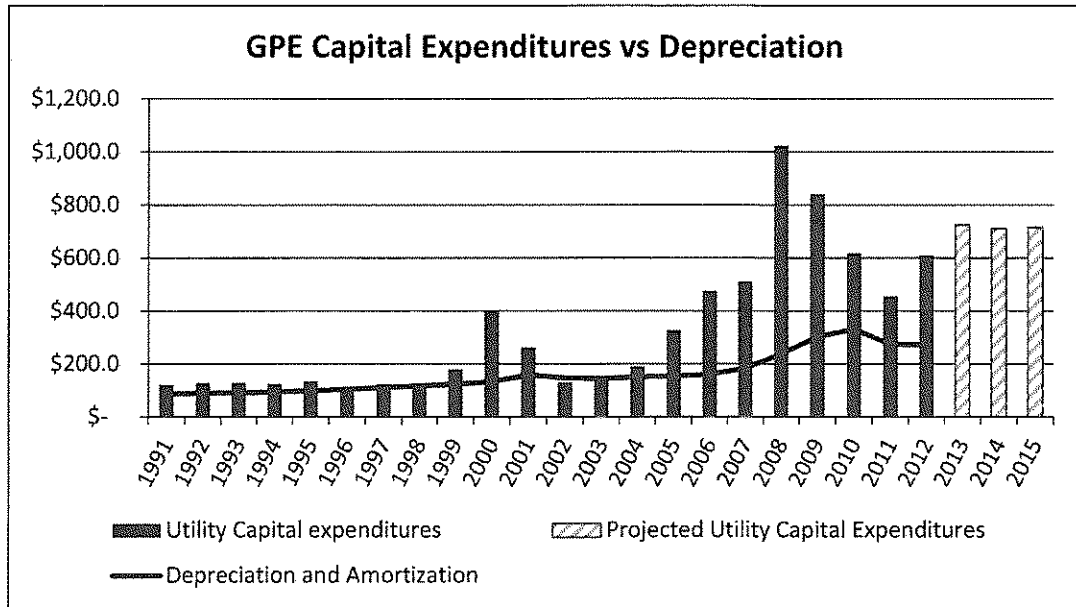
<sup>(a)</sup> Excludes SPP-approved regional transmission projects.

8 Source: Great Plains Energy 2012 Form 10-K

9 **Q: How does the near-term level of projected capital expenditures compare to**  
 10 **historical levels for the Companies?**

11 **A:** The near-term level of projected utility capital expenditures may not seem extraordinary  
 12 compared to the levels that the Companies have been incurring during the timeframe of  
 13 the KCP&L Comprehensive Energy Plan (“CEP”), but the projected capital expenditure  
 14 level is significantly greater than what would be considered a more ordinary long-run  
 15 level – i.e., capital expenditures roughly at the level of depreciation expense. In fact, as  
 16 can be seen in the table below, the Companies have been incurring capital expenditures  
 17 well in excess of depreciation since the start of the CEP. This capital expenditure level  
 18 well in excess of depreciation is projected to continue in the near term due, in part, to the

1 large capital expenditures associated with the Projects. Novating the Projects will  
 2 provide the Companies with additional flexibility to manage the capital expenditures for  
 3 baseline and environmental projects that are necessary to provide service to retail  
 4 customers.



5

6 **Q: Did Staff or OPC provide their own assessment of the impact that owning these**  
 7 **Projects would have on the Companies?**

8 A: Yes.

9 **Q: Do you agree with their respective assessments of the impact?**

10 A: No. I will address specific assertions made by Staff and OPC witnesses in their Rebuttal  
 11 Testimony in the Credit Pressures section of my Surrebuttal Testimony below.

12 **II. CREDIT PRESSURES**

13 **Q: At page 9 of Staff witness Murray’s Rebuttal Testimony, he states that the**  
 14 **Companies’ consolidated business risk would be reduced if the Companies**  
 15 **maintained ownership of the Transmission Projects. Do you agree?**



1 A: No. Business risk is a broad category of risk that relates to a company's ability to  
2 generate adequate returns. Staff witness Murray states that the low-business risk nature  
3 of these Projects is due to the various incentives authorized by the Federal Energy  
4 Regulatory Commission ("FERC") and the predictable revenue stream expected to be  
5 received from users of the regional transmission projects. Mr. Murray's conclusion,  
6 however, is based on a faulty assumption by Staff that is more directly expressed in the  
7 Rebuttal Testimony of Staff witness Hyneman. Mr. Hyneman's Rebuttal Testimony  
8 made it clear that Staff believes that, if the Companies maintain ownership of the  
9 Projects, any revenue resulting from the various incentives authorized by FERC should  
10 be credited back to Missouri retail customers via the inappropriate "Full Revenue  
11 Crediting" methodology defined and discussed in the Surrebuttal Testimony of Company  
12 witness Charles Locke. This Full Revenue Crediting that Staff is proposing would nullify  
13 any risk-compensating benefits of the FERC incentives, such as a higher authorized  
14 project-specific FERC return on equity ("ROE"). Without these FERC incentives  
15 available to investors, the business risk would actually be higher under the scenario  
16 proposed by Staff. The Companies would be making investments in projects FERC  
17 determined to have elevated risk due their size, complexity, and regional nature and  
18 would not be allowed to earn the appropriate higher rate of return necessary to  
19 compensate them for assuming that risk.

1 **Q: Staff witness Murray also states at page 9 in his Rebuttal Testimony that the**  
2 **Companies' financial risk does not change by owning the Projects. Do you agree**  
3 **that the financial risk does not change?**

4 A: No. Financial risk relates to the likelihood that a company will have adequate capital to  
5 meet its financial obligations. If the Companies maintained full ownership of the  
6 Projects, the capital required would be 100% of the total cost of the Projects instead of  
7 13.5% of only the equity capital portion of the Projects. As such, maintaining ownership  
8 of the Projects results in a total obligation to the Companies for the Projects that is  
9 significantly greater than would be required under the Transource venture. This  
10 increased capital requirement clearly increases the Companies' financial risk.

11           Importantly, in March 2012 we told both Standard & Poor's ("S&P") and  
12 Moody's rating agencies that we were evaluating competitive transmission market  
13 partnership opportunities that may create greater balance sheet flexibility and lower near-  
14 term capital expenditure requirements. Both rating agencies indicated that such a  
15 partnership would most likely be viewed as credit supportive.

16 **Q: Staff witness Murray summarizes his risk discussion at page 9 of his Rebuttal**  
17 **Testimony by stating that the Companies' consolidated business risk would be lower**  
18 **if they were to own the Projects. Do you agree?**

19 A: No. As I just explained, maintaining ownership of the Projects by the Companies would  
20 result in increased financial risk, which combined with a business risk that would be  
21 higher under the Full Revenue Crediting methodology proposed by Staff, results in a  
22 higher consolidated risk profile for the Companies.

1 **Q: Should the lower consolidated risk profile resulting from the Companies' proposal**  
2 **lead to lower capital costs?**

3 A: Yes. While the Companies' consolidated risk profile is a function of a number of  
4 variables, the lower risk profile that the Companies expect by novating the Projects to  
5 Transource Missouri is expected to result in lower capital costs for the other capital  
6 expenditures that the Companies anticipate are necessary to continue to provide safe and  
7 reliable service to retail customers. The lower capital costs would be passed on to the  
8 retail customers in the form of lower rates.

9 **Q: Staff witness Murray states several times at pages 2-4 of his Rebuttal Testimony**  
10 **that the Companies provided no quantitative information to support the position**  
11 **that the additional capital expenditures for the Projects would cause a decline in the**  
12 **Companies' financial flexibility. How do you respond?**

13 A: No quantitative analysis is needed to understand that, all else being equal, higher capital  
14 expenditures decrease financial flexibility by increasing the amount of external capital  
15 required by the Companies. The Companies' overall capital expenditures during the  
16 2013-2015 timeframe are projected to be approximately \$700 million annually. The  
17 capital expenditures for the Projects during the 2013-2015 timeframe are projected to be  
18 \$75-\$100 million annually, which is over 11% of the total projected capital expenditures.  
19 Novating the Projects to Transource Missouri will free up a significant portion of the  
20 Project capital expenditures that the Companies would otherwise incur, which clearly  
21 improves financial flexibility. Again, based on our discussions in March 2012, both  
22 rating agencies noted above would view this near-term reduction in capital expenditure  
23 requirements as being credit supportive.

1 **Q: At page 4 of his Rebuttal Testimony Staff witness Murray suggested that he was not**  
2 **aware of any concerns about potential reduced financial flexibility at the time when**  
3 **the Companies accepted the NTCs for the Transmission Projects. How do you**  
4 **respond?**

5 **A:** There certainly were concerns about the Companies' level of construction expenditures at  
6 that time. In a Moody's March 11, 2009 publication (Schedule KEB-1) announcing  
7 credit rating downgrades for the Companies, Moody's stated that:

8 \*\* [REDACTED]  
9 [REDACTED]  
10 [REDACTED]  
11 [REDACTED]  
12 [REDACTED] \*\*

13 These concerns about the level of construction expenditures by Moody's are the same  
14 concerns the Companies had at that time resulting in the need to raise equity capital even  
15 at prices below book value while continuing to identify further opportunities to trim  
16 capital expenditures.

17 **Q: Did the Companies publicly discuss financial flexibility and alternative courses of**  
18 **action (other than owning the Projects) during the initial period after accepting the**  
19 **NTCs?**

20 **A:** Yes. At page 29 of GPE's 2010 Form 10-K in the Management Discussion and Analysis  
21 section entitled "Transmission Investment Opportunities" (Schedule KEB-2), it states  
22 that:

23 GMO and KCP&L have the obligation to build their separate lines, which  
24 may be done solely or with other entities, unless the obligation is  
25 transferred to another qualified transmission owner. GMO and KCP&L  
26 have not determined which of these alternative courses of action to pursue.  
27 SPP retains the authority to revise or withdraw existing Notifications to  
28 Construct for transmission projects based upon emerging transmission  
29 plans and the associated needs for specific projects.

1 In addition, since GPE's investor presentations began specifically addressing the Projects  
2 in 2011 (Schedule KEB-3), they have consistently noted that:

3 Increasingly competitive environment requires consideration of strategic  
4 options

5 Flexibility is important – opportunity to pursue projects unilaterally but  
6 also preserve capital if needed through partnership

7 **Q: Do better credit metrics result in lower financing costs?**

8 A: All else being equal, better credit quality would result in lower financing costs. Rating  
9 agencies look at credit metrics as part of their process of assigning a credit rating, but  
10 there are no specific metric values that automatically trigger a change in credit rating.  
11 There are only guideline ranges for broad categories of ratings. Depending on other  
12 factors, a decrease in credit metrics may be enough to reach a tipping point that triggers a  
13 credit rating downgrade. Investors also look at credit metrics and do not rely solely on  
14 credit ratings by the rating agencies. Even companies with the exact same credit rating  
15 have debt issued at different costs, and it is logical to infer that differences in credit  
16 metrics are part of the reason.

17 **Q: Generally speaking, how do capital expenditures impact credit quality?**

18 A: Capital expenditures drive the amount of debt financing that is required of a company.  
19 While there are a variety of factors that drive the overall credit evaluation of a company,  
20 it is the credit metrics related to a company's cash and debt profiles that often get the  
21 most focus. Because the net cash flows for a project will be significantly negative  
22 throughout the construction period, this is the period during which a company's cash and  
23 debt profiles would be impacted the most. Therefore, the level of capital expenditures is  
24 often highly examined by lenders and ratings agencies with regard to its impact on  
25 overall credit quality. In the case of the Companies, there would be less pressure on their

1 credit metrics by reducing the capital requirement from 100% of the Projects' costs to  
2 only 13.5% of the equity component of the Projects' costs.

3 **Q: At pages 4-5 of his Rebuttal Testimony Staff witness Murray referenced a March**  
4 **2012 Goldman Sachs presentation to the Company regarding the impact of the**  
5 **Projects on GPE's credit rating? Please discuss the quote from that presentation**  
6 **that Staff witness Murray included at page 5 of his Rebuttal Testimony.**

7 A: The Goldman Sachs presentation indicated that:

8 \*\* [REDACTED]  
9 [REDACTED]  
10 [REDACTED]  
11 [REDACTED] \*\*

12 This quote is consistent with what the Companies have been stating with regard to the  
13 Projects and financial flexibility. The Companies publicly stated that they "could" build  
14 the Projects under current conditions "if everything goes as planned." Freeing capital by  
15 novating the Projects, however, will enhance the Companies' financial flexibility under  
16 the very real possibility that everything will not go as planned.

17 **Q: At page 5 of Staff witness Murray's Rebuttal Testimony he states that it is his**  
18 **understanding that the rating agencies contemplated the Companies directly**  
19 **incurring the projected capital expenditures for the Projects. Is he correct?**

20 A: Staff witness Murray is correct in that the financial projections provided to the rating  
21 agencies at the last meeting in March 2012 included projections for 2012 to 2014. The  
22 three-year time horizon is a typical financial picture from which rating agencies make  
23 their credit quality determinations. However, during this three-year window, less than  
24 27% of the total cost of the Projects was projected to be spent, with most of that  
25 occurring in 2014. This means a full \$330 million of the total of approximately \$450

1 million Projects cost was outside the window of the rating agencies' analysis. Due to the  
2 near-term focus of the rating agencies on projected financial performance, ownership of  
3 the Projects would have resulted in little impact on the rating agencies' analysis of the  
4 Company's 2012 – 2014 credit metrics in their March 2012 evaluation.

5 **Q: At page 6 of his Rebuttal Testimony, Staff witness Murray pointed to a Company**  
6 **analysis that showed FFO/debt metrics. Do you agree with his conclusion?**

7 A: No. Mr. Murray noted that there were a few years in the analysis, which show a better  
8 FFO/debt ratio for the Company-ownership scenario versus the Transource Missouri-  
9 ownership scenario for the Projects. That is true for some isolated years when the  
10 Projects go into service, but it is important to note that FFO/Debt, a metric considered in  
11 establishing credit ratings and cost of capital, is typically viewed as a trend over time  
12 rather than a specific point in time. In the specific analysis referred to by Mr. Murray, the  
13 years with an improved FFO/Debt ratio reflect earnings after Project in-service under  
14 100% GMO ownership. However, our conclusion in our financial due diligence was that  
15 the financial flexibility during construction and the future growth opportunities under  
16 Transource Missouri ownership outweighed a few years of FFO/Debt ratio improvement  
17 cited by Mr. Murray.

18 **Q: How do you respond to Staff witness Murray's suggestion at page 7 of his Rebuttal**  
19 **Testimony that "based on projected capture rates of potential transmission projects**  
20 **in a post FERC Order 1000 competitive environment, it is possible that the**  
21 **FFO/Debt ratios may be more strained in the long-term for the joint venture**  
22 **scenario"?**

1 A: Concerns over the impact on capital requirements if the Transource venture is able to  
2 achieve high capture rates for future transmission projects in a post FERC Order No.  
3 1000 world, combined with the Companies' already robust and challenging capital plan,  
4 is exactly what motivated the Companies to negotiate added financial flexibility into the  
5 operating agreements of Transource Energy. The agreements provide GPE with some  
6 limited flexibility to delay equity contributions to the venture if it is determined that  
7 credit metrics might be strained to the point that a potential credit rating downgrade  
8 would be likely.

9 **Q: At page 8 of his Rebuttal Testimony, Staff witness Murray states that the reward to**  
10 **risk ratio is generally high because of the low-risk nature of these Projects due to**  
11 **the various incentives allowed by FERC and the predictable revenue stream**  
12 **expected to be received from users of the regional transmission lines. Is this view**  
13 **inconsistent with a request for a higher FERC allowed ROE for these Projects?**

14 A: No. A higher FERC-authorized ROE for the Sibley-Nebraska City Project, the larger of  
15 the Projects, is one of the various incentives granted by FERC to compensate for the risk  
16 associated with constructing the Projects. The risk-compensating incentives granted by  
17 FERC are recovered through the future revenue streams that the Transmission Owner  
18 receives from the Transmission Customers. Without the ability to recover the FERC-  
19 authorized incentives, the Companies would not be adequately compensated for the  
20 higher risk that these Projects entail. The Full Revenue Crediting that Staff is proposing  
21 unfairly eliminates the Companies' opportunity to recover the FERC-authorized  
22 incentives and, thus, prevents the Companies from being adequately compensated for the  
23 risk associated with constructing the Projects.



1 **III. TRANSMISSION FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

2 **Q: What is the quantitative analysis conducted by KCP&L and GMO titled**  
3 **Transmission Financial Analysis (“TFA”) discussed by OPC witness Kind in his**  
4 **Rebuttal Testimony, and how was it intended to be used?**

5 A: This analysis represents a specific financial component of the Companies’ due diligence  
6 efforts as they were evaluating future strategic options regarding the Projects and  
7 potential transmission partnerships with others. The analysis performed is similar to the  
8 analysis that the Companies, or any other company for that matter, would perform when  
9 evaluating all of the potential impacts of future strategic options. Because this TFA was  
10 done to evaluate all of the potential impacts of possible strategic alternatives, it was done  
11 in advance (June 2011) of the choice of any discrete strategic path. In fact, this analysis  
12 was done prior to the determination that Transource Energy would be the venture that  
13 would be chosen.

14 **Q: Can you discuss the evaluation of the scenarios in the TFA analysis that OPC witness**  
15 **Kind discusses?**

16 A: The analysis was done to evaluate future strategic options. Accordingly, it was based on  
17 numerous forward-looking assumptions. Because most of the key assumptions in the  
18 analysis were forward-looking, it was especially important to evaluate scenarios for the  
19 potential impact of various courses of action being contemplated. As part of an  
20 exhaustive due diligence process, these scenarios appropriately included even those  
21 scenarios which were believed to be possible though not necessarily just or reasonable. It  
22 was prudent to evaluate such scenarios so that the Companies could appropriately

1 evaluate alternative courses of action in the event that those unjust or unreasonable  
2 scenarios played out.

3 **Q: Can you elaborate on what you mean by an unjust or unreasonable scenario in the**  
4 **context of the TFA analysis?**

5 A: For example, Staff witness Hyneman has proposed a scenario in Schedule CRH-1  
6 attached to his Rebuttal Testimony similar to that analyzed by the Companies when  
7 conducting the due diligence analysis of potential scenarios that I describe above. Mr.  
8 Hyneman's scenario assumes that retail customers will receive an unwarranted subsidy  
9 created by a Full Revenue Crediting of all SPP-charged revenues for these regionally  
10 allocated transmission Projects. Company witness Charles Locke describes why such  
11 Full Revenue Crediting is inappropriate, unreasonable, and unfair in his Surrebuttal  
12 Testimony.

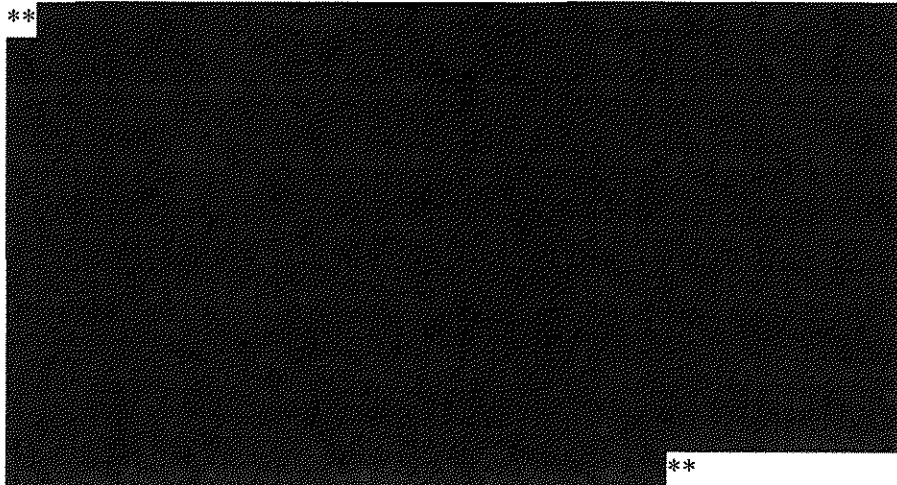
13 **Q: If you believe that Full Revenue Crediting scenario is unjust and unreasonable, why**  
14 **did the Company include that scenario in the quantitative analysis?**

15 A: Company management has a duty to its Board of Directors to evaluate such scenarios if it  
16 is determined that there is a possibility that they could occur. This scenario, indeed,  
17 entered the realm of possibility when both Staff witness Hyneman and OPC witness Kind  
18 proposed in their Rebuttal Testimony that the retail customers should receive the  
19 unwarranted subsidy from the Full Revenue Crediting of the SPP-charged revenues from  
20 the regional transmission Projects.

21 **Q: Can you address the comments made by OPC witness Kind in Rebuttal Testimony**  
22 **about the quantitative TFA analysis?**

23 A: Yes, first at page 9 of OPC witness Kind's Rebuttal Testimony he states that:

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15 The numbers that OPC witness Kind quoted from the TFA analysis actually compared  
16 ownership under the “utilities” versus ownership under a GPE subsidiary “transco” rather  
17 than versus Transource Missouri as stated in his Rebuttal Testimony.

18 That misidentification aside, the more important way in which he misinterpreted  
19 the alleged detriment to the public interest is that this alleged detriment is based on the  
20 comparison of (a) a scenario where retail customers receive the inappropriate subsidy  
21 created by the Full Revenue Crediting of the regional transmission project revenues with  
22 (b) a scenario where all transmission owner costs for regional projects are recovered  
23 through the SPP tariff so there is no need for revenue crediting and the inappropriate  
24 subsidy does not occur.

25 **Q: Did the analysis that OPC witness Kind commented on in Attachment RK-2 also**  
26 **include a comparison of retail revenue requirements resulting from the ownership**  
27 **scenarios assuming that the inappropriate and unwarranted subsidy was**  
28 **eliminated?**

29 **A: Yes.**

1 Q: Did OPC witness Kind note the results of that comparison in his Rebuttal  
2 Testimony?

3 A: No.

4 Q: Can you please describe the results of that comparison?

5 A: That comparison showed much more reasonable differences in the retail revenue  
6 requirement between the "utility" ownership scenario and the GPE subsidiary "transco"  
7 scenario. In fact, the "transco" scenario shows a slightly lower Missouri retail revenue  
8 requirement. \*\* [REDACTED]

9 [REDACTED]

10 [REDACTED]

11 [REDACTED]\*\*

12 Q: Can you address the comments that OPC witness Kind made at page 11 of his  
13 Rebuttal Testimony?

14 A: OPC witness Kind quoted the following two "notes" from the TFA analysis:

15 \*\* [REDACTED]  
16 [REDACTED]  
17 [REDACTED]  
18 [REDACTED]\*\*

19 and

20 \*\* [REDACTED]  
21 [REDACTED]  
22 [REDACTED]  
23 [REDACTED]\*\*

24 With respect to these "notes" Mr. Kind asserts that \*\* [REDACTED]

25 [REDACTED]

26 [REDACTED]

27 [REDACTED]\*\*.

1 With regard to the first “note,” as I have previously discussed, the TFA analysis was done  
2 to evaluate the potential scenarios for various Project ownership structures. This “note”  
3 that OPC witness Kind quoted simply describes the results of the scenarios being  
4 compared, and the specific scenario comparison that OPC witness Kind has chosen to  
5 include in his Rebuttal Testimony is the one in which the retail customers receive the  
6 inappropriate subsidy resulting from Full Revenue Crediting. Scenarios with the Full  
7 Revenue Crediting subsidy represent unjust rate treatments and will inappropriately  
8 reduce Missouri retail rates.

9 The second “note” is describing the results of a “breakeven” analysis of the same  
10 Full Revenue Crediting subsidy scenario. It is describing the set of debt assumptions  
11 (i.e., debt % and cost of debt) that a “transco” would need to have in order to be able to  
12 overcome the inappropriate “subsidy” scenario’s impact on retail rates. The “note”  
13 simply describes the results of this “breakeven” analysis, which is that it is not reasonably  
14 achievable – i.e., that the cost of debt would have to be unreasonably low and the amount  
15 of debt would have to be unreasonably high to “breakeven” with the inappropriate  
16 “subsidy” scenario. This breakeven result is not at all unexpected given the magnitude of  
17 the inappropriate subsidy created by the Full Revenue Crediting.

18 **Q: Are there any other comments or assertions in OPC witness Kind’s Rebuttal**  
19 **Testimony that you would like to address?**

20 A: Yes, at page 19 of his Rebuttal Testimony, OPC witness Kind discusses that if the  
21 Commission denies Transource Missouri’s Certificate of Convenience and Necessity  
22 (“CCN”) application that GPE subsidiaries KCP&L and GMO will likely build the  
23 Projects. He goes on to state that:

1 GPE, the holding company for KCPL and GMO, would prefer to have  
2 these projects transferred to, and built by, TransourceMO because doing  
3 so would permit it to execute the Transco business plan which it expects  
4 will provide a greater stream [sic] of earnings to shareholders in the long-  
5 run than if GPE and its utility operating companies build the two SPP  
6 projects as a stand alone project.

7 Then witness Kind states that:

8 If TransourceMO is unable to build, own and operate the Iatan and Sibley  
9 lines, GPE will still find a way to obtain the enhanced shareholder  
10 earnings that the NTC from SPP gives it an opportunity to achieve because  
11 GPE's Board of Directors has a fiduciary responsibility to its shareholders  
12 to make this happen.

13 This appears to be an inconsistent assertion. Mr. Kind argues that allowing the  
14 Companies to actually earn the FERC-authorized return should be disallowed and that  
15 these revenues associated with the FERC-authorized rates should be subject to Full  
16 Revenue Crediting to provide an unwarranted subsidy to retail customers. He also argues  
17 that it doesn't matter that he is recommending to remove any opportunity for GPE to, as  
18 he states, "*obtain the enhanced shareholder earnings that the NTC from SPP gives it an*  
19 *opportunity to achieve,*" because the Companies will just find a way to make up the  
20 difference due to the Board's responsibility to shareholders. In other words, he argues  
21 that the Companies should always be able to provide expected returns to shareholders –  
22 no matter how much is taken away to provide unwarranted subsidies to retail customers –  
23 simply because of a fiduciary responsibility. I do not believe that the Companies could  
24 achieve such an outcome based on fiduciary responsibility alone under the scenario that  
25 OPC witness Kind has proposed.

26 **Q: Please summarize your Surrebuttal Testimony.**

27 A: I have shown that, contrary to the comments and assertions by Staff and OPC in Rebuttal  
28 Testimony, the Transource joint venture relieves credit pressures related to the capital

1 expenditures associated with these regional transmission Projects and provides financial  
2 flexibility to address both known and unknown capital expenditure requirements in the  
3 near and medium-term future

4 **Q: Does this conclude your Surrebuttal Testimony?**

5 A: Yes.

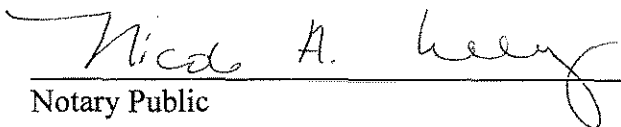




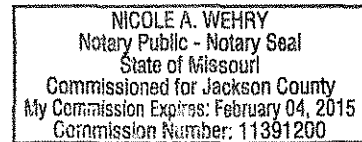
3. I have knowledge of the matters set forth herein. I hereby swear and affirm that my answers contained in the attached testimony to the questions therein propounded, including any attachments thereto, are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin E. Bryant

Subscribed and sworn before me this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My commission expires: Feb. 4, 2015



**SCHEDULE KEB-1**

**THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS  
HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL  
INFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE  
TO THE PUBLIC**

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UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-K**

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended **December 31, 2011**

or

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Commission File Number</u>	<u>Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter, state of incorporation, address of principal executive offices and telephone number</u>	<u>I.R.S. Employer Identification Number</u>
001-32206	<b>GREAT PLAINS ENERGY INCORPORATED</b> (A Missouri Corporation) 1200 Main Street Kansas City, Missouri 64105 (816) 556-2200	43-1916803
000-51873	<b>KANSAS CITY POWER &amp; LIGHT COMPANY</b> (A Missouri Corporation) 1200 Main Street Kansas City, Missouri 64105 (816) 556-2200	44-0308720

Each of the following classes or series of securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act is registered on the New York Stock Exchange:

<u>Registrant</u>	<u>Title of each class</u>	
Great Plains Energy Incorporated	Cumulative Preferred Stock par value \$100 per share	3.80%
	Cumulative Preferred Stock par value \$100 per share	4.50%
	Cumulative Preferred Stock par value \$100 per share	4.35%
	Common Stock without par value Corporate Units	

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: Kansas City Power & Light Company Common Stock without par value.

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Crossroads to provide critical peaking and capacity support. This combined collection of generating assets meets KCP&L's and GMO's service obligations and produces joint cash flows based on system-wide average costs. Great Plains Energy conducted an analysis to assess the recoverability of the combined collection of generation asset resources and determined that no potential impairment exists.

The rates established by the modified MPSC order took effect on June 25, 2011. On June 24, 2011, GMO filed its appeal of the MPSC order with the Cole County, Missouri, Circuit Court regarding the Crossroads issues discussed above. Other parties to the case have also filed appeals of the MPSC order. However, the rates authorized by the modified MPSC order will be effective unless and until modified by the MPSC or stayed by a court.

#### **GMO Fuel Adjustment Clause (FAC) Prudence Review**

GMO's electric retail rates contain an FAC tariff under which 95% of the difference between actual fuel cost, purchased power costs and off-system sales margin and the amount provided in base rates for these costs is passed along to GMO's customers. The MPSC requires prudence reviews of the FAC no less frequently than at 18-month intervals. On November 28, 2011, the MPSC staff filed its prudence review report for the 18-month prudence review period covering June 1, 2009 through November 30, 2010. The MPSC staff recommended to the MPSC to order GMO to refund approximately \$19 million, plus interest, to customers through an adjustment to its FAC because the MPSC staff asserts that GMO was imprudent in its use of natural gas hedges to mitigate risk associated with its future purchases in the spot power market. GMO is disputing the MPSC staff's claim of imprudence and filed its testimony on February 22, 2012. A hearing is scheduled for May 16 – 17, 2012, with an order expected in June 2012.

#### **Transmission Investment Opportunities**

In September 2010, GMO accepted a Notification to Construct from SPP for the Missouri portion of a 175-mile, 345kV transmission line in GMO's service territory from Sibley, Missouri to Nebraska City, Nebraska with an estimated cost of about \$380 million for GMO's portion of the line and an expected 2017 in-service date. This line is one of a number of priority projects that the SPP has developed as part of its transmission expansion plans for the region. In June 2010, FERC approved the SPP's proposed cost allocation method for these projects. KCP&L has also accepted a Notification to Construct from SPP for a 30-mile, 345kV transmission line, with estimated construction costs of \$54 million and an expected 2015 in-service date, from KCP&L's Iatan generating station to KCP&L's Nashua substation. GMO and KCP&L have the obligation to build their separate lines, which may be done solely or with other entities, unless the obligation is transferred to another qualified transmission owner. GMO and KCP&L are evaluating alternative courses of action. SPP retains the authority to revise or withdraw existing Notifications to Construct for transmission projects based upon emerging transmission plans and the associated needs for specific projects.

#### **Wolf Creek Outage**

On January 13, 2012, a breaker in a substation located at Wolf Creek failed. This failure was immediately followed by a loss of station power to Wolf Creek resulting in an unscheduled shutdown of Wolf Creek. Wolf Creek is expected to resume normal operations in March 2012 following the completion of repairs. This schedule assumes no discovery during the course of repairs of additional required work, and that all requirements of the NRC for resumption of normal operations are satisfied. Additional maintenance expenses and capital expenditures are expected as a result of this unscheduled outage.

# Great Plains Energy



**2011 Analyst Meeting**

**August 8, 2011**

# Key Themes - Transmission

1. Two significant projects are currently in GXP's plans:
  - Iatan-Nashua 345kV line – Projected \$54M total cost and 2015 in-service date
  - Sibley-Maryville-Nebraska City 345kV line – Projected \$380M total cost and 2017 in-service date
2. Increasingly competitive environment requires consideration of strategic options
3. Flexibility is important – opportunity to pursue projects unilaterally but also preserve capital if needed through partnership