

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

In the Matter of the Application of)
Great Plains Energy Incorporated for)
Approval of its Acquisition of)
Westar Energy, Inc.)

Case No. EM-2017-0226

Staff's Motion to Excuse Certain Witnesses

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and for its *Motion to Excuse Certain Witnesses*, states as follows:

1. On February 23, 2017, Great Plains Energy, Inc. (“GPE”), filed its *Application for Approval of Transaction; Motion to Consolidate Proceedings and Schedule Procedural Conference; and Motion for Expedited Treatment*.
2. This matter is set for hearing before the Commission beginning April 5, 2017.
3. Staff’s scheduled witnesses are Natelle Dietrich, Lisa Kremer, David Murray, Mark Oligschlaeger, and Robert Schallenberg. Of these witnesses, only Ms. Dietrich filed testimony herein. The others contributed to *Staff’s Investigation Report* filed in Case No. EM-2016-0324.
4. Staff has inquired of all the parties and all of them are willing to waive cross-examination of Staff witnesses Lisa Kremer, David Murray, Mark Oligschlaeger, and Robert Schallenberg, retaining the right to cross them only if there are questions for them from the bench.
5. Therefore, Staff requests that the Presiding Officer poll the members of the Commission and, by Notice, advise the parties whether all, or any, of Staff

witnesses Lisa Kremer, David Murray, Mark Oligschlaeger, and Robert Schallenberg may be excused from the hearing of this matter because the bench has no questions for one or more of them.

6. Staff witness Dietrich will appear and testify in any event.

WHEREFORE, Staff prays that the Presiding Officer will poll the members of the Commission and, by Notice, advise the parties whether all, or any, of Staff witnesses Lisa Kremer, David Murray, Mark Oligschlaeger, and Robert Schallenberg, may be excused from the hearing of this matter because the bench has no questions for one or more of them; and grant such other and further relief as is just in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Kevin A. Thompson
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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail on each of the parties listed in the Service List for this case maintained by the Commission's Data Center on this 3rd day of April, 2017.

/s/ Kevin A. Thompson