## STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2010.

In the Matter of the Second Prudence Review of Costs Subject to the Commission-Approved Fuel Adjustment Clause of Aquila, Inc., d/b/a KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company

File No. EO-2010-0167

## **ORDER APPROVING STAFF'S PRUDENCE REVIEW**

)

)

)

Issue Date: July 15, 2010

Effective Date: July 25, 2010

KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company (KCP&L-GMO) has utilized a fuel adjustment clause since the Commission approved the use of that clause in the company's general rate case, ER-2007-0004. Section 386.266.4(4) RSMo Supp. 2009, the statute that authorizes an electric utility to use a fuel adjustment clause, requires the Commission to conduct a prudence review of the utility's fuel costs no less frequently than at 18-month intervals. The 18-month prudence review is also required by Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-20.090(7) and by KCP&L-GMO's tariff.

On December 1, 2009, the Commission's Staff filed a notice indicating it started its prudence audit on that date. Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-20.090(7)(B) establishes a timeline that requires Staff to file a recommendation regarding the results of its audit no later than 180 days after it initiates its audit. The timeline then directs the Commission to issue an order regarding Staff's audit no later than 210 days after Staff initiates it audit, unless within 190 days some party to the proceeding requests a hearing.

Staff filed its report and recommendation regarding its prudence audit on May 28, 2010. No party requested a hearing by the 190<sup>th</sup> day after Staff initiated its audit. Therefore, the Commission may now consider Staff's report and recommendation.

Staff's report and recommendation regarding its prudence review indicates Staff has conducted a review of all aspects of KCP&L-GMO's fuel costs as they are passed through to customers under the fuel adjustment clause. Staff does not identify any imprudence by KCP&L-GMO that would result in harm to the utility's ratepayers; therefore, Staff does not recommend that KCP&L-GMO be required to make any refunds to its customers.

The Commission finds Staff's report and recommendation regarding its prudence review of KCP&L-GMO's fuel costs to be reasonable. No party has requested a hearing, or in any other way opposed or objected to Staff's recommendation. Therefore, the Commission will approve Staff's report.

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Staff's Report regarding its prudence audit of the costs subject to KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company's fuel adjustment clause is approved.

2. This order shall become effective on July 25, 2010.

## BY THE COMMISSION

Steven C. Reed Secretary

(SEAL)

Clayton, Chm., Davis, Jarrett, Gunn, and Kenney, CC., concur.

Pridgin, Senior Regulatory Law Judge