# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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

File No. EM-2018-0012

# **ORDER GRANTING WAIVER OF 60-DAY NOTICE REQUIREMENT**

Issue Date: September 28, 2017

Effective Date: September 28, 2017

On August 31, 2017, Great Plains Energy Incorporated, Kansas City Power & Light Company, KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company, and Westar Energy, Inc. ("Applicants") filed a joint application asking the Commission to approve a transaction in which Westar and GPE will merge. Applicants included in the application a request for waiver of the 60-day notice requirement of Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-4.017(1). Applicants submitted a notice of intended case filing on July 14, 2017, but filed the application prior to the expiration of 60 days.

Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-4.017(1) requires that any person intending to file a case before the Commission file a notice of their intent at least 60 days before filing the case. The required notice must describe the type of case to be filed and the issues likely to be brought before the Commission. It must also summarize any contacts between the filing party and the office of the Commission within the previous 90 days. Section 4 CSR 240-4.017(4) allows the Commission to waive the 60-day notice requirement for good cause.

Applicants assert that good cause for their failure to comply with the 60-day notice requirement exists because they have provided a verified declaration that Applicants have

not had any communications with the office of the Commission about any substantive issue regarding their application in the preceding 150 days; circumstances surrounding the merger negotiations prevented filing the notice prior to July 14; and any delay in filing the application would cause harm to Applicants.

Ten days have elapsed and no party has objected to the request for waiver.<sup>1</sup> The Commission concludes that Applicants have demonstrated good cause for their failure to file a timely 60-day notice, and the Commission will grant the requested waiver.

# THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Great Plains Energy Incorporated, Kansas City Power & Light Company, KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company, and Westar Energy, Inc.'s request for waiver of the 60-day notice requirement of 4 CSR 240-4.017(1) is granted.

2. This order shall be effective when issued.

# **BY THE COMMISSION**



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Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Michael Bushmann, Senior Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Commission rule 4 CSR 240-2.080(13) provides that parties shall be allowed ten days from the date of filing in which to respond to any pleading unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of September 2017.



Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

# MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

# September 28, 2017

## File/Case No. EM-2018-0012

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Peggy A Whipple

# Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,

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Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.