

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

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Great)
 Plains Energy Incorporated, Kansas City Power)
 & Light Company, and Aquila, Inc. for Approval)
 of the Merger of Aquila, Inc. with a subsidiary of)
 Great Plains Energy Incorporated and for Other)
 Related Relief.)

Case No. EM-2007-0374

**RESPONSE OF STAFF, PUBLIC COUNSEL, SIEUA, AGP AND PRAXAIR
TO PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE PROPOSED BY JOINT APPLICANTS**

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff), the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel), and Sedalia Industrial Energy Users' Association (SIEUA), AG Processing, Inc. (AGP) and Praxair, Inc. (Praxair) (SIEUA, AGP and Praxair collectively referred to as Industrial Intervenors) and jointly respond to the procedural schedule the Joint Applicants Great Plains Energy Incorporated, Kansas City Power & Light Company, and Aquila, Inc. proposed on February 20, 2008, as follows:

1. On February 20, 2008, the Joint Applicants proposed to the Commission the following procedural schedule:

JOINT APPLICANTS' PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
February 25, 2008	Joint Applicants' Additional Supplemental Direct Testimony
March 24, 2008	Rebuttal Testimony
March 31, 2008	Surrebuttal Testimony of Joint Applicants and Cross-Surrebuttal of Other Parties
April 15, 2008	List of Issues and Order of Witnesses
April 21 - May 2, 2008	Evidentiary Hearings

2. The Joint Applicants presented the foregoing schedule to certain parties to this case who attended a meeting on February 19, 2008, but the Staff, Public Counsel, and Industrial Intervenors indicated to the Joint Applicants then, as they have indicated previously, that they are unable to respond intelligently to a proposed schedule without independently knowing the extent, volume, and issues that might arise, be presented or be recharacterized in any new or supplemental filing by the Joint Applicants. Regardless of how the Joint Applicants have characterized their filing planned for February 25, 2008, the Staff, Public Counsel and Industrial Intervenors respectfully advise the Commission that, simply put, they cannot respond to a schedule proposal until they have had an opportunity to at least very quickly review the extent, volume, and nature of additional material that is submitted by the Joint Applicants.

3. Accordingly, as they proposed to the Joint Applicants on February 19, 2008, the Staff, Public Counsel, and Industrial Intervenors recommend that the Commission set a scheduling conference for Thursday, February 28, 2008, where the parties may attend in person at the Commission's offices in Jefferson City or by speakerphone. Further, they recommend the Commission order the parties to file within two business days after that conference, i.e., by Monday, March 4, 2008, an agreed-to procedural schedule or any alternative proposed procedural schedule(s) to that proposed by the Joint Applicants. That timing would be sufficient to allow the non-Joint Applicant parties to make an initial review of the scope, volume and nature of "additional supplemental direct testimony" filed by the Joint Applicants, and discuss a subsequent procedural schedule for this case among themselves and with the Joint Applicants. All of this would be accomplished within one week of the Joint Applicants' filing of their "additional supplemental direct testimony."

WHEREFORE the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, the Office of the Public Counsel, and Sedalia Industrial Energy Users' Association, AG Processing, Inc. and Praxair, Inc., in response to the procedural schedule proposed by the Joint Applicants, request that the Commission set a scheduling conference for Thursday, February 28, 2008, where the parties may attend in person at the Commission's offices in Jefferson City or by speakerphone, and order the parties to file within two business days after that conference, i.e., by Monday, March 4, 2008, an agreed to procedural schedule or any alternative proposed procedural schedule(s) to that proposed by the Joint Applicants.

Respectfully submitted,

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically served to all counsel of record this 21st day of February, 2008.

/s/ Kevin A. Thompson