

**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.

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File No. EM-2018-0012

**ORDER GRANTING, IN PART, AND DENYING, IN PART, MOTION FOR
EXCUSAL OF ASSOCIATED COUNSEL**

Issue Date: March 5, 2018

Effective Date: March 5, 2018

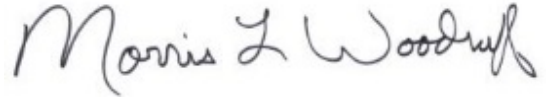
On February 28, 2018, the Federal Executive Agencies (“FEA”) filed a *Motion for Excusal of Associated Counsel*, requesting that the Commission excuse FEA’s designated Missouri attorney, Major Thomas Schmidt, from appearing on behalf of FEA in all proceedings and participating in all filings pertaining to this case. Missouri Supreme Court Rule 9.03(c)(3) provides that designated associate counsel shall sign all pleadings, briefs, and other filed or served documents and, unless excused by the judge or presiding officer, be present at all hearings. The Commission finds that under this rule it has the discretion to excuse Major Schmidt from appearing at any hearings in this matter, and will grant the request excusing Major Schmidt from appearing at the evidentiary hearing. However, the Commission does not have the discretion to excuse Major Schmidt from signing all pleadings and briefs, so the Commission will deny that request.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Federal Executive Agencies’ *Motion for Excusal of Associated Counsel* granted, in part, and denied, in part, as described in the body of this order.

2. This order shall be effective when issued.

BY THE COMMISSION



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 5th day of March, 2018.

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 5th day of March 2018.




Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

March 5, 2018

File/Case No. EM-2018-0012

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

Sincerely,


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.