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MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE NO.: ER-2012-0174

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

BURTON L. CRAWFORD

ON BEHALF OF

KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

**Kansas City, Missouri
October 2012**

*** [REDACTED] *** Designates "Highly Confidential" Information
Has Been Removed
Pursuant To 4 CSR 240-2.135.

KCP&L Exhibit No. 17-NP
Date 10-29-12 Reporter KKF
File No. ER-2012-0174

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

BURTON L. CRAWFORD

Case No. ER-2012-0174

1 **Q: Please state your name and business address.**

2 A: My name is Burton L. Crawford. My business address is 1200 Main, Kansas City,
3 Missouri 64105.

4 **Q: Are you the same Burton L. Crawford who pre-filed Direct and Rebuttal Testimony**
5 **in this matter?**

6 A: Yes, I am.

7 **Q: What is the purpose of your Surrebuttal Testimony?**

8 A: The purpose of my Surrebuttal Testimony is to address the Rebuttal Testimony of
9 Missouri Public Service Commission Staff ("Staff") witnesses Mr. V. William Harris on
10 issues related to Kansas City Power & Light Company's ("KCP&L" or the "Company")
11 off-system sales ("OSS") margins.

12 **Q: Please summarize your testimony.**

13 A: The Company has concerns that Staff has changed its position in regards to the OSS
14 margin adjustments proposed by the Company. While Staff believes these are revenues
15 and costs that need to be reflected in the determination of the Company's revenue
16 requirements, they no longer feel it is appropriate to reflect these adjustments in the OSS
17 margins. The Company believes it is still appropriate to include these adjustments in the
18 OSS margin as was ordered by the Commission in KCP&L's last rate case (Case No. ER-
19 2010-0355).

1 **Commission to determine the appropriate level of OSS margin to include in retail**
2 **rates?**

3 A: No, it has not changed.

4 **Q: What has been the treatment of Purchases for Resale in the NorthBridge OSS**
5 **margin model?**

6 A: Purchases for Resale are not included.

7 **Q: Why not?**

8 A: The NorthBridge model is similar to other production cost simulation models in that it
9 simulates sales made from KCP&L's physical resources. It does not simulate purchases
10 of energy from the wholesale market that are later sold back to the wholesale market.
11 None of the production cost models presented in this case (the Company's Midas model,
12 Staff's RealTime model, MEGG's RealTime model, or the NorthBridge OSS model)
13 include these transactions.

14 **Q: Do you agree with Staff that the lack of Purchase for Resale transactions in the**
15 **NorthBridge database used by Mr. Schnitzer is reasonable grounds to exclude them**
16 **from the Company's OSS margins?**

17 A: Not at all. In fact, it is for this very reason that they need to be included in the
18 Company's OSS margin calculation.

19 **Q: Why do Purchases for Resale need to be included?**

20 A: KCP&L makes OSS from two sources: (1) owned resources and (2) purchased power.
21 When determining the appropriate level of OSS margin to include as an offset to the
22 retail cost of service, both sales from owned resources and sales from purchased power
23 need to be considered. The model used by Mr. Schnitzer estimates OSS margins from

1 KCP&L resources. The Company estimates the OSS margin from purchased power (i.e.,
2 Purchases for Resale). The two components are simply added together to arrive at the
3 OSS margin to include in the case.

4 **Q: How does the Company estimate the Purchases for Resale amounts to include in the**
5 **case?**

6 A: As explained in my Direct Testimony at page 12, the Purchases for Resale are based on
7 known historic values. For the true-up case, the Company plans to include the actual
8 margins from the 12-month period ending August 31, 2012.

9 **Q: Does Staff recognize that the Company has Purchases for Resale?**

10 A: Yes. In addition to Staff having not opposed the inclusion of OSS backed by purchases
11 in the OSS margin in the previous case, Mr. Harris' Rebuttal Testimony in this case
12 states: "KCPL makes a considerable amount of OSS from purchased power (29% of the
13 total MWH sold and 42% of the total \$ cost of sales in 2011)." (Harris Rebuttal, p. 7).
14 With a "considerable" amount of OSS coming from purchases, it is difficult to
15 understand why Staff now wants to exclude these transactions from the OSS margins in
16 this case.

17 **Q: What is the basis for Staff's change in position on SPP loss charges?**

18 A: Staff's sole basis for excluding this adjustment from OSS is that "KCPL is reducing
19 margins which originate in the SPP footprint for sales outside the SPP footprint." (Harris
20 Rebuttal, p. 10, ll. 1-2).

21 **Q: Is this a valid reason for excluding SPP loss charges from the calculation of OSS**
22 **margins?**

23 A: No.

1 **Q: Please explain.**

2 A: KCP&L incurs costs when making OSS. Among these costs are the charges incurred for
3 transmission line losses. The Company is simply reflecting the fact that it incurs these
4 costs in making OSS and has included them in the OSS margin estimate in this case.
5 KCP&L also includes the SPP Line Loss credit or revenue that it receives as well. This
6 reflects KCP&L's share of the transmission losses charges collected by SPP that are
7 allocated back to the Company by SPP.

8 While it is true that this SPP Line Loss adjustment reduces margins, it is derived
9 from an expense directly incurred when making such margins and, therefore, the
10 adjustment is appropriate. In the previous case the Staff and Commission agreed.
11 Nothing has changed from the previous case that should change this outcome. The
12 Company includes these net charges based on the actual net charges incurred from SPP.
13 These net charges are not reflected anywhere else in the case and reflect legitimate costs
14 associated with making OSS. As such, the Commission should continue to include these
15 costs in the OSS margin.

16 If the Commission were to exclude these costs from the OSS margin calculation,
17 it could easily create a scenario that places the Company in a position where it would be
18 incented to not make certain OSS. This incentive to not make sales would be created
19 from the inability of the Company to recover the SPP Line Loss charges through the OSS
20 margin process while the benefits of the sale would flow back to retail customers. Note
21 this assumes that the Company was expecting to exceed the OSS margin threshold set in
22 this case. There is no reason for the Commission to place the Company in such a position
23 for a cost that Staff agrees should be recoverable.

1 **Q: Has Staff changed their position on any other OSS related issues?**

2 A: Yes. In addition to changing their position on Purchases for Resale and SPP Line Loss
3 Charges, Staff has changed its view concerning SPP Revenue Neutrality Uplift (“RNU”).

4 **Q: What is the basis for Staff’s change in SPP RNU treatment?**

5 A: Staff opposes the Company’s treatment of SPP RNU as they feel that “KCPL has not
6 provided any information which shows that these net charges are related to OSS.”
7 (Harris Rebuttal, p. 10).

8 **Q: Why is KCP&L’s proposed treatment appropriate?**

9 A: As explained in my Rebuttal Testimony at page 9, KCP&L incurs these charges and
10 credits due to its participation in the SPP energy imbalance market. The charges and
11 credits are recorded as wholesale purchases and sales. As such, these are wholesale
12 transactions and should be a part of the OSS calculation which is consistent with the
13 Commission’s decision in the last rate case, as noted in the Report and Order at pages
14 140-41, Case No. ER-2010-0355. The Commission should continue this treatment in the
15 current case.

16 **Q: Do you have any additional comments concerning Staff’s position regarding
17 KCP&L’s OSS margins?**

18 A: Yes. I would like to address Mr. Harris’ concern as expressed in his Rebuttal Testimony
19 at page 6 that the recommended level of OSS margin produced by Mr. Schnitzer has been
20 a “moving target” over the years.

21 **Q: Would you agree that the results of the analysis conducted by Mr. Schnitzer has
22 moved over the years?**

23 A: Yes, they have.

1 wholesale markets experienced in 2012 and the actual average OSS margins of
2 **** [REDACTED] **** per MWh, KCP&L would have had to sell well over **** [REDACTED] **** MWh
3 per year to meet the OSS margin included in retail rates. Since KCP&L's total annual
4 generation has averaged about 20,000,000 MWh per year over the past 5 years (most of
5 which goes to serve KCP&L's retail load), meeting the \$80.6 million in margin is
6 physically impossible given the recent wholesale market conditions.

7 **Q: What factors are driving these low wholesale market prices?**

8 A: Several factors have contributed to the low market prices experienced in 2012. These
9 factors include low demand, low natural gas prices, higher wind generation supply, and
10 transmission constraints.

11 **Q: Please briefly explain these contributing factors.**

12 A: Retail energy consumption during the first part of 2012 was down significantly from
13 what it would have been under normal weather conditions. KCP&L load was down more
14 than 4% due to the warmer than normal weather during the first quarter. Lower demand
15 generally results in lower prices for wholesale energy.

16 In addition to the warmer than normal winter contributing to lower electric
17 demand, natural gas consumption was also lower than it would have been under normal
18 weather conditions. As a result, natural gas prices were lower. NYMEX natural gas
19 prices for the first 9 months of 2012 were on average lower than the first 9 months of any
20 year since 1999. Since at times the price of wholesale electric power in our region is tied
21 to the price of natural gas, the lower natural gas prices resulted in lower wholesale
22 electric market prices as well.

1 With the federal wind energy production tax credit (“PTC”) set to expire at the
2 end of 2012, a significant amount of new wind generation is being installed in the region
3 before the credit expires. This additional energy supply contributes to lower wholesale
4 energy prices not only through increased supply, but also by the fact that the PTC allows
5 a wind facility to generate economically even if market prices are negative. In addition to
6 reducing wholesale market energy prices, wind energy is increasing transmission system
7 congestion. This congestion makes it more difficult for KCP&L to make OSS.

8 Given the current state of the regional transmission system, at times KCP&L finds
9 itself in a position of having energy to sell, but not able to move the energy to loads
10 wanting to buy the energy. In over 5% of the hours year-to-date through August 2012,
11 KCP&L had energy to sell but could not obtain transmission service to move it to
12 potential buyers. September 2012 was a particularly difficult month for obtaining
13 transmission service when more than 12% of the time KCP&L could not obtain
14 additional transmission service for OSS.

15 **Q: Are there other indicators of the weak wholesale market that is contributing to low**
16 **KCP&L OSS margins?**

17 A: Yes. During periods of weak demand, KCP&L must place some base load facilities into
18 “reserve shutdown” in order to meet North American Electric Reliability Corporation
19 (“NERC”) reliability standards.

20 **Q: Please explain.**

21 A: As a NERC Balancing Authority, KCP&L has responsibility to balance its generation and
22 load obligations. This means that KCP&L system operators need to ensure that they are
23 not significantly under-generating or over-generating relative to the Company’s load

1 requirements. During times of low load, particularly spring and fall, KCP&L may have
2 more base load capacity than needed to meet its firm obligations. When sufficient
3 transmission service is unavailable to move the energy to potential wholesale buyers,
4 KCP&L can be forced to place a portion of its base load facilities in reserve shutdown.
5 When in reserve shutdown, a facility is unavailable to make sales during subsequent
6 higher load hours of the day when sales may have otherwise been economic.

7 During 2012 KCP&L's Montrose Station has experienced a number of reserve
8 shutdown hours. Schedule BLC-14 shows the number of hours each month that the three
9 Montrose units were placed in reserve shutdown. It is likely that at least two of the three
10 Montrose units will be in reserve shutdown until December 2012 when winter loads are
11 anticipated to increase.

12 **Q: What is the Company currently forecasting for 2013?**

13 **A:** Based on the current forward curve for natural gas prices, average wholesale prices are
14 projected to improve over 2012. While prices may improve, KCP&L continues to expect
15 difficulties in obtaining transmission service to move wholesale energy. KCP&L also
16 anticipates continued reserve shutdowns during the low load months.

17 Assuming natural gas prices hold at the forward curve prices for 2013 as of the
18 August 31, 2012 true-up date, KCP&L's projection for OSS margins sourced from
19 KCP&L resources is **■■■■** million on a total Company basis. This is based on the
20 Company's MIDAS™ model results and includes some level of transmission constraints
21 and reserve shutdowns.

1 **Q: How does this compare to last year's OSS margins?**

2 A: The 2011 OSS margin from KCP&L resources was about **[REDACTED]** million on a total
3 Company basis. The margins would have been greater had it not been for the Missouri
4 River flooding that occurred during 2011. Year-to-date through August 2012, KCP&L
5 OSS margins from its resources have only been **[REDACTED]** million. For the 12-month
6 period ending August 31, 2012 (the true-up date in this case), the Company earned
7 **[REDACTED]** million in margin from KCP&L resources.

8 **Q: Does that conclude your testimony?**

9 A: Yes, it does.

