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STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF )  
KANSAS CITY )  
POWER & LIGHT COMPANY'S )  
REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY )  
TO IMPLEMENT A )  
GENERAL RATE )  
INCREASE FOR ELECTRIC )  
SERVICE, )

) File No. ER-2016-0285  
)  
)

VOLUME II  
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING  
December 15th, 2016  
Marshall, Missouri

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APPEARANCES

MR. RONALD D. PRIDGIN, Regulatory Law Judge

MS. MAIDA J. COLEMAN, Commissioner

Also present:

The Court Reporter:

MS. LISA BALLALATAK, CCR  
Missouri CCR No. 1336  
MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES  
2511 Broadway Bluffs, Suite 201  
Columbia, Missouri 65201  
Phone: (573) 449-0561  
lballalatak@midwestlitigation.com

1 (The hearing commenced at 12:04 p.m.)

2 MR. PRIDGIN: Good afternoon. We will  
3 convene this open public hearing in Case Number  
4 ER-2016-0285. I'm Ron Pridgin. I am the regulatory  
5 law judge presiding over this hearing. We are in  
6 Marshall, Missouri. The date is December 15th,  
7 2016, and we are just a few minutes past noon.

8 The purpose of this hearing is to hear  
9 from ratepayers that want to comment on Kansas City  
10 Power & Light's pending rate increase, and I will  
11 see if we have anybody who wishes to testify here in  
12 just a moment. With me is Commissioner Coleman, and  
13 we will also have further local public hearings this  
14 evening in Gladstone and next week in Kansas City.

15 Let me get entries of appearance from  
16 counsel. And I don't think I saw anybody here from  
17 anyone other than the company, staff, and public  
18 counsel, but if there is anyone else here, please  
19 let me know.

20 If I could get an entry of appearance from  
21 KCP&L, please.

22 MR. HACK: Sure. Robert Hack, H-a-c-k, on  
23 behalf of KCP&L today.

24 MR. PRIDGIN: Mr. Hack, thank you.

25 On behalf of the commission, please.

1 MS. MERS: Nicole Mers on behalf of the  
2 commission. My information has already been given  
3 to the court reporter.

4 MR. PRIDGIN: Ms. Mers, thank you.

5 On behalf of the office of public counsel,  
6 please.

7 MR. OPTIZ: Thank you, Judge. On behalf  
8 of the office of public counsel, I'm Tim Opitz. My  
9 address is P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri  
10 65102.

11 MR. PRIDGIN: Mr. Opitz, thank you.

12 Commissioner Coleman, did you have any  
13 opening remarks -- I'm sorry.

14 MS. FINDLEY: I just wanted to enter an  
15 appearance for Ameren Missouri. I'm Beth Findley.  
16 She has my card.

17 MR. PRIDGIN: Ms. Findley, thank you. I'm  
18 sorry I overlooked you, I apologize.

19 Have I overlooked anyone else?

20 All right. Thank you. I'm very sorry.

21 Commissioner Coleman, any opening remarks  
22 before we receive the opening testimony?

23 MS. COLEMAN: Only good morning. Thank  
24 you for being here today. The fact that I am the  
25 only commissioner of five does not mean that this

1 case does not rate of high importance with us. Any  
2 testimony given here or at any other hearing will be  
3 available for the other commissioners to review  
4 also, as is done in order for us to make an informed  
5 decision. So we thank you for being here today.

6 MR. PRIDGIN: Commissioner, thank you.

7 We have a sign-up sheet out front. I  
8 don't think anyone has signed up, but let me see if  
9 anybody wants to testify before the commission  
10 today.

11 Yes, sir. You can come on up, if you  
12 would like. If you'll come on up to the podium.  
13 And what I'll do here in a moment, sir, I'll ask you  
14 to raise your right hand. And I'll administer an  
15 oath, and then I'll ask your name and I'll ask you  
16 to spell your name for the court reporter so she  
17 gets it in the record correctly, and then you may  
18 make any statement that you wish to make. And then  
19 Commissioner Coleman may have some questions, I may  
20 have some questions, so if you'll stay there when  
21 you're done until the questions are finished.

22 MR. FRENCH: Sure.

23 LOID FRENCH,  
24 being first sworn, testified as follows:

25 MR. PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. If you

1 would please state and spell your name for the  
2 record.

3 MR. FRENCH: My name is Loid French,  
4 L-o-i-d F-r-e-n-c-h.

5 MR. PRIDGIN: And are you a Kansas City  
6 Power & Light customer?

7 MR. FRENCH: Yes, I am.

8 MR. PRIDGIN: Okay. Any statement you  
9 have for the commission, sir?

10 MR. FRENCH: I would like to start off by  
11 saying I have no complaints with Kansas City Power &  
12 Light; they've been very good to work with over the  
13 years. My concern is the possibility of the rate  
14 increase -- the full amount. Since 2011, my rate --  
15 I am paying 11 -- a little over 11 cents per  
16 kilowatt hour for the electricity that I use on my  
17 farm. So far to date today, it's 13.78 cents to  
18 this point. The last rate increased jumped it  
19 basically 2 cents a kilowatt hour. I know if you go  
20 another nine to 11 dollars, my concern is what that  
21 is going to do to people like me who are farming,  
22 who use a lot of electricity. It's probably going  
23 to be a lot more than just nine or \$10 that we're  
24 talking about. Also, what is it going to do with  
25 people who are on limited income? When you look at

1 another nine to \$12 a month, depending on which one  
2 of the forms you look at, you're looking at up to  
3 \$120 a month. That could be hurting other people  
4 that may need the money and may not have it. And  
5 that is -- my concern is, that large of an  
6 increase -- considering that we just had another \$10  
7 a month increase in the last year and a half.  
8 Because, like I say, in 2015, I was paying 11.97  
9 cents per kilowatt hour. I know this year -- the  
10 year-to-date, it's 13.78.

11 Now, I know part of that is a fuel  
12 adjustment cost on there, but yet, that is part of  
13 our electric bill. That's something we have to pay.  
14 I mean, it's an added charge, it's something varying  
15 from time to time, but when you look at it over a  
16 year, that is a part of our light bill. And I am  
17 concerned about the fact of what this could do  
18 another -- another \$120 a year may not seem like  
19 much, but, like -- so for this year, I've spent  
20 \$1,193 in electricity at this point this year for  
21 me, myself, and I still have one more month to come.  
22 Last year I did spend over \$1,300, but I have health  
23 issues that kept me from -- in the house where I  
24 couldn't do things, so I had the air conditioner  
25 running and I had the temporal air on the oxygen

1 because of the health condition, so that was more  
2 because of that, and I know that. But when you look  
3 at the fact that in 2010, I paid \$989; this year to  
4 date, I'm already at the \$1,193. If you add another  
5 ten or -- \$120 [sic] a month to that, there's going  
6 to be a lot of people it could hurt. They're living  
7 on limited income, fixed incomes, everything like  
8 that. I understand that they have expenses they  
9 need to -- that they've incurred and everything like  
10 that. And the transmission lines in our  
11 neighborhood are good, we don't have any problems.  
12 The major problems that I know of -- and like I  
13 said, their services has been tremendous, but I am  
14 concerned about that drastic of an increase, when  
15 you look at people who are already spending over a  
16 thousand dollars a year on electricity. And that's  
17 just on electric alone; that's not people who have  
18 electric heat or anything like that, because I have  
19 a propane bill on top of it. But that's just my  
20 light usage for my farm. I'm not a farmer that has  
21 electric grain dryers or anything like that, so  
22 their expenses is going to be a lot more than what I  
23 have. And that -- my main concern is just having  
24 that great of an increase within a year to a year  
25 and a half after the last increase. I mean, it



1 seems like a lot of money hitting to those of us who  
2 are customers back to back within a year or two, and  
3 that's is my main concern about it.

4           Again, I cannot -- I will not complain  
5 about the Kansas City Power & Light service because  
6 they've been tremendous. We had a tornado in my  
7 neighborhood in 2010; they had us up and running  
8 with electricity within two or three days. And,  
9 generally, whenever we have a fuse or something like  
10 that -- blown fuse, they were out there fixing it.  
11 My main concern is, though, that that drastic of an  
12 increase, when we just had it within the last year  
13 and a half -- another one within a year and a half.  
14 And my concern is they did it within a year and a  
15 half. And I know there are other expenses and  
16 everything coming online and things like this, but  
17 my concern is what is going to happen in another  
18 year or two? There's no way of predicting the  
19 future, all we can do is talk about it right now.

20           So that was -- my concern was -- like I  
21 say, I hate seeing that great of an increase this  
22 soon after we just had another one within a year and  
23 a half -- year, year and a half ago.

24           Thank you.

25           MR. PRIDGIN: Thank you, Mr. French.

1 Ms. Coleman, any questions?

2 MS. COLEMAN: I do have a question.

3 Good morning, Mr. French. Thank you so  
4 much for coming today and your testimony. What part  
5 of the KCP&L service area is your farm located?

6 MR. FRENCH: East Marshall out by Arrow  
7 Rock, Missouri. It's a little town called Hardeman.

8 MS. COLEMAN: Okay. Okay.

9 MR. FRENCH: My mailing address is 35364  
10 East Highway 41, Marshall, Missouri.

11 MS. COLEMAN: And have you been located  
12 there for many years?

13 THE WITNESS: I was born and raised in  
14 that area. My parents have always been on Kansas  
15 City -- Kansas City came through -- original  
16 transmissions lines were one of the -- we've had  
17 Kansas City Power & Light service since they came  
18 into this area.

19 MS. COLEMAN: Thank you. Thank you again  
20 for being here today.

21 MR. PRIDGIN: Thank you for your time and  
22 your testimony.

23 Is there anyone else who wishes to  
24 testify?

25 Seeing no volunteers, anything from

1 counsel before we close?

2 MR. HACK: No.

3 MR. PRIDGIN: Commissioner Coleman, any  
4 closing remarks?

5 MS. COLEMAN: No.

6 MR. PRIDGIN: All right. I don't have any  
7 other remarks, other than thank you, Mr. French, for  
8 your time and for your remark, and, obviously, thank  
9 you for everyone else who came out to today's  
10 hearing. I expect I'll see many of you this evening  
11 in Gladstone. Thank you very much. We are off the  
12 record.

13 (The hearing concluded at 12:13 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Lisa D. Ballalatak, a Certified Court Reporter for the State of Missouri, do hereby certify that I appeared at the time and place first hereinbefore set forth, that I took down in shorthand the entire proceedings had at said time and place, and that the foregoing constitutes a true, correct, and complete transcript of my said shorthand notes.

Witness my hand and seal this 27th day of December, 2016

Lisa D. Ballalatak  
Missouri Supreme Court  
Certified Court Reporter

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