1		STATE OF MISSOURI
2	Р	UBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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4	Т	RANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
5		Evidentiary Hearing
6		January January
7		October 1, 2007
8		Jefferson City, Missouri Volume 5
9		
10	In the Matter of the Application ) of Kansas City Power & Light )	
11	Certain Changes i	al to Make ) Case No. ER-2007-0291 its Charges for ) Implement its )
12	Electric Service Regulatory Plan,	
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15	RO	NALD D. PRIDGIN, Presiding SENIOR REGULATORY LAW JUDGE
16		SENIOR RESERVICE EM SOPE
17		FF DAVIS, Chairman,
18	TE	NNIE MURRAY, RRY JARRETT,
19		BERT M. CLAYTON, III, NWARD "LIN" APPLING
20		
21	REPORTED BY:	Monnie S. VanZant, CCR, CSR, RPR
22		Midwest Litigation Services 3432 W. Truman Boulevard, Suite 207
23		Jefferson City, MO 65109 (573) 636-7551
24		
25		

1	APPEARANCES
2	For Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission:
3	Mr. Kevin A. Thompson Mr. Nathan Williams
4	Mr. Steven Dottheim Public Service Commission
5	200 Madison Street P.O. Box 309
6	Jefferson City, MO 65102 (573) 751-6514
7	(0.0) .01 0011
8	For Office of Public Counsel:
9	Mr. Lewis Mills Office of the Public Counsel
10	P.O. Box 2230 200 Madison Street
11	Jefferson City, MO 65102
12	For Kansas City Power & Light:
13	Mr. James Fischer
14	Fischer & Dority
15	101 Madison Street, Suite 400 Jefferson City, MO 65101
16	(573) 636-67583
17	Mr. William C. Riggins Attorney at Law
18	1201 Walnut Street Kansas City, MO 64106
19	Mr. Karl Zobrist
20	Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal 4520 Main Street, Suite 1100
21	Kansas City, MO 64111 (816) 460-2545
22	
23	
24	
25	

1	For Kansas City Power & Light:	
2	Mr. Curtis Blanc	
3	Attorney at Law 1201 Walnut	
4	Kansas City, MO 64106 (816) 556-2433	
5	Flore December - Transcript	
6	For Praxair, Inc.:	
7	Mr. Stuart W. Conrad Finnegan, Conrad & Peterson	
8	1209 Penntower 3100 Broadway	
9	Kansas City, MO 64111 (816) 753-1122	
10	The Minney Brown of Material Brown	
11	For Missouri Department of Natural Resources:	
12	Ms. Shelley A. Woods Office of the Attorney General	
13	P.O Box 899 221 W. High Street	
14	Jefferson City, MO 65109 (573) 751-8795	
15		
16	For Trigen-Kansas City Energy Corporation:	
17	Mr. Jeffrey A. Keevil Attorney at Law	
18	4603 John Garry Drive, Suite 11 Columbia, MO 65203 (573) 499-0635	
19	(3/3) 133 0033	
20	For Missouri Gas Energy, The Empire District Electric Company, Aquila, Inc.:	
21		
22	Ms. Diana C. Carter Brydon, Swearengen & England 312 E. Capitol Avenue	
23	P.O. Box 456  Jefferson City, MO 65102-0456	
24	(573) 635-0427	
25		

1	For City of Kansas City:
2	Mr. Mark W. Comley Newman, Comley & Ruth
3	601 Monroe Street, Suite 301 P.O. Box 537
4	Jefferson City, MO 65102-0537 (573) 634-2266
5	(373) 034 2200
6	For U.S. Department of Energy/NNSA:
7	Mr. Arthur Perry Bruder Attorney at Law
8	1000 Independence Avenue SW
9	Washington, D.C. 20585 (202) 586-3409
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1 PROCEEDINGS
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- 2 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Good morning. We
- 3 are on the record. This is the beginning of the hearing
- 4 in Case No. ER-2007-0291 in the matter of the application
- 5 of Kansas City Power & Light Company for approval to make
- 6 certain changes in its charges for electric service to
- 7 implement its regulatory plan.
- 8 I am Ron Pridgin. I'm the Regulatory Law Judge
- 9 assigned to preside over this hearing beginning on October
- 10 1st, 2007. The time is approximately 9:20 in the morning.
- 11 I would like to begin with entries of appearance from
- 12 counsel, beginning with Kansas City Power & Light, please.
- 13 MR. FISCHER: Your Honor, let the record reflect
- 14 the appearance of James M. Fischer, Bill Riggins, Karl
- 15 Zobrist, Roger Steiner and Curtis Blanc appearing on
- 16 behalf of the company. Our address and mailing
- 17 information is -- have been submitted to the court
- 18 reporter in written form.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Fischer, thank you.
- 20 On behalf of the Staff of the Commission, please?
- 21 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Judge. Kevin
- 22 Thompson, Steve Dottheim, Nathan Williams, Sarah
- 23 Kliethermis for the Staff of the Missouri Public Service
- 24 Commission, Post Office Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri,
- 25 65102.

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1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Thompson, thank you. On
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- 2 behalf of the Office of Public Counsel, please.
- 3 MR. MILLS: Appearing for Public Counsel's
- 4 Office and the public, my name is Lewis Mills. My address
- 5 is Post Office Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri, 65102.
- 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Mills, thank you. On behalf
- 7 of the Ford Motor Company, please? No entry. On behalf
- 8 of Missouri Industrial Energy Consumers, please? No
- 9 entry. On behalf of Praxair, please?
- 10 MR. CONRAD: Yes, your Honor. Stuart W.
- 11 Conrad, Law Firm of Finnegan, Conrad & Peterson. We also
- 12 have provided the court reporter with the address and
- 13 information.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Conrad, thank you. On
- 15 behalf of Pershing Road Development Company, please? No
- 16 entry. On behalf of Trigen-Kansas City, please?
- 17 MR. KEEVIL: Yes, your Honor. Appearing on
- 18 behalf of Trigen, Jeffrey A. Keevil of the law firm of
- 19 Stewart & Keevil, LLC, 4603 John Garry Drive, Suite 11,
- 20 Columbia, Missouri, 65203.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Keevil, thank you. On
- 22 behalf of the United States Department of Energy, please?
- MR. BRUDER: Thank you, Judge. For the United
- 24 States Department of Energy, Louis Campbell and Arthur
- 25 Perry Bruder, 1000 Independence Avenue, Washington D.C.

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1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Mr. Bruder, thank
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- 2 you. And if I'm not mistaken, Mr. Bruder, you have a
- 3 motion for pro hac vice pending; is that correct?
- 4 MR. BRUDER: Yes, sir.
- 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Any objection from counsel?
- 6 MR. THOMPSON: No objection.
- 7 JUDGE PRIDGIN: By hearing none, that motion is
- 8 granted. Mr. Bruder, thank you.
- 9 On behalf of the Missouri Department of Natural
- 10 Resources, please.
- 11 MS. WOODS: On behalf of Missouri Department of
- 12 Natural Resources, Shelley Woods and Jessica Bloom,
- 13 Missouri Attorney General's Office, Post Office Box 899,
- 14 Jefferson City, Missouri, 65102.
- 15 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Ms. Woods, thank you. On behalf
- of the City of Kansas City Missouri, please?
- 17 MR. COMLEY: Thank you, Judge Pridgin. On
- 18 behalf of the City of Kansas City, Missouri, let the
- 19 record reflect the entry of Mark W. Comley, Newman, Comley
- 20 & Ruth, 601 Monroe Street, Jefferson City, Missouri,
- 21 65101.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Comley, thank you. On
- 23 behalf of the Missouri Joint Municipal Electrical
- 24 Commission, please? No entry.
- On behalf of Empire, please?

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1 MS. CARTER: Diana Carter, Brydon, Swearengen &
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- 2 England, PC. The court reporter has the address.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Ms. Carter, thank you. On
- 4 behalf of Aquila, please?
- 5 MS. CARTER: I'm appearing here for Empire,
- 6 Aquila and Missouri Gas Energy.
- 7 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Ms.Carter, thank you. I don't
- 8 think I missed anyone. Have I overlooked anyone?
- 9 All right. Anything else counsel would like to
- 10 bring to my attention before we proceed to opening
- 11 statements?
- 12 All right. Hearing nothing, I have a list of
- issues, order of witnesses and order of cross-examination
- 14 that I believe the Staff of the commission filed. And I
- 15 plan on following the list of -- that list as far as
- 16 opening statements.
- 17 So, Mr. Fischer, will you be giving the opening
- 18 for the company?
- MR. FISCHER: Yes, your Honor.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Whenever you're
- 21 ready, sir.
- 22 OPENING STATEMENT
- 23 BY MR. FISCHER:
- MR. FISCHER: Good morning. Good morning. My
- 25 name is Jim Fischer, and I'm representing Kansas City

- 1 Power & Light in this proceeding. Also with me today is
- 2 the company's General Counsel, Bill Riggins, who is
- 3 sitting at my left at the counsel table. Carl Zobrist
- 4 will also be appearing, I think tomorrow, and Roger
- 5 Steiner and Curtis Blanc will also be appearing a little
- 6 bit later in the proceedings.
- 7 This is Kansas City Power & Light's second of
- 8 four rate cases that are contemplated by the Kansas City
- 9 Power & Light regulatory plan that was approved by the
- 10 Commission in Case EO-2007-0329.
- 11 Each planned rate case is related to completion
- 12 of a major component of that regulatory plan. For
- 13 example, the first rate case, which was ER-2006-0314 --
- 14 and I'm going to just refer to that as the 2006 rate case
- 15 to shorthand that.
- 16 That rate case included the construction of 100
- 17 megawatts of wind generation that was completed in
- 18 September of 2006. A total of 67 wind turbines were
- 19 placed in service ahead of schedule and within budget.
- The Commission's rate order in that particular
- 21 case, the 2006 case, was constructive and allowed KCPL to
- 22 progress on schedule toward the completion of the
- 23 remaining goals of the regulatory plan.
- 24 In particular, the Commission's decision on rate
- of return on equity, granting an ROE of 11 and a quarter

- 1 percent, setting the off-system sales margin level at the
- 2 25th percentile with the establishment of an appropriate
- 3 tracking mechanism, the use of the additional amortization
- 4 mechanism to maintain KCPL's investment grade rating and
- 5 the Commission's decisions on several of the accounting
- 6 issues were helpful in allowing KCPL to continue to -- to
- 7 complete the first phase of the regulatory plan.
- 8 KCPL believes the Commission generally struck an
- 9 appropriate balance on the financial and rate-making
- 10 issues in the 2006 rate case. And recognizing the
- 11 constructive nature of the Commission's decision in that
- 12 rate case, KCPL has largely adopted the approaches on the
- 13 major issues that the Commission took in that case.
- 14 For example, KCPL filed its case using the
- 15 Commission's approved ROE from the last case. KCPL is
- 16 requesting the continuation of the 11 and quarter ROE in
- 17 this proceeding.
- 18 While this return may be higher than the ROEs
- 19 granted in other cases by the Commission, it is an
- 20 appropriate ROE for a mid-sized electric company like
- 21 Kansas City Power & Light that has embarked upon a huge
- 22 investment program and construction program that was
- 23 contemplated in the regulatory plan while also maintaining
- 24 in the financial metrics to maintain its investment grade
- 25 rating.

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1 In addition, KCPL is advocating the continued
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- 2 use in this case of the off-system sales level at the 25th
- 3 percentile level. Commission Staff is also recommending
- 4 the continued use of that tracking mechanism as it was
- 5 established in the last case.
- Now, on the off-system sales issue, the
- 7 company's actual experience in the off-system sales market
- 8 during the past year has demonstrated the wisdom of the
- 9 Commission's decision in that case.
- 10 As the Commission knows, natural gas prices have
- 11 plummeted during the last year. As a result, the prices
- 12 for wholesale electric power and KCPL's off-system sales
- 13 levels have also dramatically declined.
- 14 As Chris Giles explains in his rebuttal
- 15 testimony, which includes the actual AC numbers on our
- 16 off-system sales, KCPL is unlikely to achieve even the
- 17 off-system sales margin at the 25th percentile level this
- 18 year.
- 19 Had the Commission included the off-system sales
- 20 margin at the 50th percentile level of the revenue
- 21 requirement as had been advocated by some parties to that
- 22 case, KCPL would have fallen substantially short of that
- 23 level of -- of achieving that level in off-system sales.
- As this past year has proven, had the off-system
- 25 sales level been at the fifth percentile or even the

- 1 fourth percentile as I think Public Counsel and DOE may be
- 2 suggesting in this case, KCPL would not have achieved that
- 3 level, and KCPL's financial metrics would have fallen
- 4 below investment grade rating.
- 5 I -- if you have questions regarding KCPL's
- 6 actual experience and would like more updated information,
- 7 I'd encourage you to ask Chris Giles who is going to be on
- 8 the stand in this case. He has very current information
- 9 and can tell you about our off-system sales experience.
- 10 Before I discuss some of the specific issues in
- 11 this case, I'd like to also give you a brief status report
- 12 on the investments and financings related to the
- 13 regulatory plan.
- 14 As I mentioned, the wind farm generation near
- 15 Spearville, Kansas, was completed in September of 2006.
- 16 An additional 100 megawatts of new wind generation
- 17 facilities is currently being evaluated for installation
- 18 in 2008.
- 19 KCPL has performed a detailed evaluation and
- 20 believes that we should go forward on that project.
- 21 However, we're also soliciting input from the interested
- 22 parties in the signatory parties to the regulatory plan.
- The emission control equipment known as
- 24 selective catalytic reduction equipment, Appleseen (ph.)
- 25 Unit 1 was placed in service on schedule and within budget

- 1 in May of 2007. Work is well underway on the
- 2 environmental upgrades of IATAN I and on the construction
- 3 of the coal-fired plant known as IATAN II.
- 4 The IATAN II project team has substantially
- 5 completed the procurement effort of the direct cost items.
- 6 The chimney shell has been erected and various critical
- 7 foundations have been completed and turned over to the
- 8 contractors for construction start-up. So we're making
- 9 good progress.
- 10 Since the approval of the regulatory plan, KCPL
- 11 has conducted a pilot inventory of its overhead
- 12 distribution system and it's completed a variety of the
- 13 projects designed to improve system reliability.
- 14 A full distribution system assessment is
- 15 scheduled to be completed by the end of 2008. The
- 16 objectives of that -- that particular effort is to improve
- 17 -- well, it's -- well, we call it the asset management and
- 18 distribution automation infrastructure investment program.
- 19 What we're trying to do there is to mitigate the
- 20 risk of major outages, minimize what's called the system
- 21 average interruption duration index or what's called
- 22 SAIDI, what's a common reliability metric for distribution
- 23 systems generally, and minimizing the number of customers
- 24 with multiple interruptions.
- 25 With regard to customer programs, KCPL has

- 1 implemented two affordability programs, seven energy
- 2 efficiency programs and two demand response programs
- 3 contemplated by the regulatory plan.
- 4 Since the conclusion of the last rate case, KCPL
- 5 has also entered into a ground breaking agreement with the
- 6 Sierra Club and the Concerned Citizens of Platte County,
- 7 including a set of initiatives to off-set carbon dioxide
- 8 and reduce the emissions of KCPL.
- 9 Under this agreement, KCPL agreed, subject to
- 10 regulatory approval, to pursue off-sets for all of the
- 11 carbon emissions associated with its new plant through
- 12 significant investments and energy efficiency and
- 13 renewable energy and cut emissions of its existing plants
- 14 in order to improve the air quality of the greater Kansas
- 15 City metropolitan area.
- 16 The Sierra Club and Concerned Citizens have also
- 17 dismissed their appeals of the Commission's decision in
- 18 the regulatory plan case, having resolved its issues with
- 19 KCPL, and the regulatory plan decision now stands as
- 20 approved by the Commission.
- 21 Working with the signatory parties to the
- 22 regulatory plan stipulation, KCPL has implemented nine new
- 23 customer programs related to weatherization and energy
- 24 efficiency.
- 25 KCPL is particularly excited about the

- 1 enthusiasm in the Kansas City community for this effort as
- 2 was recently evidenced by the attendance of nearly 500
- 3 community leaders at the energy efficiency forum held on
- 4 September 14th at the Bartle Convention Center in downtown
- 5 Kansas City.
- 6 KCPL is continuing its collaborative issue with
- 7 the Sierra Club, AARP, Mid-America Regional Counsel and a
- 8 variety of community groups to promote investments in
- 9 energy efficiency.
- 10 We believe that such collaborative efforts are
- 11 critical to KCPL's success, and we want to continue to
- 12 work with interested parties to maximize the savings
- 13 related to energy efficiency programs.
- 14 While these programs help customers improve
- 15 their own efficiency, they also help KCPL improve its
- 16 efficiency. As the Commission recognized in the 2006 rate
- 17 case, KCPL is already ranked the top pertile nationally
- 18 and most operational benchmarks. But KCPL wants to
- 19 continue to improve its performance.
- 20 Another critical element relates to financing of
- 21 these projects. Since the last rate case, Great Plains
- 22 Energy, KCPL's parents, has been successful in issuing
- 23 over \$400 million of debt and equity.
- When market conditions are favorable, GPE is
- 25 anticipating issuing substantial amounts of hybrid

- 1 securities which will be used to finance the continuing
- 2 obligations contained in the regulatory plan.
- 3 As I mentioned earlier, this is the second of
- 4 four potential rate cases contemplated by the stipulation
- 5 and agreement that was approved in the regulatory plan.
- 6 In this case, the company initially requested a
- 7 \$45.4 million rate increase or approximately an 8.3
- 8 increase in rates -- 8.3 percent increase in rates.
- 9 Like the last case, this is a unique case
- 10 because the rates will only be in effect for a little more
- 11 than a year. The financial requirements supporting the
- 12 regulatory plan will require another rate case to be filed
- 13 next year with rates to be effective in the spring of
- 14 2009.
- Now, from KCPL's perspective, the critical task
- 16 of the Commission again in this case is to appropriately
- 17 balance the interests of customers, shareholders and
- 18 bondholders.
- 19 We believe that the Commission largely
- 20 accomplished this goal in the last rate case, and we hope
- 21 the Commission will continue the course charted in the
- 22 2006 rate case.
- 23 Two major factors that are unique to KCPL among
- 24 Missouri electric utilities were carefully considered by
- 25 the Commission in the 2006 rate case, and we believe they

- 1 should again be considered in this case.
- 2 First, the company -- the Commission should take
- 3 into account the company's multi-million dollar
- 4 construction projects, including the coal-fired unit at
- 5 IATAN II, new wind generation and numerous environmental
- 6 upgrades that will require KCPL to generate -- will
- 7 require KCPL to generate sufficient cash earnings to
- 8 finance these construction projects and also stay
- 9 investment grade rated.
- 10 Second, the Commission should continue to take
- 11 into account KCPL's risk and uncertainty related to the
- 12 off-system sales market. We believe the Commission
- 13 understood this substantial risk in the 2006 rate case and
- 14 has developed an appropriate mechanism for managing it.
- 15 The Commission should adopt the Staff and KCPL's
- 16 recommendations on the off-system sales issue and, again,
- 17 set the level at the 25th percentile level and
- 18 appropriately track it as was done in the last case.
- 19 As I indicated earlier, KCPL is seeking a rate
- 20 of return on equity of 11 and quarter percent on this
- 21 case. The ROE in this case should be set at a level
- 22 sufficient to generate sufficient cash earnings for the
- 23 company to be able to finance its construction projects
- 24 independent of other mechanisms like the regulatory
- 25 amortization that was approved by the Commission in the

- 1 regulatory plan stipulation.
- 2 As the Commission knows, the regulatory plan
- 3 amortization is similar to accelerated depreciation. It's
- 4 a non-cash item that generates book depreciation expenses
- 5 that is included in rates.
- 6 Eventually, the amortization will be used as an
- 7 off-set or reduction to KCPL's rate base in future cases.
- 8 This regulatory plan amortization is intended to be used
- 9 as a means to maintain KCPL's credit metrics in the event
- 10 that the earnings and other cash flows that are determined
- 11 in a general rate case like this one fail to satisfy the
- 12 necessary financial ratios to ensure that KCPL's bonds
- 13 would maintain their investment grade rating.
- 14 The amortization is not a substitute for
- 15 earnings. The Commission recognized that fact in the 2006
- 16 rate case, and we believe it continues to keep this
- 17 critical factor in mind as it decides the issues in this
- 18 case.
- 19 If KCPL is to successfully complete its
- 20 comprehensive energy plan, the company needs real cash
- 21 earnings to attract equity investors as well as an
- 22 investment grade rating to attract creditors at reasonable
- 23 rates.
- 24 After compromising some of the issues in this
- 25 case, the company's case is now supporting a rate increase

- of \$38 million or about 7 percent on rates.
- 2 According to the reconciliation that was filed
- 3 on Friday, the Staff is recommending a rate decrease of
- 4 \$10.25 million prior to the true-up, but is estimating
- 5 that the Staff's ultimate revenue requirement after the
- 6 true-up will be an increase of approximately
- 7 \$14.4 million. The rate increase is assuming a staff ROE
- 8 of only 9.72 percent.
- 9 Public Counsel is recommending, as I understand
- 10 it, a rate increase of approximately 6.5 percent -- or
- 11 excuse me -- \$6.5 million. And the United States
- 12 Department of Energy is recommending a rate increase of
- 13 13.6 million.
- 14 These recommendations are contained in the
- 15 revenue requirement reconciliation that was filed by Staff
- on Friday, September 28th. Or was that Thursday? The key
- 17 factor in analyzing what should be a fair rate of return
- 18 for KCPL, in our opinion, is the large capital expenditure
- 19 program.
- 20 KCPL's construction program is one and a half
- 21 times as large as the comparable reference group used by
- 22 KCPL's cost of capital expert, Dr. Samuel Hadaway. This
- 23 higher construction level and the resulting higher capital
- 24 requirements cause KCPL's investors to face uncertainty
- 25 and, therefore, require a higher rate of return than is

- 1 required by the comparable reference group.
- 2 Dr. Hadaway estimated that the average cost of
- 3 equity for his reference group is 10.75 percent, and he'll
- 4 testify that KCPL's risk profiles justify an increase of
- 5 50 basis points for a total ROE of 11 and a quarter
- 6 percent.
- 7 We believe this ROE is needed to support the
- 8 company's large construction program as it continues to
- 9 embark upon a \$1.3 billion investment.
- 10 Now, there are two new accounting issues that I
- 11 want to bring to your attention. First, the cost of
- 12 removal income tax issue, which I believe is listed as
- No. 8 on the list of issues. I don't want to spend a lot
- 14 of time on this one, but it is a very important issue.
- 15 It's a technical issue that involves something known as
- 16 flow-through versus normalization of tax timing
- 17 differences.
- 18 If the Staff wins this issue and if KCPL is not
- 19 allowed to recover the prior benefits from the use of
- 20 flow-through accounting, then KCPL would be required to
- 21 write off approximately \$7.9 million.
- 22 However, the revenue requirement itself related
- 23 to this issue only goes down by about a million dollars
- 24 if the Staff's proposal is adopted.
- 25 Similarly, the Wolfe Creek refueling outage cost

- 1 issue could have a significant adverse impact on the
- 2 company's earnings. Staff wants KCPL to remain on an old
- 3 accounting method for rate-making purposes. The company
- 4 is recommending that it move to the new accounting method,
- 5 which is a better method in our perspective.
- 6 We would request that the Commission reject the
- 7 Staff's adjustment on that particular issue as well. As
- 8 we did in the last case, KCPL requests that the Commission
- 9 keep its eye on the big picture and recognize that it's
- 10 important to balance the interests in this case in a way
- 11 that maintains the financial wherewithal of KCPL to
- 12 continue to complete its comprehensive interview program.
- 13 Thank you very much for your attention today.
- 14 We greatly appreciate the Commission's interest in this
- 15 process and the interest in our company, Kansas City Power
- 16 & Light. We look forward to your questions and -- and
- 17 hope that you'll actively engage our witnesses.
- 18 And, Commissioner Jarrett, I -- if any of our
- 19 witnesses start using acronyms that aren't familiar,
- 20 please ask them to explain those because we've got a bad
- 21 habit in this arena of doing that. Thank you very much.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Fischer, thank you. Before
- 23 I take opening from Staff, let me go through and, just in
- 24 the interest of time, and see if there are any counsel who
- 25 do not have an opening. I know some -- many parties

- 1 didn't sponsor any testimony.
- 2 Let me -- just so I don't have to call the roll
- 3 here in a moment -- or it might be faster. I'm sure Staff
- 4 and Public Counsel have opening statements. Other
- 5 counsels who would have opening? Okay.
- 6 MR. CONRAD: Your Honor, we had before you
- 7 convened on the record had a brief discussion, and the
- 8 summary of that discussion was that counsel would at least
- 9 have the opportunity to do opening statements now and then
- 10 a more targeted statement when we got to the issue.
- 11 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Yes, sir.
- 12 MR. CONRAD: And I understood that to be agreed
- in view of that, and we would reserve until our issues are
- 14 before you.
- 15 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Yes, sir. That's fine. You can
- 16 certainly do both or wait until your issues come up.
- 17 That's certainly fine.
- 18 All right. Mr. Thompson, opening from Staff?
- 19 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, your Honor.
- 20 OPENING STATEMENT
- 21 BY MR. THOMPSON:
- MR. THOMPSON: May it please the Commission. My
- 23 name is Kevin Thompson, as I hope you know. I'm the
- 24 General Counsel of the Commission, and I very proudly
- 25 represent the Staff of the Commission in this rate case

- 1 today.
- 2 We have a very fine staff of dedicated and
- 3 hard-working specialists in a number of different areas,
- 4 and they have done an excellent job, in my opinion, of
- 5 putting this difficult case together.
- 6 Because we are doing topical openings before we
- 7 start each issue, I will not hit all of the issues that
- 8 Staff has a position on here. The primary issue is the
- 9 financing of the construction of IATAN II. That is what
- 10 is driving this case. That is what drove the regulatory
- 11 plan.
- 12 You've been told that there will be another case
- in a year. You'll recall the regulatory plan, in fact,
- 14 contemplated a series of four rate cases. You understand
- 15 the mechanics of a rate case.
- There are two parts. You determine the revenue
- 17 requirement, first of all. How much money does this
- 18 company need on a going-forward annual basis to operate?
- 19 That's based on an examination of its history. A test
- 20 year is chosen. Those transactions are normalized and
- 21 annualized so that they are thereby made predictive of the
- 22 future.
- 23 That revenue requirement consists of the prudent
- 24 and necessary operating and maintenance expenditures that
- 25 this company will have to make on a going forward basis.

- 1 To that, we add the opportunity, only the opportunity, of
- 2 realizing a reasonable return on the depreciated value of
- 3 the assets which have been devoted to the public service.
- 4 That second half is driven by the return on
- 5 equity, the ROE. As you know, the rate of return is
- 6 simply the weighted average capital costs of the company.
- 7 Most of those components are imbedded. They're
- 8 historical.
- 9 We can see what the historical cost of debt is.
- 10 We know what the historical cost of preferred securities
- 11 are. The only thing that has to be plucked out of the air
- 12 is the return on common equity.
- Tomorrow, we will take up return on equity, and
- 14 I won't spend a lot of time on it here today other than to
- 15 point out that, last year, you gave this company the
- 16 highest return on common equity in the nation.
- 17 They're asking today that you set their return
- 18 on common equity at the same level, 11.25 percent. Staff
- 19 suggests that the goals and the projects outlined in the
- 20 regulatory plan can be met with a lower cost of common
- 21 equity.
- 22 Staff's expert, Matt Barnes, has suggested a
- 23 range between 9.14 percent to 10.3 with a mid point of
- 24 9.72. Yes, that is the lowest recommended common equity
- 25 figure that you're going to hear in this case. The one

- 1 sponsored by Public Counsel was higher.
- But if you look at the reconciliation, you will
- 3 see that our case allows for a rate increase, a revenue
- 4 requirement increase of about \$14 and a half million
- 5 dollars on a going-forward basis whereas Public Counsel
- 6 suggests an increase of only 6 and a half million on a
- 7 going-forward basis.
- 8 IATAN II, that's what's driving this case. How
- 9 is it going to be financed? Think of a homeowner. Think
- 10 of a homeowner who wants to do some improvements to the
- 11 family home.
- Now, the homeowner can go get a second mortgage
- 13 to do this. By getting a second, the homeowner is
- 14 essentially losing equity, losing ownership interest in
- 15 that house in order to raise cash to do whatever
- 16 improvement the homeowner contemplates.
- 17 The homeowner would much rather have a windfall
- 18 of free money with which to do that project, a big raise
- 19 at work, an inheritance, winning the lottery. It doesn't
- 20 matter where it comes from. Free money is what
- 21 Mr. Homeowner wants.
- Well, that's what KCPL wants, too. They don't
- 23 want to fund IATAN II with these additional amortizations
- 24 because those are going to lower rate base. That's like
- 25 that second mortgage that most homeowners have to turn to

- 1 in order to do significant home improvement projects.
- 2 They would have to mortgage the future in order to build
- 3 IATAN II now, give up rate base for the future in order to
- 4 raise cash now to maintain their credit metrics.
- 5 They don't want to do that. They want the cake
- 6 and the icing. They want a windfall. They want money to
- 7 fall out of the sky so that they can go forward without
- 8 having to mortgage the future.
- 9 Staff suggests to you that the very, very
- 10 important projects that this Commission has approved in
- 11 the regulatory plan can be achieved without giving Kansas
- 12 City Power & Light the windfall. Thank you very much.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Thompson, thank you.
- 14 Mr. Mills?
- 15 OPENING STATEMENT
- 16 BY MR. MILLS:
- MR. MILLS: Good morning. May it please the
- 18 Commission. One of the first things you'll note from the
- 19 list of issues in the reconcilement in this case is that
- 20 there are not a lot of big dollar issues in this case.
- 21 Most of them are fairly routine accounting
- 22 issues worth a few hundred thousand dollars or less up to
- 23 about two and a half million dollars. In many cases,
- 24 return on equity is the biggest, but rarely does it
- 25 dominate a case as it does here.

- 1 Between the Staff and KCPL, return on equity is
- 2 worth about \$18 million. All of the other issues, at
- 3 least the ones that are not expected to be resolved in the
- 4 true-up, account for less than half that amount.
- 5 So ROE in case is -- is virtually in a class by
- 6 itself. It's more than twice what every other issue
- 7 combined it is worth. In this case, the Staff recommends
- 8 a 9.72 ROE.
- 9 The company, as Mr. Thompson pointed out, having
- 10 -- having been awarded the highest award in the country in
- 11 2006 wants to do it again. The company wants the 11.25
- 12 percent that it got in the last case to be continued in
- 13 this case.
- 14 Public Counsel witness, Michael Gorman, with
- 15 whom the Commission is very familiar, having found him the
- 16 most credible witness in several recent cases, recommended
- 17 a 10.1 percent ROE, very much in line with what the
- 18 Commission recently awarded both Union Electric and
- 19 Aquila, both at 10.2 and 10.25 percent.
- Now, a related issue to the return on equity is
- 21 the company's capital structure. Capital structure is
- 22 frequently not an issue in this case because, in many
- 23 utilities, it's an actual number and you can look to see
- 24 what percentage equity and what percentage debt the
- 25 company has.

- 1 In this case, it is an issue. Public Counsel
- 2 has recommended a capital structure with about 45 percent
- 3 equity. That's based on actual numbers. Staff
- 4 recommended a capital structure with a whopping 66 percent
- 5 equity far out of alignment with industry norms and far
- 6 too much expense of equity in the mix to be prudent.
- 7 KCPL agreed with Public Counsel's capital
- 8 structure in its testimony. But the filed position
- 9 statement indicates that KCPL is moving toward a more
- 10 equity rich capital structure, somewhere in the
- 11 neighborhood of 57 percent equity. While this is not as
- 12 bad as KC -- as Staff's 66 percent, 57 percent is still
- 13 higher than it should be.
- 14 Now, since we're going to be doing mini openings
- 15 as we get to each issue, I'm just going to touch on a
- 16 couple issues this morning, those being off-systems sales
- 17 and rate design.
- 18 With respect to off-system sales, KCPL has
- 19 presented largely the same case that it did a year ago.
- 20 KCPL witness Schnitzer did a probability analysis and
- 21 urges you to set rates based on the 25th percentile as you
- 22 did last time, although Public Counsel continues to
- 23 believe that the fifth percentile is the only point on the
- 24 curve which is fair to both the interest of the
- 25 shareholder and ratepayers.

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1 In recognition of the Commission's desire to
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- 2 shift some risk from the shareholders and ratepayers, in
- 3 this case, Public Counsel has proposed that the rates be
- 4 set on -- at the 40th percentile.
- 5 The 40th percentile recognizes the Commission's
- 6 desire and accounts for it, but it is not as unfair to
- 7 ratepayers as going all the way down to the 25th
- 8 percentile. It tilts the balance in shareholders' favor,
- 9 but not as much as going to the 25th percentile.
- 10 And, also, with respect to off-system sales,
- 11 Public Counsel proposes to add interest to any other
- 12 collection over the 20th percentile -- 25th percentile
- 13 from the last case.
- 14 As the Commission will recall, the tracking and
- 15 refund proposal was not well-developed in Case Number
- 16 ER-2006-0314, and the Commission's report and order simply
- 17 said that any amounts over the 25th percentile would be
- 18 flowed back in the next case, that being this case.
- 19 But the details about how that is to happen were
- 20 missing, and that raises a couple of issues. First, it
- 21 won't really be possible in this case to flow back
- 22 revenues because we won't know before the case is over
- 23 whether or not KCPL exceeded the 25th percentile per
- 24 calendar year for 2007. This case will be over before we
- 25 have all that data.

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1 And, second, the Commission's report and order
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- 2 in EO-2006-0314 was silent about interest. It's
- 3 reasonable that interest should accrue if ratepayers are
- 4 overpaying. But the report and order was silent about how
- 5 interest was to be calculated.
- In this case, Public Counsel has proposed that
- 7 the interest be set at prime plus one. And, in
- 8 particular, because there will be some lag between the
- 9 time in which ratepayers overpay on off-system -- on the
- 10 basis of off-system sales levels and when those are
- 11 actually flowed back, which will apparently be sometime
- 12 after this case has concluded, that lag makes the -- the
- 13 calculations of interest even more critical.
- 14 Then the last -- the last issue that I'm going
- 15 to touch on briefly this morning, and I'll be very brief
- on this, is rate design. Public Counsel proposes no rate
- 17 design changes in this case and opposes to changes
- 18 proposed by other parties.
- But because we won't be dealing with rate design
- 20 issues until next week, I'm going to reserve more detailed
- 21 remarks about the rate design issues until that time.
- 22 Thank you.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Mr. Mills, thank
- 24 you.
- 25 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: Judge, can I go back and ask

- 1 Mr. Mills just one or two quick questions?
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Certainly.
- 3 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: All right. Back to the capital
- 4 structure, Mr. Mills, I'm a little -- I'm a little fuzzy
- 5 on that. Are you advocating for a hypothetical capital
- 6 structure or an actual consolidated capital structure?
- 7 MR. MILLS: It is, I believe, an actual
- 8 consolidated structure with 45 percent equity, a little
- 9 over 1 percent short-term debt and the rest being
- 10 long-term debt.
- 11 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: Okay. And so how would you
- 12 characterize Staff and the company's position, then?
- 13 MR. MILLS: I'm not sure exactly what is driving
- 14 the company's position. I believe it may be actual, but
- 15 updated. And you can certainly ask Mr. Giles that.
- 16 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: Okay.
- 17 MR. MILLS: There is some testimony about what
- 18 they're doing.
- 19 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: Okay.
- 20 MR. MILLS: Staff's capital structure, I'm not
- 21 sure exactly how they got to the 66 percent equity.
- 22 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: All right. So if I -- if I
- 23 understand your position, you're going with the capital
- 24 structure that was filed on March 31st, 2007?
- MR. MILLS: That's correct.

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1 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: Okay. And what you -- when you
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- 2 suspect Staff and the company are going to come in and
- 3 say, well, you know, there might have been some equity
- 4 issued in between, therefore, they're entitled that --
- 5 that benefit as part of the September 30th update -- I
- 6 don't want to put words in your mouth, but just --
- 7 MR. MILLS: I think -- I think that's going to
- 8 be KCPL's position. I'm not sure how Staff got their
- 9 capital structure.
- 10 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: Okay. Okay. That's -- that's
- 11 fair. And with regard to the -- the interest on retained
- 12 sales proceeds for -- for off-system sales, you know, I
- 13 believe it was -- it was Staff's opinion that customers
- 14 would, in essence, be paying that interest, so you --
- MR. MILLS: That was --
- 16 JUDGE PRIDGIN: That was the issue -- that was
- 17 KCPL --
- 18 MR. MILLS: KCPL's position was that if you were
- 19 to award interest to customers in this case that they
- 20 would seek recovery of that expense in the next case, and
- 21 so it would be a wash.
- 22 And, certainly, that wouldn't -- if the
- 23 Commission took that view, there would really be no reason
- 24 to award interest. But in this case, I don't believe it's
- 25 appropriate that that interest flow through in the

- 1 rate-making calculation.
- 2 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: Right.
- 3 MR. MILLS: And that is because essentially
- 4 customers --
- 5 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: Money's going to be sitting
- 6 there, and so it ought to be accumulating interest.
- 7 MR. MILLS: Exactly. It's money that the
- 8 customers have paid in excess of what the Commission found
- 9 a reasonable rate at the 25th percentile, and the
- 10 customers will be out of those funds for some period of
- 11 time.
- 12 KCPL will have the advantage to use those for
- 13 whatever program it wants, and the customers should be
- 14 compensated.
- 15 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Mills.
- MR. MILLS: Thank you.
- 17 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Chairman, thank you.
- 18 Mr. Mills, thank you. And not to preclude others from
- 19 making opening statements, I think Mr. Keevil and Ms.
- 20 Carter indicated interest in making openings now. And,
- 21 Mr. Conrad, you wished to make your opening later; is that
- 22 correct?
- 23 MR. CONRAD: Yeah. I'm kind of in a process of
- 24 a rethink on that. I might have maybe--
- 25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: I understand.

- 1 MR. CONRAD: -- a couple minutes more generic
- 2 when you get to me.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: I understand. Are there other
- 4 counsel who wish to make openings at this time? All
- 5 right. Mr. Conrad, if you're ready?
- 6 OPENING STATEMENT
- 7 BY MR. CONRAD:
- 8 MR. CONRAD: May it please the Commission. And
- 9 welcome to this fun arena, Mr. Jarrett. I looked around
- 10 while Mr. Fischer was holding forth, your Honor, and I
- 11 came to the conclusion, possibly erroneously, that while I
- 12 hope I have at least more hair left than some, I may be
- one of the few, if maybe the only one, that remembers how
- 14 the world was before proposition one.
- 15 My client, Praxair, has not in this case and
- 16 does not intend to take any position with -- with respect
- 17 to ROE or some of these capital issues. I rise simply to
- 18 correct what I understand as a spin.
- 19 We are also a signatory to the aforementioned
- 20 regulatory plan of this company. That regulatory plan was
- 21 assembled in a context in which 393.135 -- that's Section
- 22 393.135, otherwise known in our parlance here,
- 23 Commissioner Jarrett, as Prop 1, which was adopted by the
- 24 people of the State of Missouri, not by the General
- 25 Assembly, -- and I don't have the wording of that before

- 1 me, but I know that the process that we designed in
- 2 regulatory planning, one of the signatories thereto
- 3 contemplated a process which Mr. Thompson obliquely
- 4 referred to as a two-step process in which you looked at
- 5 what the needs of the company was -- were, rather, under
- 6 traditional rate-making process.
- 7 And hard though it may be to do, you almost have
- 8 to, under Prop 1, under the regulatory plan, as we read
- 9 it, to look at that in the context of no construction
- 10 program. What does the company need to do to run its
- 11 operations?
- 12 And then after you have done that, we look to
- 13 see, is that going to maintain the credit metrics that
- 14 both counsel from KCPL and staff have referenced.
- 15 My point is simply this: The idea that some of
- 16 this is cash and some of it isn't is found nowhere in the
- 17 regulatory plan. That is, your Honors, pure spin. That
- 18 is not part of the process.
- 19 Indeed, some have raised -- I'm not prepared to
- 20 raise it here this morning, but some have raised the
- 21 question of whether doing even what we did in the
- 22 regulatory plan may run afoul of Prop 1. We signed it, so
- 23 we will not raise that issue. Others may at an
- 24 appropriate time.
- I just think, from the customer's perspective,

- 1 and I represent one of those, we don't pay green dollars
- 2 and blue dollars. We just pay dollars. And it's all cash
- 3 that's coming out of our bank accounts and going to
- 4 theirs, so this idea of cash as opposed to non-cash will
- 5 not be found in that regulatory planning.
- 6 And that is, in our view -- although they're
- 7 entitled to their interpretation, we're also entitled to
- 8 ours. And I believe theirs is pure spin. Thank you.
- 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Conrad, thank you.
- 10 Mr. Keevil?
- 11 OPENING STATEMENT
- 12 BY MR. KEEVIL:
- 13 MR. KEEVIL: Good morning. May it please the
- 14 Commission. I'm Jeff Keevil, and I'm representing
- 15 Trigen-Kansas City Energy Corporation in this case.
- Now, the primary issues of concern to Trigen in
- 17 this case are those issues and sub-issues regarding KCPL's
- 18 general service all electric tariffs and separately
- 19 metered space heating tariff provisions, which I will
- 20 collectively refer to as discounted rates. I believe
- 21 these issues are listed as Item 23 on the list of issues
- 22 Staff filed last week in that case.
- 23 Since these issues are not set for hearing until
- 24 next week, since we have already filed our statements of
- 25 position on all of these issues and the direct rebuttal

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1 and surrebuttal testimony of Joseph A. Herz to all of
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- which I would refer you, by the way, and, also, because,
- 3 as has been mentioned here this morning, there may be
- 4 additional topical openings next week when these issues
- 5 are heard, I will try to be brief here this morning and
- 6 will only touch upon or summarize a few of the matters
- 7 related to these discount rate issues.
- 8 Trigen submits and the evidence will establish
- 9 that KCPL's discounted rates are unreasonable and unfairly
- 10 discriminate between customers by charging different rates
- 11 to similar customers for service under similar
- 12 circumstances, sending price signals that favor low load
- 13 factor, high demand use for selective end use customers,
- 14 which conflicts with the price signal sent to other
- 15 customers in the same general service class.
- 16 And as a consequence of these discounted rates,
- 17 the standard tariff have customers that are providing a
- 18 subsidy to those customers receiving the discounted rates.
- Now, in KCPL's last rate case, the Commission
- 20 stated that it is concerned that during KCPL's winter
- 21 season, commercial and industrial customers under the all
- 22 electric general service tariffs pay about 23 percent less
- 23 for their entire electricity usage than they would
- 24 otherwise pay under the standard general service tariff
- 25 and that commercial and industrial customers under the

- 1 separately metered space heating provisions pay about 54
- 2 percent less for such usage than they would pay under the
- 3 standard general service tariff.
- 4 In this case, KCPL's proposal for an across the
- 5 board increase that is equal to its overall rate increase
- 6 would have the effect of increasing the size of the
- 7 discount, which is inconsistent with what was done in the
- 8 last case, and, certainly, does not address the concerns
- 9 as expressed by this Commission in the last case.
- 10 So what should be done? Well, I will attempt to
- 11 provide just a summary. But for more detailed description
- 12 and analysis, once again, I would refer you to the
- 13 pre-filed testimony of Mr. Herz and the statements and
- 14 positions of Trigen.
- To begin with, KCPL's discounted rates should be
- 16 increased more than the corresponding standard general
- 17 application rates, and they should be phased out as set
- 18 forth in our statements of position.
- 19 Furthermore, until these discounted rates are
- 20 phased out completely, they should be restricted to those
- 21 qualifying customers' physical locations being served
- 22 under such discounted rates currently. Currently, meaning
- 23 as of the date used for the billing determinants in this
- 24 case. And these discounted rates should only be available
- 25 to those customers for so long as they continuously remain

- 1 on that rate schedule.
- 2 Trigen also submits that KCPL should be required
- 3 to submit as part of its next rate case a cost of service
- 4 study and analysis to support these discounted rates. And
- 5 if not, to impute the revenues associated with these
- 6 discounted rates to eliminate the cross-subsidy provided
- 7 by standard tariff customers.
- 8 Also, KCPL should be ordered to determine if the
- 9 customers being served under the discounted rates continue
- 10 to qualify for such rates to remove those customers which
- 11 are no longer eligible for the discounted rates and report
- 12 on this process at its next rate case.
- Now, the last sub issue listed under Item 23 in
- 14 the list of issues that was filed by Staff asked whether
- 15 the Commission should approve KCPLs proposal to rename its
- 16 general service all electric tariffs as space heating
- 17 tariffs. And we submit the answer to that question is no.
- 18 And I believe Staff agrees with us on that.
- 19 Also, regarding issues other than what is listed
- 20 at Item 23 on the list of issues, in the event that the
- 21 Commission orders any reduction in revenue responsibility
- 22 for KCPL's small general service, medium general service
- 23 or large general service rate classes, the Commission
- 24 should make it clear in its order that none of the
- 25 reductions in revenue responsibility should be applied to

- 1 the all electric tariffs or the separately metered space
- 2 heating rates within those rate classes.
- 3 Obviously, we don't believe that they should be
- 4 even -- reduced even further. The discounts should not be
- 5 reduced further. In fact, they should -- discounts should
- 6 not be increased which would be the effect of that.
- 7 Finally, as I mentioned, these issues aren't set
- 8 for hearing until next week. And at that time Trigen's
- 9 witness, Joseph Herz, who has a prefiled direct, rebuttal
- 10 and surrebuttal testimony, will be here to take testimony
- 11 and take any questions you may have. Thank you.
- 12 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Keevil, thank you. Is there
- 13 any counsel other than Ms. Carter who wish to make an
- 14 opening at this time? All right, Ms. Carter.
- MR. COMLEY: Before Ms. Carter makes her
- 16 remarks, Judge, I do have a point of procedure to raise.
- 17 As I mentioned earlier, the City of Kansas City does not
- 18 have any witnesses sponsored in this, and we have not
- 19 taken any position on the issues.
- 20 As a consequence of that, I would ask that the
- 21 Commission kindly allow me to be excused from the hearing.
- 22 From time to time I may come back, but for the most part,
- 23 I don't intend to be here.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Oh, Mark.
- MR. COMLEY: I know that there's going to be

- 1 people that will miss me, but at the same time --
- 2 MR. CONRAD: I object. I think he should be
- 3 required to stay here with the rest of us.
- 4 MR. COMLEY: I object to Mr. Conrad's remarks.
- 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Chairman?
- 6 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: I did receive a request from a
- 7 consumer regarding an issue related to the City of Kansas
- 8 City. And I believe he had made a Sunshine request, and
- 9 the City sent him an estimate that it would cost \$10,000
- 10 for him to come search the records himself at City Hall.
- 11 So I may forward that to you as part of this
- 12 case and see if you can't get that resolved.
- MR. COMLEY: I will be delighted, Commissioner,
- 14 certainly.
- 15 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: Thank you.
- 16 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Mr. Comley, I -- I
- 17 certainly see -- unless I hear anything from the
- 18 Commission, I certainly see no reason for -- for you to be
- 19 here if you have no issues.
- MR. COMLEY: Thank you very much.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you.
- 22 Ms. Woods?
- MS. WOODS: On behalf of the Department and my
- 24 own behalf, I would make a similar request. The
- 25 Department doesn't have any witnesses or testimony to

- 1 offer and none of our issues are -- are about those that
- 2 the Commission would be asked to decide upon in this case.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right, Ms. Woods. Thank
- 4 you. As far as I'm concerned, it's your hearing. If you
- 5 don't have any issues, no need for you to be here.
- 6 MS. WOODS: Thank you.
- 7 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. Ms.
- 8 Carter?
- 9 OPENING STATEMENT
- 10 BY MS. CARTER:
- 11 MS. CARTER: I'm here representing Aquila, MGE
- 12 and Empire. I would like to make just a very brief
- 13 statements on behalf of Missouri Gas Energy.
- 14 Many of us attended the FRI seminar last week
- 15 and as frequently as the case with the utility seminars,
- 16 we heard the statement made many times that regulation is
- 17 to take the place of competition in the monopoly setting.
- 18 There is, however, some competition among
- 19 utilities serving the same geographic area, and it appears
- 20 that regulation is not taking the place of competition by
- 21 setting just and reasonable rates for KCP&L.
- 22 MGE is not presenting any evidence on the issues
- of class cost of service, rate design or KCP&L's all
- 24 electric or space heating tariffs. But I encourage the
- 25 Commissioners to pay careful attention to the testimony

- 1 presented by and elicited by Trigen Energy in this regard.
- 2 It appears that KCP&L's discounted rates have no
- 3 rational relationship to their cost of service, are
- 4 discriminatory without a lawful basis for that
- 5 discrimination and, certainly, are not just and
- 6 reasonable. And, again, you'll be hearing that testimony
- 7 next week.
- 8 Also, because of my clients' limited interest in
- 9 this matter, I would also ask to be excused from strict
- 10 attendance here at the hearings.
- 11 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Ms. Carter, thank you. And,
- 12 again, I believe it's your hearing. There's no need for
- 13 you to be here if there's -- if your client has no
- 14 interest in a particular issue.
- 15 Any further opening from counsel? All right.
- 16 Seeing none, this looks to be a convenient time to take a
- 17 break. I show the clock at the back of the wall to be
- 18 10:15. And unless I'm understanding differently,
- 19 Mr. Giles will be the first witness.
- MR. FISCHER: Judge?
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Yes. At --
- MR. FISCHER: With leave of the Commission, the
- 23 parties have been discussing some settlement proposals
- 24 over the weekend, and I've been approached this morning
- 25 about making one last stab at pursuing that and would

- 1 request that perhaps the Commission take a longer break
- 2 than that.
- 3 Perhaps we could start up at -- after lunch, and
- 4 we could determine whether that is possible or -- or not.
- 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Counsel any -- any
- 6 objections? Any comments?
- 7 MR. CONRAD: We'd support that.
- 8 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. And when you're
- 9 saying after lunch, could you -- 12:30? One?
- MR. FISCHER: 1:00 would be fine with us. Or
- 11 whatever works for the Judge.
- 12 COMMISSIONER APPLING: How about 1:30?
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Let's say -- and,
- 14 obviously, if you're still talking, we can -- we can give
- 15 you more time. But let's just tentatively say 1:00 if
- 16 that will work for the parties.
- 17 All right. If there's nothing further, then, we
- 18 will stand in recess and -- until 1:00. Thank you.
- 19 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, your Honor.
- 20 (Break in proceedings.)
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. We are
- 22 back on the record. It is a little bit after 1:00 on
- October 1st, 2007. And we went into recess to give the
- 24 parties an opportunity to negotiate. And I don't know if
- 25 counsel have any type of announcement for the Commission.

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1 MR. FISCHER: Judge, I didn't --
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- 2 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Let the record reflect derisive
- 3 laughter.
- 4 MR. FISCHER: We would recommend that we
- 5 continue forward with the hearing at this time.
- 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Mr. Fischer, thank
- 7 you. The first witness would be Mr. Giles from KCPL?
- 8 MR. RIGGINS: That's correct, your Honor.
- 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Mr. Giles, if you'd
- 10 come forward to be sworn, please.
- 11 MR. MILLS: Although, Judge, just so the outlook
- 12 is not too pessimistic, I believe that even though
- 13 everyone thinks we should continue forward with the
- 14 hearing, there are some discussions going along around the
- 15 fringes of this hearing, so we haven't stopped talking to
- 16 each other.
- 17 JUDGE PRIDGIN: And I appreciate that. And I
- 18 would certainly encourage the parties to continue talking
- 19 and let the parties know I currently have a case that's
- 20 still being discussed even though the case has been
- 21 completely submitted and briefed. So keep talking,
- 22 please.
- 23 All right. Sorry. Mr. Giles, if you'd raise
- 24 your hand to be sworn, please, sir.

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1 CHRIS GILES,
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- 2 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 3 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 4 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 5 BY MR. RIGGINS:
- 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very much, sir. If
- 7 you would, please have a seat. And I believe counsel have
- 8 agreed to dispense with the normal foundational questions
- 9 if you would just stand cross-examination; is that
- 10 correct?
- 11 MR. RIGGINS: Your Honor, I do have -- or
- 12 Mr. Giles does have a correction or two to make to his
- 13 testimony. And as soon as we do that, I'll tender him for
- 14 cross.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Riggins, thank you.
- 16 Q (By Mr. Riggins) Mr. Giles, do you have any
- 17 corrections to your testimony that you'd like to make?
- 18 A Yes, I do. Page 10 of my direct testimony, line
- 19 3, the question that ends with the year 2007. 2007 should
- 20 actually be 2008. And, likewise, on the answer on line 5,
- 21 2007 should reflect 2008.
- 22 Q Any other corrections to your testimony?
- 23 A No.
- 24 MR. RIGGINS: With that, your Honor, I will
- 25 tender Mr. Giles for cross-examination regarding an

- 1 overview of the case and overview of issues.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Mr. Riggins, thank
- 3 you. And hopefully try to speed things up a little bit,
- 4 Mr. Thompson, will you have cross of this witness? Or
- 5 will you have -- Staff has cross on this issue?
- 6 MR. THOMPSON: Probably.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: And Mr. Mills?
- 8 MR. MILLS: I don't have any questions for this
- 9 witness on the general case overview.
- 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Any other counsel have
- 11 questions for Mr. Giles on the overview of the case?
- MR. CONRAD: Might have just one or two very
- 13 short ones.
- 14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Any if there are none others,
- 15 Mr. Conrad? I'm sorry. When you're ready, sir.
- MR. CONRAD: Oh, sure.
- 17 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 18 BY MR. CONRAD:
- 19 Q Mr. Giles, you are occasionally in a position of
- 20 paying your own public utility bill, am I correct?
- 21 A Well, actually, my wife pays the bill. But I --
- 22 I -- I know we have a bill.
- 23 Q Is one of those bills from KCPL ,or do you live
- 24 in some other service territory?
- 25 A I actually reside in Independence, Missouri, and

- 1 am served by Independence Power & Light.
- 2 Q So you might not really, then, know what the
- 3 customers of KCPL pay their bills with?
- 4 A I'm -- I'm -- I don't know.
- 5 Q Would you agree with me that they pay their
- 6 bills with money?
- 7 A I would assume they pay with some form of check,
- 8 credit card, cash.
- 9 Q Now, do you know if they get a -- a bill,
- 10 Mr. Giles, that says, Pay this in one particular type of
- 11 legal tender and this portion in another type?
- 12 A No, I don't believe they are required --
- 13 Q Your experience in Independence, do you maintain
- 14 different checking accounts to pay portions of
- 15 Independence Power & Light's bills?
- 16 A No.
- 17 Q Just pay out of one checking account?
- 18 A That's true.
- 19 Q Would you suppose that might generally be true
- 20 for the customers in the KCPL service territory?
- 21 A I would expect so.
- 22 Q And when they pay a bill, they don't mark that
- 23 as being something other than cash going out of their
- 24 account or an adjustment to their -- their checking
- 25 account?

- 1 A I assume so.
- 2 Q As far as you know, all -- all dollars, it all
- 3 comes in to you, you being KCPL?
- 4 A I assume that's the case. Yes.
- 5 MR. CONRAD: Thank you. That's all.
- 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Conrad, thank you. Any
- 7 other questions from counsel for Staff? Mr. Thompson, any
- 8 cross?
- 9 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 10 BY MR. THOMPSON:
- 11 Q Mr. Giles, is it your testimony that Kansas City
- 12 Power & Light with respect to the positions it's taking in
- 13 this case is following the decision the Commission made in
- 14 the 0314 case last year?
- 15 A I don't know that I can say that on every issue,
- 16 no.
- 17 Q For example, on the issue of incentive
- 18 compensation, as far as you know, is Kansas City Power &
- 19 Light following the Commission's order in the previous
- 20 case?
- 21 A I'm not sure.
- Q What about severance costs?
- 23 A I'm not sure.
- 24 Q What about the cost of removal income tax issue?
- 25 Was that an issue in the prior case, to your knowledge?

- 1 A I don't recall whether that was an issue or not.
- 2 MR. THOMPSON: No further questions. Thank you,
- 3 your Honor.
- 4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Thompson, thank you. Let me
- 5 see if we have any questions from the Bench.
- 6 Mr. Chairman, any questions?
- 7 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 8 BY CHAIRMAN DAVIS:
- 9 Q Mr. Giles, have you read KCP&L's position
- 10 statement?
- 11 A Yes, I have.
- 12 Q Okay. Do you -- do you have a copy of it in
- 13 front of you?
- 14 A I do not. Now I do.
- Okay. Can you please explain for me, in your
- own words, the cost of removal issue referenced on page 3
- of the position statement?
- 18 A I'm -- I'm reading it.
- 19 Q That's fine. You'll notice the first full
- 20 paragraph, it's the -- it would be Issue No. 8, the cost
- 21 of removal income tax issue.
- 22 A Basically, my understanding of this issue is
- 23 it's an accounting issue related to whether the cost of
- 24 removal should be flowed through or normalized, and the --
- 25 the heart of the issue is that a change at this point in

- 1 time would require KCPL to write off a substantial
- 2 portion.
- 3 Q Did that issue come up in the last case?
- 4 A Not that I'm aware of. But I -- I could be
- 5 mistaken. I'm not aware of it.
- 6 Q You were involved in the last rate case, were
- 7 you not?
- 8 A I was. I was. But I don't recall this
- 9 particular issue.
- 10 Q Okay. Now, KCP&L is seeking a change in
- 11 accounting treatment on its Wolfe Creek reviewing outage
- 12 costs, correct?
- 13 A That's correct.
- Q Was that an issue in the last case?
- 15 A I don't believe it was.
- Q Do you have an opinion as to why it was not an
- issue in the 2006 case but is an issue now?
- 18 A I believe the accounting change was actually
- 19 made in 2006, hadn't actually occurred in 2005, which was
- 20 the test year in the prior case. So I think it wasn't an
- 21 -- an issue at that point.
- Q Okay. Can you briefly summarize why you think
- 23 your -- why the KCP&L accounting method is preferable to
- 24 the traditional treatment that KCP&L and Staff have agreed
- 25 to on previous occasions?

- 1 A I think we made the change due to a financial
- 2 accounting standards board ruling. So we used to be on a
- 3 accrual basis where we would accrue for the expense of the
- 4 outage. And the FS -- the Financial Accounting Standards
- 5 board caused us and all other utilities to change that to
- 6 a -- a -- sort of an accrual basis, a pay after the fact
- 7 basis.
- 8 So it became a timing difference. And when we
- 9 made that change, there was a certain amount of funds that
- 10 were booked to -- and I don't remember the particular
- 11 account. But, essentially, it -- it could give the
- 12 appearance that customers were being charged twice.
- 13 And it's our position that that's not the case,
- 14 that customers have always paid for a full 12-month outage
- 15 during this entire period.
- 16 Q Does KCP&L follow all of the Financial
- 17 Accounting Standard board policies?
- 18 A Yes. Except in cases where there is a -- there
- 19 is some sort of a regulatory agreement or plan to do
- 20 otherwise for regulatory purposes.
- 21 Q Okay. Do you have an opinion as to whether the
- 22 PSC staff's change of position on the cost of removal
- 23 income tax issue is related to KCP&L changing its position
- on the Wolfe Creek refueling outages?
- 25 A I -- I don't know that there's a link there.

- 1 I'm -- I'm not sure.
- 2 Q Okay. With regard to the KCP&L talent
- 3 assessment program, there were 119 employees who left the
- 4 company as a result of that program. How many more
- 5 employees were designated as, quote, not keeping pace and
- 6 then subsequently, I guess, closed the gap?
- 7 A I do not know the -- the answer. Lora Cheatum,
- 8 who is going to be a witness further on in the
- 9 proceeding --
- 10 Q Okay.
- 11 A -- can probably tell you.
- 12 Q Okay. Well, she'll know, and she can answer
- 13 that, hopefully, when she gets here. Okay. \$8.96 million
- 14 roughly divided by 119 employees is an average of
- 15 approximately \$75,000 per employee. Is that correct?
- 16 A Sounds about right.
- 17 Q Was there some sort of formula for apportioning
- 18 those severance packages?
- 19 A Yes. I -- I can't tell you what the formula
- 20 was, but, yes, there was.
- 21 Q Okay.
- 22 A Again, Lora Cheatum can --
- 23 Q Okay. So she can provide that when she
- 24 testifies?
- 25 A Right.

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1 Q Okay. Thank you. With regard to just the --
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- 2 the terminations that weren't related to the talent
- 3 assessment program, do you know how many terminations
- 4 there -- and severance packages -- I know what the amount
- 5 of the severance packages was in total. Do you know how
- 6 many employees were terminated and received severance
- 7 packages that weren't part of the Talent assessment
- 8 program?
- 9 A I don't know that. It's -- it's a fairly small
- 10 number, but I don't know what it is.
- 11 Q And so you don't know what the reasons for any
- 12 of those terminations were either, then, do you?
- 13 A No.
- 14 Q Okay. With regard to lobbying expenses in
- 15 Washington D.C., KCP&L has an employee there full-time to
- 16 basically monitor federal activities and to -- to lobby,
- 17 correct?
- 18 A That's correct.
- 19 Q And you're telling me that that person only
- 20 spends 15 percent of their time lobbying?
- 21 A I'm not sure where you're getting the 15
- 22 percent.
- 23 Q I thought I read that. I thought KCP&L was
- 24 seeking approximately 85 percent of that person's salary
- 25 and that you weren't seeking the 15 percent for -- for

- 1 lobbying. If that's not correct, then -- then please
- 2 correct me.
- 3 A Yes. You're -- you're correct. That's what the
- 4 position statement indicates.
- 5 Q Okay. Can you briefly summarize what the
- 6 difference is between KCL -- KCP&L's position on bad debt
- 7 expense is using the -- I guess the September 30th, 2007,
- 8 number versus -- is Staff using the December 30, '06,
- 9 number?
- 10 A Evidently, this -- this relates to whether bad
- 11 debt expense should be reflective of the most current
- 12 conditions or the current period.
- Our position is that we should use the period 12
- 14 months into September 30th, '07, where Staff is using the
- 15 12 months into December 31, 2006. And I think this is a
- 16 difference that largely relates to just how current of
- 17 information we can get into the rates.
- 18 Q And KCP -- has KCP&L changed their methods for
- 19 collecting bad debt expense in the last nine months?
- 20 A No. Not to my knowledge.
- 21 Q And -- and you're qualified to speak on that
- 22 issue?
- 23 A I'm not sure who our witness is on bad debt.
- 24 But you can -- you should probably ask him or her. But to
- 25 my knowledge, we've not changed any of our processes.

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1 Q Okay. Mr. Giles, if you don't mind, I'm just --
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- 2 I've only got a few more questions, but I'm just going to
- 3 go ahead and get all my questions for you out of the way
- 4 here at this -- at this time.
- 5 Mr. Giles, who is Rusty Smith?
- 6 A Rusty Smith is manager of our wholesale trading
- 7 function.
- 8 Q Okay.
- 9 A Largely, off-system sales.
- 10 Q Okay. Does he work for you?
- 11 A No. He works -- actually works for Ty Kobioshi
- 12 (ph.).
- 13 Q Okay. Did you review his responses to Staff
- 14 data requests in this case before they went out?
- 15 A Some of them, I did. I -- I typically review
- data responses that my staff refer to me, but I don't
- 17 review all of them.
- 18 Q Do you recall whether or not you reviewed Staff
- 19 Data Request No. 206 that was delivered electronically to
- 20 KCP&L on or about June 6, 2007?
- 21 A I don't know.
- 22 Q Okay. Have you read Mr. Traxler's testimony?
- 23 A Yes.
- Q Okay. Do you have a copy of Mr. Traxler's
- 25 rebuttal testimony filed on August 29th of 2007?

- 1 A I don't have it with me. Okay. Now I do.
- 2 Q Okay. Do you want to look in the back there, I
- 3 believe, towards the back of Mr. Traxler's testimony,
- 4 there is an appendix -- and I don't have the -- the
- 5 reference number up in front of me, but there should be a
- 6 markation of Staff Data Request No. 206 and KCP&L's
- 7 response.
- 8 A Yes. I have that.
- 9 Q Are you familiar enough to go ahead and talk
- 10 about that, or would you like a moment to review it?
- 11 A If you'd just give me a moment to look over the
- 12 schedules, I think I could talk about it.
- 13 Q Okay.
- 14 A Okay. I -- I've looked through it.
- Okay. Now, Mr. Giles, I realize that this is
- 16 highly -- this information is marked highly confidential.
- 17 I'm not going to ask you about any of the numbers
- 18 specifically contained therein.
- 19 So, hopefully, we won't have to go into closed
- 20 session. But I'm trusting that Mr. Riggins and
- 21 Mr. Fischer, if they sense that -- that I'm straying too
- 22 far, will -- will at least stop me before and we can go
- 23 into closed session if they feel it's appropriate.
- 24 So the data requests, which would be marked
- 25 Schedule SMT1-1 on June 7th, it was -- it was -- that

- 1 information was requested on June 7th, correct, rough --
- 2 A I believe on the heading it says Data Response
- 3 is June 27th.
- 4 Q Okay. It's KCP&L's response dated June 27th.
- 5 Do you know whether or not KCP&L ever updated this
- 6 response to the staff?
- 7 A I believe we have updated it, but I can't -- I
- 8 can't say for sure.
- 9 Q Okay. If -- if KCP&L has updated that response,
- 10 can -- can you furnish this Commission with a copy of --
- 11 of what that was?
- 12 A Yes.
- Okay. Now, Mr. Traxler, I believe, filed his --
- 14 if you go to the front page there of this -- of
- 15 Mr. Traxler's rebuttal testimony, up at the top, it says,
- 16 Date Testimony Prepared, August 30th, 2007; is that
- 17 correct?
- 18 A That's correct.
- 19 Q Okay. And you filed your -- was it your
- 20 rebuttal or surrebuttal testimony on or about August 29th,
- 21 correct?
- 22 A Rebuttal. Yes.
- Q Okay. So you filed your rebuttal testimony on
- 24 August 29. And in your page 12, line 10 of your -- it was
- 25 -- I'm sorry. Was it rebuttal or surrebuttal that you

- 1 filed on August 29th?
- 2 A Rebuttal testimony.
- 3 Q Okay. I'm sorry. I'm getting confused here
- 4 with -- okay. So let me see. I appear to have misplaced
- 5 your testimony, Mr. Giles.
- 6 Okay. Now, did you file surrebuttal as well?
- 7 A No, I did not.
- 8 Q No, you didn't. Okay.
- 9 A Okay.
- 10 Q Now I'm -- now I'm back clear. Okay. I think
- 11 it was page 12, line 10 of your rebuttal testimony that
- 12 was filed on August 29th. You included a number for
- 13 off-system sales margins, didn't you?
- 14 A Yes, I did.
- Okay. So on August 29th, you knew the number
- 16 for off-system sales margins from January 1st, 2007,
- 17 through July 30th, 2007?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q Okay. Do you -- you don't -- but you don't know
- 20 when KCP&L updated its information to the PSC Staff, do
- 21 you?
- 22 A No.
- Q Okay. So Mr. Traxler files his testimony on
- 24 August 30th, which contains the data request that KCP&L
- 25 responded to on June 27th basically saying that -- was it

- 1 -- I'm going to read Schedule SMT1-2 here.
- 2 The -- under the response, it would be the
- 3 fourth paragraph. "The determination of actual margins
- 4 for 2007, on a monthly basis is not yet complete. As a
- 5 result of the order in Case No. ER-2006-0314, we are
- 6 monitoring actual margins to be in compliance with the
- 7 order.
- 8 Additionally, with the introduction of SPPRTO in
- 9 February, we were further revising the analysis to
- 10 incorporate all costs attributable to the RTO and how they
- 11 affect non-firm off-system sales revenues and costs and
- 12 how they will be incorporated into the margin analysis."
- So, in essence, even though there's lots of --
- 14 of data backing -- backing up this response, you know, is
- it fair that if you're reading Mr. Traxler's rebuttal
- 16 testimony that you would come to the conclusion that you
- 17 don't know what KCP&L's off-system -- that he -- that he
- 18 didn't know what KCP&L's off-system sales margins were for
- 19 any portion of 2007?
- 20 A Yes. I think that's -- that's a correct
- 21 assessment of this testimony.
- 22 Q Okay. But you knew when you filed your
- 23 testimony on August 29th?
- 24 A I did. I -- I believe the -- the issue that I
- 25 discovered, somewhere right about this time frame is our

- 1 accounting department and Rusty Smith's department were
- 2 working together to make sure they came up with an
- 3 auditable margin calculation for the auditors.
- 4 And, typically, until we had this order in this
- 5 particular case, we had used a -- a midas model that --
- 6 actually called a pace model, redispatched the unit, gave
- 7 the cheapest fuel cost to retail customers, et cetera.
- 8 For some reason, the auditing group didn't feel
- 9 that this was a verifiable or rigid enough exercise. And
- 10 I'm not sure what they were doing during this period of
- 11 January through June of '07. But they were trying to
- 12 refine that calculation and were waiting, and I can't
- 13 describe it any better than that, waiting until they got
- 14 all these issues resolved before they start reporting what
- 15 the actual margins were.
- And, you know, my -- my response to that was
- 17 that it's -- it's not a significant difference, you know,
- 18 whichever -- you know, it was a very fine analysis they
- 19 were trying to get to, but it didn't change the number.
- 20 Q Okay. Is there -- is there any way that I can
- 21 -- can read KCP&L's response to Data Request No. 206 and
- 22 come out with the number that you gave in your rebuttal
- 23 testimony filed on August 29th? August -- yeah. I think
- 24 it's August. Yeah. August 30th. I'm sorry. No?
- 25 A No.

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1 Q Okay. Can you go to Schedule SMT1-1 of
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- 2 Mr. Traxler's rebuttal testimony?
- 3 A Okay.
- 4 Q See the -- the big paragraph there in the middle
- 5 of the page?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q Can you read the second sentence, which begins
- 8 about the middle of Line 4 on that page?
- 9 A Beginning with The undersigned?
- 10 Q Yes.
- 11 A The undersigned agrees to immediately inform the
- 12 Missouri Public Service Commission if, during the pendency
- of Case No. ER-2007-0291, before the Commission any
- 14 matters are discovered which would materially affect the
- 15 accuracy or completeness of the attached information.
- 16 Q Okay. Do you think KCP&L complied with this
- 17 request?
- 18 A Are you -- this -- this data request?
- 19 Q Right.
- 20 A Well, based on my quick observation, here, I
- 21 would say no. I don't -- I don't think we provided the
- 22 margins.
- Q Okay. Do you see -- and, obviously, off-system
- 24 sales margins was an important issue in the last case.
- 25 And you can -- you can see why the parties in this case

- 1 would -- would want as much information as they could get
- 2 as quickly as they could get it, wouldn't you?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q Okay. So it's not going to happen again, right?
- 5 A Right.
- 6 Q Okay. All right. Mr. Giles, have you reviewed
- 7 Mr. Hyneman and Mr. Dittmer's testimony?
- 8 A Yes, I have.
- 9 Q Do you recall their testimony that they
- 10 proffered that you're seeking one-sided or asymmetrical
- 11 rate treatment?
- 12 A Yes. I recall that.
- 13 Q Would you -- how would you respond to that?
- 14 A I would respond by stating that's not the case.
- 15 What -- what they are characterizing there is a
- 16 misrepresentation of the facts. And my testimony, both in
- 17 my service -- in my rebuttal testimony, I point out that
- 18 revenue matches expense.
- 19 And to the extent there's an expense that's been
- 20 in rates or recovered from customers, revenue is
- 21 established to recover those costs for the company. And I
- 22 think both Mr. Hyneman and Mr. Dittmer are using the
- 23 analogy that if there's an unusual non-occurring expense,
- 24 the company always want to recover that.
- On the other hand, if there's a revenue that

- 1 comes into the company based on a prior period expense, we
- 2 could not want to flow that back it customers. And the
- 3 real issue comes back to revenue matching costs or revenue
- 4 matching expense.
- 5 I'll give you an example. And I think
- 6 Mr. Dittmer -- or Mr. Hyneman may have used this same
- 7 example. We had an ice storm in 2002, incurred a
- 8 substantial amount of cost in repairing the lines of
- 9 facilities attributable to that ice storm.
- 10 The company filed for an accounting authority
- 11 order, which, essentially, did not recover those costs.
- 12 All that accounting authority order accomplished was it
- 13 allowed us for book purposes to amortize those expenses
- 14 over a period of time.
- We did not recover any of those costs until our
- 16 last rate case. In other words, you don't recover the
- 17 costs until you actually file a rate case and get the
- 18 revenue to recover the costs. So we did not recover four
- 19 months -- or four years, rather, of those expenses.
- 20 And similar to the expense with the Hawthorn 5
- 21 subrogation proceeds, in 1999, when the Hawthorn 5
- 22 explosion occurred , we incurred over \$150 million in
- 23 purchase power costs to replace the power loss from that
- 24 unit.
- 25 Customers were never billed for those costs. We

- 1 didn't file a case. We didn't ask to recover them. So
- 2 subsequent, we get a subrogation proceed in the test year,
- 3 in this case, of 2006, that's related to that additional
- 4 purchase power costs back in '99 and 2000.
- 5 So Mr. Dittmer and Mr. Hyneman propose that we
- 6 take that -- those revenues and amortize those over the
- 7 next five years, I believe, in this case. And it violates
- 8 the matching principle because customers have never paid
- 9 those expenses.
- 10 The -- the company did not have a rate case, did
- 11 not ask to recover those costs and, basically, they're
- 12 born by shareholders. Now, Mr. -- I can't -- I think it
- 13 was Mr. Hyneman. I'm not sure whether it was Mr. Hyneman
- 14 or Mr. Dittmer.
- One of them said, well, if -- if you take my
- 16 argument to its logical conclusion, then no expenses are
- 17 being recovered in rates between rate cases, which is
- 18 exactly the opposite of what I'm saying.
- 19 Once you have a rate case and your expenses are
- 20 set at a certain level in the case, whether it's fuel
- 21 costs, whether it's salaries and wages, any incremental
- 22 costs beyond that is, in fact, born by shareholders.
- 23 So the position that the company takes and that
- 24 I feel is appropriate, had we had a fuel adjustment
- 25 clause, for instance, back in the '99/2000 period, those

- 1 costs would have flowed through to customers.
- Now when the revenue comes back, you'll flow
- 3 that back through the fuel adjustment. In this case,
- 4 costs were never recovered from customers to begin with.
- 5 It's sort of long-winded answer, but --
- 6 Q Right. Okay. And so it's my understanding,
- 7 basically, you're -- what your position is is your last
- 8 case, rate case, really, was in 1985 and the rates went
- 9 into place sometime '85/'86.
- 10 As part of that rate case or subsequent
- 11 over-earnings complaint settlements, KCP&L was allowed to
- 12 keep its off-system sales margins above a certain base
- 13 amount that was included in rates and, you know, sort of
- 14 -- you know, part of that regulatory compact, say, you
- 15 recover a -- you -- you absorb additional salary
- 16 increases, additional fuel costs, no transportation costs,
- 17 et cetera, you know, and you've got to keep your
- 18 off-system sales, too. Is that -- is that sort of a fair
- 19 analogy?
- 20 A That's at fair analogy. The -- the distinction
- 21 -- the only distinction I would make is that we did have
- 22 -- just prior to the explosion of that Hawthorn 5 boiler,
- 23 we had actually negotiated a reproduction.
- 24 And the rate reduction was scheduled to go in in
- 25 March of, I believe, 1999. And the plant exploded in

- 1 February of '95. The conditions of that rate reduction
- 2 were such that we could have come back in because of that
- 3 outage and --
- 4 Q Because it was a material change?
- 5 A Material change.
- 6 Q Uh-huh.
- 7 A We did not do that. And during that time frame,
- 8 we, shareholders, basically footed the bill for those
- 9 purchase power costs.
- 10 Now, the other thing I need to make clear is
- 11 that during that time, there really wasn't much of an
- 12 off-system sales market. I mean, even though we didn't
- 13 have the unit, it wouldn't have been able to sell as much
- 14 into that market to begin with.
- The market really didn't take a dramatic
- 16 increase until about 2002 when that plant went back --
- 17 back online. The other thing I pointed out to you is that
- 18 -- I can't remember again which of their testimonies, I
- 19 think it was Mr. Hyneman, quotes our rate of return.
- 20 But it's interesting that he quotes from 2002 on
- 21 after the unit was back in service. The two years where
- 22 we really struggled were '99, 2000 and part of 2001. I
- 23 believe Hawthorn 5 came back into service in the summer of
- 24 2001.
- Q Okay. Now, you are here seeking recovery of

- 1 surface transportation board litigation costs, correct?
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q Now, should we, as a part of this case -- you
- 4 know, if we are going to award you those costs, should we
- 5 say something about how the proceeds should be
- 6 apportioned, if you recover anything?
- 7 A Yes. I think -- and I think this is a case
- 8 where there is a couple of things that could happen. One,
- 9 you can award the costs in the case. And one thing that
- 10 could happen is a successful litigation would reduce our
- 11 fuel costs on a going-forward basis.
- 12 O Uh-huh.
- 13 A That should be reflected on an ongoing basis.
- 14 But there's also a potential for a retroactive refund.
- 15 And I think you're exactly right is if you allow those
- 16 costs in this case, you should point out that if there's
- 17 any successful return of money, that should be flowed back
- 18 to the customers.
- 19 Q How much -- can give us a percentage?
- 20 A At least half. Maybe all.
- 21 Q At least half, and maybe all. Well, I'll let --
- 22 I'll let other parties inquire about the fairness of that
- 23 statement.
- 24 Have you seen the -- I guess I'll call it the --
- 25 the graph on page 3 of Mr. Hyneman's surrebuttal

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1 testimony?
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- 2 A I have seen it. I don't have it in front of me.
- 3 Q Okay.
- 4 A Okay. I have it in front me. Which -- which
- 5 particular graph?
- 6 Q I believe it's page 3, I believe, that has three
- 7 columns?
- 8 A Okay.
- 9 Q Now, you just look at that graph. It certainly
- 10 seems like Mr. Hyneman has a -- a -- if nothing else, a --
- 11 a consistent method for amortizing non-recurring expenses.
- 12 Is that a fair statement?
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q Can you put together a graph like that that
- 15 shows me that -- that KCP&L has a consistent approach for
- 16 how it's choosing to -- to allocate these expenses as
- 17 either being amortized or not amortized?
- 18 A I believe we can. I think it would be the same
- 19 chart. But I -- I -- I mean, I think the -- the point
- 20 that -- that should be taken from this is that when the
- 21 company incurs costs that are legitimate costs, prudently
- 22 incurred, they need to be recovered. And that's typically
- 23 what all of these various categories or costs that have
- 24 been amortized that Mr. Hyneman refers to are.
- On the other hand, it's -- on the revenue side,

- 1 you have to take into account whether those expenses or
- 2 costs were ever charged in the first place because, in the
- 3 one hand, you're setting revenue after the fact to recover
- 4 costs that were prudently incurred.
- 5 So the two are totally different. And I think
- 6 what Mr. Hyneman and Mr. Dittmer are both trying to
- 7 characterize here is that these are the same thing. You
- 8 ought to treat them the same.
- 9 O Uh-huh.
- 10 A It's totally not the same thing. It's totally
- 11 different because one is the presumption that legitimately
- 12 incurred costs should be recovered.
- On the other hand, their position is if those
- 14 costs -- if there are costs that have never been recovered
- 15 from customers, those should also be amortized. And the
- 16 two are totally different.
- 17 Q Okay. Now, when Mr. -- Mr. Giles, when
- 18 Hawthorne was down, you were still recovering costs for
- 19 the operation of Hawthorne in your base rates, correct?
- 20 A We were, yes.
- 21 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: Mr. Giles, I don't think I have
- 22 any further questions. Thank you.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Chairman, thank you.
- 24 Commissioner Murray, any questions?
- 25 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Just a few. Thank you,

- 1 Judge.
- 2 EXAMINATION
- 3 BY COMMISSIONER MURRAY:
- 4 Q Good afternoon, Mr. Giles.
- 5 A Good afternoon.
- 6 Q I'm sure you were here when Mr. Thompson made
- 7 his opening statement today; is that correct?
- 8 A I was.
- 9 Q He indicated that KCP&L was seeking a windfall.
- 10 Did you hear him say that?
- 11 A Yes, I did.
- 12 Q And he made a comparison to a homeowner needing
- 13 to make capital improvements to his home, taking out a
- 14 second mortgage to do so. Can you tell me what you think
- of that analysis in comparison to KCP&L's capital
- 16 structure improvements and what you're seeking here?
- 17 A I think what Mr. Thompson was characterizing was
- 18 that the company was seeking more in a return component
- 19 than either was appropriate or reasonable and due to the
- 20 fact that we also have the provision of being additional
- 21 amortization to create cash flow, that we are somehow, as
- 22 he put it, seeking a windfall.
- In fact, what we are attempting to do is to
- 24 maintain both our credit so we can finance this nearly
- 25 \$2 billion construction program, and, also, to continue to

- 1 issue equity in the -- in the investor market at a
- 2 reasonable price.
- 3 And that -- that essentially is what we're
- 4 attempting to do. I don't think it's a windfall in any
- 5 sense of the imagination. I think it's appropriate. And
- 6 given -- as Mr. Fischer stated, we have been able to issue
- 7 bonds, and we continue to look to -- we probably will be
- 8 issuing more equity and debt -- in fact, we will be in the
- 9 next year.
- 10 So given the capacity, the construction dollars
- 11 that were invested, we need, and it's not an unreasonable
- 12 request, to have an 11.25 percent return on equity.
- 13 Q All right. KCP&L has taken the position that
- 14 anything other than an equal shift in revenue and I know
- 15 shift in rates uniform to all classes with -- in violation
- with the stipulation and agreement; is that correct?
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q Does that include the revenue shift proposals by
- 19 Trigen?
- 20 A Trigen was not a signatory to the regulatory
- 21 plan. So I think -- you know, they're -- they're probably
- 22 an exception that -- none of the parties that signed the
- 23 regulatory plan can propose revenue or rate shifting. But
- 24 since they weren't a signatory, I suppose they can propose
- 25 one.

- 1 Q All right. Was KCP&L asked in the last rate
- 2 case to do a cost of study service analysis of the general
- 3 service, all electric tariffs and separately metered space
- 4 heating -- heating rates?
- 5 A I believe we were asked to do that, but I don't
- 6 believe it was in this case. I'd have to go back and
- 7 look. But I believe that was a -- a requirement to do at
- 8 some point in time.
- 9 Q And has that been done, or has that been begun?
- 10 A It has not been done at this point.
- 11 Q Is KCP&L planning to do such a cost of service
- 12 study?
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q When?
- 15 A I -- I don't have a time frame. I'd have to go
- 16 back and look at what our commitment was. But definitely
- 17 by the time we have the rate design case in the last case,
- 18 which was Case No. 4, we filed sometime in, I believe,
- 19 September of '09.
- 20 Q And in the meantime, are you intending to leave
- 21 the general service of electric tariffs and separately
- 22 needed space heating rates as they are structured now?
- 23 A Yes.
- Q What do you think about the argument that there
- 25 is -- this is discrimination that is anti-competitive with

- 1 those rates?
- 2 A I don't believe the rates are discriminatory. I
- 3 think Trigen would -- would, obviously, argue from their
- 4 competitive position that they're discriminatory and
- 5 provide an undue advantage to electric, heat or -- I think
- 6 we would probably make the same argument regarding their
- 7 steam rates and their chill water rate.
- 8 I think it's a competitive issue, and it's not
- 9 necessarily that the rates are inappropriate. It's a
- 10 competitor trying to get a new vantage.
- 11 Q All right. I want to ask you about rate case
- 12 expense and the position that these expenses -- the
- 13 deferred rate case expenses should be amortized in the
- 14 cost of service over two years. That's an agreement
- 15 between Staff and KCP&L at this point; is that correct?
- 16 A I believe so, yes.
- 17 O And then KCP&L wants to include the unamortized
- 18 amount of those deferred expenses in rate base; is that
- 19 right?
- 20 A That's true.
- 21 Q And is that equivalent to allowing the company
- 22 to earn a return on the amount that was spent until such
- 23 time as those actual expenses are recovered?
- 24 A Yes.
- 25 Q And the reverse of that would be that the

- 1 company would be making the expense and having to wait an
- 2 extended period for recovery equivalent to making the loan
- 3 without interest --
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q -- to the ratepayers?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: I think that's all I have
- 8 for you right now. Thank you.
- 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Commissioner Murray, thank you.
- 10 Commissioner Appling?
- 11 EXAMINATION
- 12 BY COMMISSIONER APPLING:
- 13 Q How are you doing, Chuck?
- 14 A I'm good. Doing great.
- 15 Q Great. I've got a couple short questions that I
- 16 -- I think I've heard the answer to them already, but I
- just want to make sure I get them into the record. You --
- 18 from the '99 explosion, what was the plan, again, to --
- 19 that you all put in retirement?
- 20 A It was Hawthorne 5, our coal unit. It was --
- 21 it's about a -- at that time, it was about a 500 megawatt
- 22 unit.
- 23 Q What was the amount of the retirement on that?
- 24 A The -- the plant exploded in February of '99,
- 25 totally demolished the boiler and a lot of the facilities

- 1 around the boiler. The plant was retired and rebuilt for
- 2 a -- it -- it actually took about -- I want to say about
- 3 two and a half years to rebuild it. The plant was back in
- 4 service in summer of 2001.
- 5 And the plant, when it came back into service,
- 6 came back at its original cost less the insurance proceeds
- 7 that we received from the rebuild. So the net impact on
- 8 rates was pretty minimal as far as capital goes.
- 9 Q What -- what did you all get from the -- your
- 10 insurance company?
- 11 A We got almost the total cost of the rebuild,
- 12 except for the environmental equipment. We had to install
- 13 -- because it was a new boiler, we had to install current
- 14 environmental equipment.
- 15 My recollection is the -- we received somewhere
- 16 in the neighborhood of \$280 million dollars to rebuild the
- 17 boiler. And I think it cost somewhere around 350. Just
- 18 rough numbers. So most of it, other than the
- 19 environmental was totally paid by insurance.
- 20 Q KCPL, did you all receive other funds that was
- 21 not litigated?
- 22 A We sued about 12 different entities, and we
- 23 received -- the subrogation proceedings, we received money
- 24 from all three of those. Only one was actually litigated.
- 25 The others were settled. But we received around a hundred

- 1 -- roughly a \$110 million from those 12 entities.
- 2 Q Describe for me in about two minutes, if you
- 3 can, what is KCPL looking for here? I know what your ROE
- 4 is. We've been talking about it all morning. But give me
- 5 just a touch-down of what you're looking for that's going
- 6 to do you some good, the big numbers, okay?
- 7 A In this particular case we're --
- 8 Q This particular case. Yes.
- 9 A You mean in terms of dollars or --
- 10 Q Dollars.
- 11 A Somewhere in the neighborhood of 26,
- 12 \$28 million.
- 13 Q And this is to run through to next year?
- 14 A Actually, run through the next year and about
- 15 three months of the following year. We -- our next case
- 16 that we will file is to include the cost of IATAN II
- 17 environmental equipment.
- 18 O Uh-huh.
- 19 A And due to outage scheduling, we scheduled that
- 20 outage to occur in December of 2008. So in order to get
- 21 that investment in the test year true-up period, we'll
- 22 have to file our next case of April of '09.
- 23 Q Last year, we --
- 24 A Well, pardon me.
- 25 Q Last year, we gave you 11.25, correct?

- 1 A Correct.
- 2 Q And that's what you're asking for again this
- 3 year?
- 4 A Correct.
- 5 Q Is that going -- is that going to do what you
- 6 need to do? Is that going to give you what you need for
- 7 this next year?
- 8 A Yeah. If --
- 9 Q You and I talked a lot about this when I visited
- 10 the plant up there three or four months ago. We walked
- 11 the whole thing, and we talked about a lot of things.
- 12 What I'm trying to get in my own mind, what did you --
- 13 what did you find there, you know? Go ahead.
- 14 A The -- the rate of return is all dependent upon
- 15 the adjustments that are made to the data in this case of
- 16 whether you -- we will actually ever be able to achieve
- 17 that return.
- 18 On top of that, the return is also dependent
- 19 upon the fact that we have a year lag. These rates will
- 20 go into effect in January of '08.
- 21 O Uh-huh.
- 22 A And, of course, our costs continue to increase
- 23 during that time period. So those costs go unrecovered in
- 24 2008.
- To the extent there's adjustments made in this

- 1 case that also reduce our revenue, that also reduces our
- 2 rate of return. So you take all of that together, and you
- 3 say, well, if we could come out with a certain dollar
- 4 amount, then we could deal with these other issues.
- 5 So the -- the rate of return is just one piece
- 6 of it. You've got to take into account what's the total
- 7 impact of the actual dollars, what we get. So our case
- 8 today is it about a \$38 million revenue requirement at an
- 9 11.25 return.
- 10 Q Okay.
- 11 A About -- the Staff's case is in the range of
- 12 about 14 million at 9.7. So somewhere between those two
- 13 numbers is probably a -- a good benchmark.
- 14 COMMISSIONER APPLING: Thank you.
- MR. GILES: You're welcome.
- 16 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Commissioner Appling, thank you.
- 17 Commissioner Jarrett?
- 18 COMMISSIONER JARRETT: Yes, thank you.
- 19 EXAMINATION
- 20 BY COMMISSIONER JARRETT:
- 21 Q Yes. Thank you. Good afternoon, sir.
- 22 A Good afternoon.
- 23 Q I have just -- just a couple of questions. My
- 24 understanding is that KCP&L is asking for an ROE, a base
- 25 ROE of 10.75 percent, plus 50 basis points based on its

- 1 construction program which would raise that to the 11.25
- percent; is that correct?
- 3 A Yes. yes. That's correct.
- 4 Q Yeah. This morning in opening statements,
- 5 Mr. Conrad was talking about the regulatory plan that's in
- 6 place. And I believe that -- and correct me if I'm wrong,
- 7 but I believe he indicated we should look at that in
- 8 context of no construction program when looking at the
- 9 needs of the company, and I wanted to give you an
- 10 opportunity to respond to that.
- 11 A I -- I think -- you know, it's our -- it's our
- 12 position and it's our rate of return witness's position
- 13 that due to the magnitude of this construction program and
- 14 the risks associated with that that in order for us to
- 15 raise the capital, both equity and debt, that we need to
- 16 raise over these next couple of years that the risk of
- 17 that investment is greater than a company that would, say,
- 18 have a modest construction program or even know a
- 19 construction program other than normal ongoing capital
- 20 improvements.
- 21 And I think the magnitude of what we're doing --
- 22 and I think we've testified before that we're adding over
- 23 60 percent more to our rate base or to our plant
- 24 investment, and given that level of risk that investors
- 25 would require at least a 50 basis point adder to the rate

- 1 of return.
- 2 Q So the -- so really, the risk, then, for KCP&L
- 3 from its standpoint is -- is just the large amount rather
- 4 than the type of construction it is? I mean, it would
- 5 seem to me that utility companies commonly build
- 6 generation plants.
- 7 A It -- it's really a combination of both, the --
- 8 the magnitude and the -- the type of construction. You
- 9 know, it's somewhat -- it's not unusual. It's pretty
- 10 standard.
- But you think about it, we haven't built a base
- 12 load power plant since our Wolfe Creek nuclear plant came
- online in 1986. The last coal unit we built was in 1980,
- 14 which was the IATAN I project.
- 15 So they're very large investments. They're very
- 16 complex and very complicated to get done on schedule and
- 17 under budget. So these -- these investments come along
- 18 really about once every 20 years. And even though you
- 19 would think utilities do this frequently and often, it's
- 20 really very infrequently.
- 21 COMMISSIONER JARRETT: Thank you, sir. I have
- 22 nothing further.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Chairman?
- 24 EXAMINATION
- 25 BY COMMISSIONER DAVIS:

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1 Q All right. Mr. Giles, I just had a couple more
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- 2 questions here. Do you think it's good public policy to
- 3 use electricity to generate heat?
- 4 A I -- I think it -- it depends on the type of
- 5 electric -- electricity. Electric resistance heat,
- 6 electric boilers, not very efficient. If -- if it's a
- 7 heat pump, they're pretty efficient.
- 8 In most -- most large commercial office
- 9 buildings are -- are done with heat pumps, and -- which
- 10 draws energy from the air or the ground. If it's a ground
- 11 source, typically, commercial building in downtown Kansas
- 12 City, the one we -- we reside in 1201 Walnut. It's an all
- 13 electric building, all heat pumps. Very efficient.
- Q Does that equation change at all when you have
- 15 more natural gas-fired electric generation creeping into
- 16 your base load?
- 17 A It -- yes, it would. In our case, our -- our
- 18 gas was primarily burned in the summertime. If you were a
- 19 utility that was burning a lot of gas in the winter, yeah,
- 20 it would have an impact.
- 21 Q Okay. Obviously, Commissioner Murray touched on
- 22 it, and Commissioner Jarrett touched on it. I had to step
- out of the room for just a second. So this is a little
- 24 redundant. I apologize.
- 25 You've heard Mr. Thompson, Mr. Conrad espouse

- 1 the theory that -- that cash is cash?
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q Do you think that's correct?
- 4 A I think from a customer's viewpoint, they're
- 5 exactly right.
- 6 Q Okay.
- 7 A When I -- when I -- even though I don't pay my
- 8 bill, when my wife pays our bills, she's writing a check
- 9 for whatever is on that bill, whether it's -- and we view
- 10 it the same way.
- 11 When we look at impact on a customer, it's
- 12 whatever that rate generates. And, really, the only
- 13 meaning for this cash versus earnings related is -- is
- 14 purely a shareholder or company issue.
- 15 From our standpoint, earnings related cash
- 16 creates earnings. The amortization provision just creates
- 17 cash. We need both. You could get, obviously, the same
- 18 amount of cash with a very, very high rate of return.
- 19 Q All right.
- 20 A In fact, when we did the regulatory plan, I
- 21 actually showed calculations that would indicate we would
- 22 need 13 and a half percent return on equity during this
- 23 construction period to fund enough cash to keep our credit
- 24 ratings.
- That, obviously, was a little more than most

- 1 people in the room could stomach. And that's when we came
- 2 up with this amortization provision.
- 3 Q Right. Now, as -- as part of the -- first of
- 4 all, you are familiar with the KCP&L experimental
- 5 regulatory plan?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q Okay. As part of that plan, do you recall, was
- 8 there an anticipated five-year budget financing plan?
- 9 A There was. Yes.
- 10 Q Okay. And it was -- wasn't it anticipated that
- 11 KCP&L through its, I guess, parent company, GPE would
- 12 issue about \$560 million in equity, more or less?
- 13 A I don't recall the exact number. But that --
- 14 that sounds about right.
- 15 Q That's all right. Okay. And when investors are
- 16 considering whether or not they should buy that new
- 17 equity, do you think they're going to look at earnings?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q Are you familiar with the term EBITDA?
- 20 A Yes.
- Q What is EBITDA?
- 22 A Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation
- 23 and Amortization.
- Q All right. Do you think that this could -- do
- 25 you think this would be a relevant use of the term, you

- 1 know, EBITDA, when you're out there trying to evaluate
- 2 whether or not you're going to -- buy GPE stock?
- 3 A Yes. Stock and bonds. EBITDA is really a
- 4 measure of cash. It's really showing what -- what is the
- 5 cash potential of this company.
- 6 Q Well, it's -- it would be a measure of your --
- 7 your true -- your true earnings in a sense, wouldn't it?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q Okay. Do you think it would be prudent for
- 10 KCP&L to pay dividends with amortizations?
- 11 A No.
- 12 Q Why not?
- 13 A Well, if you're paying dividends with -- with
- 14 amortization, you're essentially taking cash from the
- 15 customers and -- in the form of accelerated depreciation,
- 16 et cetera.
- 17 That's going to be a deduct from rate base going
- 18 forward. So on the one hand, you're -- you're reducing
- 19 your rate base with from the funds that are coming in.
- 20 And then on top of that, you're paying out cash.
- 21 So it's a drain on the shareholders and the earnings
- 22 potential doubles -- it essentially doubles in the impact.
- Q Uh-huh. Do you think dividends are important to
- 24 shareholders?
- 25 A In -- in -- in the case of a public utility,

- 1 it's critical. It's -- you know -- when you think about
- 2 growth, which shareholders look for, you know, what's the
- 3 growth, it's a combination of the price of the stock and
- 4 the return or the dividends.
- 5 In the case of a utility, particularly, in our
- 6 case, KCP&L or GPE, you look at the growth potential and
- 7 regulated business with very modest growth in usage per
- 8 customer or customers or a total kilowatt hour usage is
- 9 one and a half to 2 percent a year.
- 10 In a regulated business, you have a rate of
- 11 return that's established. You're authorized. The --
- 12 really, the potential for growth is all in the dividend.
- 13 And in -- and most investors in utility stocks look for
- 14 that growth in the dividend, which, in our case, we've not
- 15 increased our dividend in at least a decade.
- 16 But on the other hand, we are paying a rate that
- 17 does provide a decent return, even without the growth of
- 18 the stock price. So that's -- that's what keeps the
- 19 engine running in the utility business is that dividend.
- 20 Q It's been suggested by the Commission staff that
- 21 companies like KCP&L that need to fund large
- 22 infrastructure improvements should just cut their
- 23 dividends and use those savings to -- to finance their --
- 24 their capital expenditures. Do you see any problems with
- 25 that theory?

- 1 A Yes. The -- the value of the -- to the
- 2 stockholder would drop dramatically. The price of the
- 3 stock would drop. The value that that shareholder is
- 4 holding would drop substantially.
- 5 Q Okay. But should that be a problem for the rest
- 6 of us?
- 7 A I think in -- in order to -- to have a viable,
- 8 ongoing utility and to have that utility as a utility such
- 9 as KCPL or GPE, that, yes, it's very important.
- 10 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: Okay. No further questions.
- 11 Thank you, Mr. Giles.
- 12 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Chairman, thank you. Are
- 13 there any further Bench questions? Any recross based on
- 14 Bench questions? No recross?
- MR. THOMPSON: I have a couple.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Thompson.
- 17 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 18 BY MR. THOMPSON:
- 19 Q Chairman Davis asked you, Mr. Giles, about
- 20 Staff's change of position on the cost of removal income
- 21 tax issue. Do you recall that question?
- 22 A Yes.
- Q Would you be surprised if I told you that Staff
- 24 doesn't consider that it's changed its position on that
- 25 issue?

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1 A I don't -- I don't recall exactly the question
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- 2 saying that -- or employing that they had changed their
- 3 position. I may have not understood.
- 4 Q Okay.
- 5 A I just know there's a difference in position.
- 6 Q In Staff's --
- 7 A In -- between the Staff and the company.
- 8 Q Very well. Thank you.
- 9 A Yeah.
- 10 Q With respect to bad debt, have you looked at
- 11 Staff's Statement of Positions?
- 12 A I -- just what I have reviewed here today.
- 13 Q Okay. Would you be surprised if I told that you
- 14 Staff shows that as no longer being a contested issue?
- 15 A Would I be surprised?
- 16 O No.
- 17 A No.
- 18 Q Okay. So as far as you know, that issue is
- 19 resolved?
- 20 A I don't know one way or another.
- 21 Q Okay. So you would not be surprised no matter
- 22 what I told you about that issue? Is that the case?
- 23 A Well, I know that Tim Rush and Steve Traxler
- 24 have been working to resolve certain issues. I don't know
- 25 the up-to-date minute resolution of a lot of issues in

- 1 this case.
- Q Okay. Fair enough. Now, you also told Chairman
- 3 Davis, I recall, that incremental costs in excess of the
- 4 cost of service recognized in most recent rate case are
- 5 necessarily born by shareholders. Do you remember that?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q Well, what if you're overearning?
- 8 A What would cause the overearnings?
- 9 Q Well, you know, between rate cases, costs and
- 10 rates get out of sync, don't they?
- 11 A Yes. Costs go up. Rates don't.
- 12 Q Well, sometimes costs go down, don't they?
- 13 Don't they?
- 14 A Very rarely.
- 15 Q Very rarely. Are you aware of the overearnings
- 16 complaint that the Staff brought against AmerenUE, I
- 17 believe, in 2000, 2001?
- 18 A 2000, 2001?
- 19 Q I think that's when it was.
- 20 A I'm not familiar with AmerenUE.
- 21 Q You don't recall that case? Okay. So you don't
- 22 think companies could ever overearn; that it?
- 23 A No, I didn't say that.
- Q Well, hypothetically speaking, if the company
- 25 was overearning, then incremental costs between rate

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1 cases, in fact, might be born by share -- by ratepayers;
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- 2 isn't that right?
- 3 A I don't know what you mean by overearning.
- 4 MR. THOMPSON: Okay. No further questions.
- 5 Thank you, your Honor.
- 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Thompson, thank you.
- 7 Redirect?
- 8 MR. CONRAD: Your Honor, just --
- 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: I'm sorry. Mr. Conrad.
- 10 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 11 BY MR. CONRAD:
- 12 Q Mr. Giles, I was following along with your
- 13 questions that the Chairman asked you, particularly with
- 14 regard to the Hawthorne subrogation proceeds. Do you
- 15 recall that series of exchanges?
- 16 A I do.
- 17 Q And do I -- and I think, in specific, he asked
- 18 you about or you got to talking about the additional
- 19 purchase power expenses that have had to be incurred?
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q And I think I got down the quote correctly that
- 22 customers were never billed for those costs; is that
- 23 right?
- 24 A Yes.
- 25 Q Do you remember -- it's been a while ago. Do

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1 you remember a little company out there in the east
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- 2 bottoms called GST?
- 3 A I do.
- 4 Q Are you suggesting that you never billed them
- 5 for those costs?
- 6 A GST at that time was on a special contract.
- 7 Q I asked you did you bill them for those costs?
- 8 A Yes. Under that special contract.
- 9 Q And you do recall that there was some litigation
- 10 about that?
- 11 A There was a Commission --
- 12 Q That's litigation, sir. Is -- do you recall
- 13 that there was --
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q -- some litigation about that?
- 16 A I do.
- 17 Q Do you suppose that GST would have initiated
- 18 that complaint to which you refer if they hadn't been
- 19 billed for those costs?
- 20 A No.
- 21 Q So when you made the statement that customers
- 22 were never billed for those costs, were you excluding GST
- 23 as a customer -- excluding those costs as costs or
- 24 excluding the process that you used as something other
- 25 than billing?

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1 A I was talking in generic terms about customers.
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- 2 I wasn't talking about a special contract customer.
- 3 Q Well, GST was not a customer?
- 4 A They were a special contract customer.
- 5 Q Were they -- they were a customer?
- A Yes, they were a customer.
- 7 Q Now, I believe Commissioner Jarrett asked you a
- 8 follow-up to my opening statement. Do you recall that?
- 9 A I don't know whether it was Commissioner
- 10 Jarrett, but I'll accept that.
- 11 Q Do you recall being asked about the -- something
- 12 about the regulatory plan?
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q Okay. What, in your view, was the purpose of
- 15 the regulatory plan?
- 16 A Well, the purpose of the regulatory plan from
- 17 KCPL's perspective was to enable us to embark on a
- 18 comprehensive energy plan that included building of a coal
- 19 plant, base load coal plant, environmental equipment that
- 20 we'll seen in IATAN I, wind generation, and to protect our
- 21 credit rating once we made that announcement that we were
- 22 embarking on that. That was our objective.
- 23 Q If there had not been an anti-CWIP piece of
- 24 legislation such as Proposition 1, would you have needed
- 25 the regulatory plan?

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1 A Yes.
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- 2 Q Even though you could have filed a series of
- 3 rate cases to simply have recovered those increments or
- 4 recovered both on a return on them?
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 Q I see. And since the regulatory plan was
- 7 approved and the Commission issued its decision in the
- 8 0314 case, the plan of additions have -- have continued?
- 9 A We are -- are in the process of building
- 10 the coal plant. The wind has been completed. The scene
- 11 environmental has been completed.
- 12 Q An environmental on one, IATAN I?
- 13 A It is currently underway. It is scheduled for
- 14 completion the end of '08.
- 15 Q Did you do anything else in addition to that
- 16 plan after the Commission's decision in 314?
- 17 A What do you mean by anything else?
- 18 Q Did you announce purchase of another utility?
- 19 A We did.
- 20 Q Was that comprehended by the regulatory plan?
- 21 A No.
- MR. CONRAD: Thank you, sir. That's all.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Conrad, thank you. Any
- 24 further recross?
- MR. BRUDEN: If I may?

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JUDGE PRIDGIN: Yes, sir. Mr. Bruden.
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- 2 EXAMINATION
- 3 BY MR. BRUDEN:
- 4 Q Mr. Giles, I believe I heard you testify into
- 5 one -- regard to one of the questions that Mr. Dittmer, a
- 6 DOE witness, misrepresented the facts in regard to what
- 7 you referred to as asymmetrical rate treatment. Can you
- 8 tell me, please, how specifically Mr. Dittmer, in your
- 9 opinion, misrepresented facts?
- 10 A Well, my -- my reference there is to this idea
- 11 that the company only wants -- it actually was Mr. Dittmer
- 12 and Mr. Hyneman. Their position is that when there's
- 13 costs involved, the company wants to recover them. When
- 14 there's revenue involved, the company doesn't want to flow
- 15 that back, similarly to how the costs are amortized.
- 16 And my point is they are very different items.
- 17 Revenue follows costs. Revenue matches costs. So if the
- 18 costs are prudently incurred, they should be recovered.
- 19 That's the difference between the revenue side and the
- 20 cost side.
- 21 If the costs had already been previously
- 22 recovered from customers, then the revenue should
- 23 certainly be flowed back to customers. So it's a matching
- 24 principle.
- Q Well, you're speaking of matching principle.

- 1 You're speaking rate-making theory which, of course, we
- 2 all have a long involvement in. But you said that he
- 3 misrepresented facts, sir. So where was a misrepresented
- 4 fact -- representation of a fact, such as what you speak?
- 5 A Well, as I just described it, that was -- that
- 6 was my reference.
- 7 O Okay.
- 8 A If that's not a -- if that's not an accurate
- 9 characterization, then I'm sorry.
- 10 Q Okay. I wanted to ask this now. The explosion
- 11 and the consequent need for replacement power and so on,
- 12 did that cause the company to expend, to pay out more
- 13 money in total than it would have paid out had that
- 14 explosion had not happened and Hawthorne had remained
- 15 online?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q Do you know how much more money, all total?
- 18 A It was over \$150 million.
- 19 Q And how do you calculate that, sir?
- 20 A We calculated it by looking at what -- what have
- 21 -- what would have been our cost of fuel and purchase
- 22 power with the unit in place versus without the unit.
- 23 Q Can you -- is -- is that found in any of the
- 24 exhibits or anywhere, any of the papers that are available
- 25 to us now, the calculation you just mentioned?

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1 A It's not. It's -- it was provided in the
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- 2 litigated case that Mr. Conrad referred to, but it -- it's
- 3 certainly available.
- 4 Q Okay. I did also want to ask, the company
- 5 received these monies in 2006 and booked them as a
- 6 negative expense in 2006, did it not?
- 7 A Booked them as a negative expense. No. I don't
- 8 -- I don't know that that's the case.
- 9 Q Okay. Did the company -- we can -- we can
- 10 discuss what we mean by negative expense. But did the
- 11 company receive the monies in 2006?
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q Okay. Did it book them in some way, shape or
- 14 form in 2006?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 O And is the fact that it received and booked
- 17 these monies in 2006 a strong indication that these monies
- 18 do bear some significant relationship to the test year
- 19 2006?
- 20 A No.
- Q Why not?
- 22 A Well, the test year, what you're attempting to
- 23 do is to replicate an ongoing operation of the company.
- 24 So you're setting rates for an extended period of time.
- 25 Typically, you're not setting rates for just one

- 1 year. You're setting rates based on what the anticipated
- 2 long-term effect would be. So you use a test year to
- 3 quantify an estimate that impacts.
- 4 So by including in a test year an abnormal
- 5 revenue that's related to a ten-year old -- ten-year old
- 6 occurrence is not appropriate.
- 7 Q But you will agree with me, will you not, that
- 8 in order to treat these monies in the manner that you've
- 9 described, the Commission would have to ignore the fact
- 10 that they were booked and received in 2006, would it not?
- 11 A The fact that this was received in 2006 only
- 12 means that you need to adjust out that abnormal amount.
- 13 In --
- Q Other than that, the year of receipt, the actual
- 15 year that the money came into the company's pocket is of
- 16 no relevance, of no meaning in this calculation in theory;
- 17 sir? Is that what you're saying?
- 18 A That's exactly right.
- 19 Q Okay. At page 5 of your rebuttal, you said that
- 20 Mr. Dittmer believes that the company was earning in
- 21 excess of other utilities; is that right?
- 22 A Yes.
- 23 Q Okay. Can you tell me why you believe that it
- 24 was and is Mr. Dittmer's view that the company was earning
- 25 in excess of other utilities?

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1 A I have no idea.
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- 2 Q No, no. I'm asking where do you find in his
- 3 testimony an assertion to the effect that the company was
- 4 earning in excess of other utilities?
- 5 A I don't have his testimony in front of me.
- 6 Q Let me provide you my copy, then. Or hold on.
- 7 We'll provide a clean copy. My colleague is absolutely
- 8 right.
- 9 MR. RIGGINS: Is that the Dittmer direct?
- MR. BRUDER: Yes.
- 11 MR. RIGGINS: I can provide that to him.
- 12 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr, Giles, if I can get you to
- 13 hold on to your answer, the court reporter needs to change
- 14 tapes. If everyone can give us just a second, please.
- 15 (Break in proceedings.)
- 16 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. And I'm
- 17 sorry. Is there a question pending? Mr. Giles, did you
- 18 have a question to answer?
- 19 MR. GILES: Yes.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Whenever you're ready, sir.
- 21 A Page 19 of Mr. Dittmer's direct testimony, top
- 22 of the page. Quote, Finally, I note that KCPL's earnings
- 23 during the years 2000 through 2005 were adequate, if not
- 24 robust, in relation to returns being authorized by this as
- 25 well as other State Regulatory Commissions during the

- 1 noted years.
- 2 Q Adequate, but not robust. Now --
- 3 A If not robust.
- 4 Q Adequate, if not robust. Then it's your view
- 5 that that -- that in making that statement, Mr. Dittmer
- 6 was asserting that the company was earning in excess of
- 7 other utilities?
- 8 A That's what it says.
- 9 Q Where does it say in excess of other utilities,
- 10 sir?
- 11 A Well, this doesn't say it in particular. It
- 12 alludes to or adequate, if not robust, in relation to
- 13 returns being authorized by this as well as other State
- 14 Regulatory Commissions.
- So that's what it says. And my interpretation
- 16 of it was what I stated in my testimony.
- 17 Q Okay. You have no further basis for that --
- 18 that statement at this point?
- 19 A No. It's based on this paragraph on page 19.
- 20 Q KCP&L sought an accounting order for the 2005
- 21 ice storm damage, did it not?
- 22 A We did.
- 23 Q In seeking and in obtaining that accounting
- order, sir, was the company required to demonstrate that
- 25 those extraordinary costs would place it in the situation

- 1 of underearning?
- 2 A That is a standard that's typical for an
- 3 accounting authority order.
- 4 Q What is typical for an accounting authority
- 5 order?
- 6 A Well, that the -- the impact of the event must
- 7 be significant. And significant is not defined very
- 8 rigidly. But in general, we look at it that, you know, at
- 9 that point in time, anything over 10 or \$12 million would
- 10 be subject to going in to get an accounting authority
- 11 order.
- 12 Q Well, could we have the -- the court reporter
- 13 read the question back, please?
- 14 (The previous question was read back.)
- 15 Q (By Mr. Bruder) Well, okay. That's -- that's
- 16 not quite it. Let me just repeat it. We established that
- 17 KCPL did, indeed, seek such an accounting order.
- 18 And what I asked was, when it obtained that, was
- 19 it required to demonstrate that absent such an order it
- 20 would find itself in the situation of underearning? Did
- 21 it have to make such a demonstration, sir, or not?
- 22 A We incurred about \$55 million related to that
- 23 ice storm in 2002. We felt that was significant, and we
- 24 went in to get the accounting authority order based on the
- 25 magnitude of that. We didn't do a specific test or

- 1 calculation.
- 2 MR. BRUDER: Judge, I've asked the same question
- 3 twice, and it's a yes or no question. I do request that
- 4 -- that the witness be instructed to give a yes or no
- 5 answer to this question.
- 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. If you could ask it
- 7 one more time. And it does sounds like a yes or no
- 8 question to me. So if you could ask it one more time,
- 9 Mr. Bruder.
- 10 MR. BRUDER: Thank you.
- 11 Q (By Mr. Bruder) When the company came in for
- 12 this accounting order we've been discussing, was the
- 13 company required in order to obtain that order to
- 14 demonstrate that absent that order it would find itself in
- 15 a situation where it was underearning?
- 16 A Was it required by whom?
- 17 Q Was it required by any Commission rule, any
- 18 Commission order, any statute, any regulation, anything
- 19 else that had any binding authority of any sort upon the
- 20 company?
- 21 A Are you asking me was there a calculation
- 22 required or was just submitting the magnitude of the
- 23 dollars required? That's what we did is we submitted a
- 24 \$55 million expense and said we felt like this should be
- 25 amortized and that --

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1 Q And did you assert when you submitted that --
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- 2 that -- that if you didn't get that \$55 million expense
- 3 your company would be placed in a situation of
- 4 underearning? Yes or no, sir, please?
- 5 A I don't think we said we would be underearning
- 6 necessarily. I said it was a significant impact on
- 7 earnings.
- 8 Q Was your company required by any applicable rule
- 9 to make such a demonstration, sir?
- 10 A I don't know.
- 11 Q Is it your position now that if any credits or
- 12 refunds pertaining to a prior period are received during a
- 13 test period, those credits or refunds should go
- 14 exclusively to shareholders unless a party can demonstrate
- 15 that the company was overearning in the prior period from
- 16 which the refund or credit originated?
- 17 A No.
- 18 MR. BRUDER: Nothing further. Thank you.
- 19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Any further recross?
- 20 Redirect?
- MR. RIGGINS: Thank you.
- 22 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 23 BY MR. RIGGINS:
- Q Mr. Giles, you were asked some questions by the
- 25 Chairman regarding the Surface Transportation Board

- 1 litigation. Specifically, he asked you to think about if
- 2 there was a retroactive refund awarded as a part of that
- 3 case how much of that money would go back to customers.
- And as I recall, you hesitated for a minute, and
- 5 then you said somewhere between 50 percent and 100
- 6 percent. Does that match your recollection?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q Was your hesitation based on the issue of how
- 9 much of those costs had actually been paid by customers?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q And that goes back, does it not, to the point
- 12 that you made initially that just because an item is
- 13 amortized or amortization is allowed doesn't necessarily
- mean that those costs are recovered from customers?
- 15 A That's correct.
- 16 Q So, for example, if it were to turn out that 100
- 17 percent of the surface transportation costs litigations --
- 18 litigation costs were -- were paid by customers, what
- 19 percentage of any retroactive refund would go to
- 20 customers?
- 21 A 100 percent.
- 22 Q If none of those costs were paid for by
- 23 customers, how much, if any retroactive refund would go to
- 24 customers?
- 25 A Zero.

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1 Q And that's the basis of your argument regarding
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- 2 the cost of subrogation issue, was it not?
- 3 MR. THOMPSON: Object to the form of the
- 4 question. This is redirect, Judge. He's not allowed to
- 5 ask leading questions.
- 6 MR. RIGGINS: I can rephrase the question.
- 7 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you.
- 8 MR. RIGGINS: -- if it will make happy --
- 9 everyone happy.
- 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Sustained.
- 11 Q (By Mr. Riggins) Is that -- is that the same
- 12 basis on which you're arguing that Hawthorne 5 subrogation
- 13 costs -- or excuse me -- Hawthorn 5 subrogation refunds
- 14 should not be flowed back to customers?
- MR. CONRAD: That's also leading. I object to
- 16 it.
- 17 Q (By Mr. Riggins) It's an open question.
- 18 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Overruled. I think the question
- 19 is, is that the basis. I don't think it's suggesting an
- 20 answer.
- 21 Q (By Mr. Riggins) You can answer.
- 22 A Yes.
- 23 Q Thank you. Chairman Davis and then counsel for
- 24 DOE asked you some questions about the additional costs
- 25 incurred as a result of the Hawthorn 5 explosion and, in

- 1 Chairman Davis' case, perhaps some of the savings that
- 2 occurred as a result of the Hawthorn 5 explosion. Do you
- 3 recall that?
- 4 A I do.
- 5 Q And with regard to the \$150 million figure
- 6 that's contained in your testimony on page 5, is -- was
- 7 your previous testimony that that number is the difference
- 8 between what KCPL actually had to pay for power with
- 9 Hawthorn out as compared to what it would have paid if
- 10 Hawthorn 5 had been operational?
- 11 A Yes. That's true.
- 12 Q So would if be an accurate statement that,
- 13 although there were savings and expenses as a result of
- 14 the Hawthorn 5 explosion, the expenses exceeded the
- 15 savings?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 MR. THOMPSON: Object to the form of the
- 18 question.
- 19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: I'll overrule it.
- 20 Q (By Mr. Riggins) You were asked some questions
- 21 by Commissioner Murray regarding class cost of service and
- 22 rate design. Do you recall that?
- 23 A I do.
- Q Did the signatory parties to the regulatory
- 25 plan, including KCPL, agree in that regulatory plan that

1 they would not do any class cost of service study in this

- 2 case?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q Chairman Davis asked you some questions about
- 5 what -- what the impact would be on KCPL if it -- if it
- 6 cut its dividend to partially fund its construction
- 7 program. Do you recall that?
- 8 A I do.
- 9 Q And I think you talked a little bit about the --
- 10 the impact on -- on KCPL if that were to occur. Could you
- 11 tell us how that would impact KCPL's ability to continue
- 12 the construction program that's underway?
- 13 A The ability to issue equity at a price that
- 14 would generate enough funds to support the construction
- would be impossible due to the drop in the stock price.
- 16 Q Moving on to a couple of questions from
- 17 Mr. Conrad, he referenced the -- the GST contract and
- 18 complaint filed at the Commission. Do you recall that?
- 19 A I do.
- 20 Q And you indicated, I believe, that, in fact, GST
- 21 did end up paying some of the increased costs associated
- 22 with the Hawthorn outage, did you not?
- 23 A Yes.
- Q How many other customers had a contract like
- 25 GST's?

- 1 A At that time, I believe GST was the only one.
- 2 Q And with regard to the GST complaint case that
- 3 Mr. Conrad referenced, what was their -- what was their
- 4 complaint about in that case? Do you recall?
- 5 A Yeah. They had several complaints. One -- what
- 6 the main issue was, that the company was negligent, and,
- 7 therefore, they should pay the cost of the replacement
- 8 power under the terms of their contract because,
- 9 basically, the company blew the plant up.
- 10 They were also raising issues of overall plant
- 11 maintenance of the company for various other reasons and
- 12 were saying that even though their contract provided
- 13 real-time pricing to them, they didn't feel like they
- 14 should continue to pay it.
- 15 Q Do you recall in whose favor the Commission
- 16 ruled in that case?
- 17 A In KCPL's favor.
- 18 Q Mr. Conrad also asked you a question something
- 19 like this: If -- if Missouri had had a -- or had allowed
- 20 construction work in progress, would the amortization
- 21 provision of the -- the regulatory plan have been
- 22 necessary. Do you recall that?
- 23 A I do.
- 24 Q And I think you indicated it still would have
- 25 been necessary; is that right?

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1 A Yes.
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- 2 Q Does KCP&L have a similar regulatory plan in
- 3 Kansas?
- 4 A Yes, we do.
- 5 Q Does Kansas allow construction work in progress?
- 6 A Yes, it does.
- 7 Q Final question. You were asked some questions
- 8 by counsel for DOE about when the Hawthorn 5 subrogation
- 9 proceeds were received. Why were the Hawthorn 5 -- or at
- 10 least the subrogation proceeds that we're arguing about in
- 11 this case, why were those subrogation proceeds received in
- 12 '06 as opposed to '05 or '04 or '07 or any other year?
- 13 A It was just a matter of the timing of the
- 14 litigation and the time it took to resolve the -- the
- 15 issues.
- 16 MR. RIGGINS: Thank you. That's all I have,
- 17 Judge.
- 18 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right, Mr. Riggins. Thank
- 19 you. All right. This looks to be a convenient time to
- 20 break. I show the time, according to the clock on the
- 21 back wall, to be about ten till three or a little before.
- 22 Let's resume at roughly five after three, and -- and we
- 23 will -- we will have Mr. Traxler come to the stand. All
- 24 right. We're in recess.
- 25 (Break in proceedings.)

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1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. We're back the
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- 2 record. I understand that Mr. Traxler is the next
- 3 witness. Is there anything from counsel before he's
- 4 sworn?
- 5 Mr. Traxler, if you'd come forward and be sworn,
- 6 please.
- 7 MR. MILLS: Judge, I have a housekeeping matter
- 8 to bring up at some point, whenever it's convenient for
- 9 you.
- 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Mr. Mills, now is fine.
- 11 MR. MILLS: What -- is it -- is it possible to
- 12 get a CD of today's proceedings relatively quickly, like
- 13 perhaps this evening?
- 14 MR. THOMPSON: Did you find them that
- 15 interesting?
- MR. MILLS: There was -- there was a exchange
- 17 between Commissioner Appling and Mr. Giles that seemed to
- 18 refer to a conversation that Commission Appling had with
- 19 Mr. Giles three or four months ago about what KCPL really
- 20 needed out of this case. And I want to review the CD to
- 21 be sure that my understanding of what Commissioner Appling
- 22 was saying is what he actually did say. Because if that
- 23 is the case, that's somewhat troubling. So --
- MR. RIGGINS: The --
- 25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: I can e-mail our IT Department

- 1 and ask how quickly they can get a CD of today's
- 2 proceedings.
- 3 MR. MILLS: That -- that would be great. Thank
- 4 you. And failing that, can I ask that the transcript be
- 5 expedited?
- 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: I already asked for that this
- 7 morning for other purposes. And, yes, certainly, that's
- 8 okay.
- 9 MR. MILLS: Both would be preferable.
- 10 MR. RIGGINS: Your Honor, I would also be
- 11 willing to put Mr. Giles back on the stand to inquire
- 12 about any questions that anyone had regarding that issue
- 13 if that would be helpful.
- 14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Mr. Mills, is that
- 15 something that you want done? Or did you want to question
- 16 him? Or do you simply want the CD?
- 17 MR. MILLS: I certainly may want to question him
- 18 depending on what I see when I see the CD or the
- 19 transcript. My first step would be to -- just to confirm
- 20 what -- what it was that -- whether Commissioner Appling
- 21 said what I thought he said.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: If I'm not mistaken, Mr. Giles
- 23 is due to be back on the stand for other issues anyway,
- 24 so --
- MR. MILLS: Yes, he is.

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1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Mr. Mills, thank
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- 2 you. Mr. Traxler, if you'd raise your right hand to be
- 3 sworn, please.
- 4 STEVE TRAXLER,
- 5 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 6 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 7 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 8 BY MR. THOMPSON:
- 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very much. If you
- 10 would, please, have a seat. And, Mr. Thompson, anything
- 11 before he's tendered for cross?
- MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Judge.
- 13 Q (By Mr. Thompson) Mr. Traxler, with respect to
- 14 your direct testimony, do you have any corrections?
- 15 A Yes, I do. I have one question on my direct
- 16 testimony.
- 17 Q What is your correction?
- 18 A On page 12, line 22, at the end of the sentence,
- 19 the, the word spelled tiled, t-i-l-e-d, should be tied,
- 20 t-i-e-d.
- 21 Q Very good. Any other corrections to that piece
- 22 of testimony --
- 23 A No, sir.
- 24 Q -- which I think has been marked as Exhibit 112?
- 25 Now, Mr. Traxler, with respect to your rebuttal testimony,

- 1 HC and NP, marked as Exhibit 113, do you have any
- 2 corrections?
- 3 A No, I do not.
- 4 Q And, Mr. Traxler, with respect to your
- 5 surrebuttal testimony, which has been marked as Exhibit
- 6 114, and which comes only in NP version, do you have any
- 7 corrections to this testimony?
- 8 A No, I did not.
- 9 Q Now, Mr. Traxler, you also produced, I believe,
- 10 what has been marked as Exhibit 101 or you are the
- 11 sponsor, permit me to correct that, of Staff's cost of
- 12 service report; is that correct?
- 13 A Yes, it is.
- Q Do you have any corrections for Exhibit 101,
- 15 Staff's cost of service report?
- 16 A No, I do not.
- 17 Q And that's also HC and NP, isn't it?
- 18 A Yes, it is.
- 19 Q Finally, you're also the sponsor for what's been
- 20 marked as Staff Exhibit 102, Staff's direct accounting
- 21 schedules; is that correct?
- 22 A Yes.
- Q Do you have any corrections to that exhibit,
- 24 Mr. Traxler?
- 25 A No, I don't.

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1 MR. THOMPSON: At this time, Judge, I'm going to
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- 2 move the admission of Exhibit 101, the cost of service
- 3 report, and, also, Exhibit 102, the direct accounting
- 4 schedules.
- 5 I think I understand our agreement is we'll
- 6 leave the testimony until the last time the witness
- 7 appears.
- 8 JUDGE PRIDGIN: And that's my understanding as
- 9 well. So, apparently, Exhibits 101 and 102 are offered;
- 10 is that correct, Mr. Thompson?
- 11 . MR. THOMPSON: That is correct
- 12 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Any objections?
- MR. MILLS: Well, with respect to Exhibit 101,
- 14 it is not in the form of testimony. I don't believe that
- 15 it -- that it bears affidavit. And I'm not sure that it
- 16 complies with the Commission's testimony rules. But
- 17 having said that, if it's going to go in for simply the
- 18 purposes of reflecting Staff's cost of service at that
- 19 time, I don't have any objection to it.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Further objections? All right.
- 21 Exhibits 101 and 102 are admitted.
- MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, your Honor.
- 23 Q (By Mr. Thompson) With respect to Mr. Mills'
- 24 non-objection to Exhibit 101, Mr. Traxler, are the
- 25 contents of Exhibit 101 true and correct to the best of

- 1 your knowledge and belief?
- 2 A Yes, they are.
- 3 Q Thank you.
- 4 MR. THOMPSON: I tender this witness for
- 5 cross-examination.
- 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Thompson, thank you. Does
- 7 KCPL have cross for this witness?
- 8 MR. RIGGINS: No cross, your Honor.
- 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Any cross for -- for Mr. Traxler
- 10 on the overview issue? All right. Seeing none, let me
- 11 see if we have any questions from the Bench. Commissioner
- 12 Jarrett, any questions?
- 13 COMMISSIONER JARRETT: I have no questions.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Thompson?
- MR. THOMPSON: I noticed one omission, Judge. I
- 16 would also like to have an exhibit marked, the
- 17 reconciliation, and perhaps offer it through this witness
- 18 if I may do that.
- 19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: According to my schedule, this
- 20 would be Exhibit No. 121. Does that match others? I
- 21 believe the -- the Staff exhibit lists have Exhibits 20 so
- 22 this would be No. 121 if I'm not mistaken.
- MR. THOMPSON: I believe you are correct, your
- 24 Honor.
- MR. WILLIAMS: Are you talking about the most

- 1 recent?
- 2 MR. THOMPSON: Okay. It's No. 104. I'm sorry.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: That's all right. Excuse me. I
- 4 overlooked that. Exhibit 104.
- 5 MR. THOMPSON: I have copies here. Do the
- 6 parties need a copy of the reconciliation? Or as we say
- 7 in Kansas City, reconcilement?
- 8 Q (By Mr. Thompson) Mr. Traxler, did you prepare
- 9 the reconciliation/reconcilement that's been marked as
- 10 Staff Exhibit 104?
- 11 A Yes, I did with the assistance of -- of
- 12 employees of Kansas City Power & Light company.
- 13 Q As far as you know, is that document true and
- 14 correct?
- 15 A Yes, it is.
- 16 MR. THOMPSON: I move the admission of Staff
- 17 Exhibit 104.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. No. 104 has been offered.
- 19 Any objections? Hearing none, Exhibit 104 is admitted.
- 20 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, your Honor. I'll
- 21 tender the witness one more time.
- 22 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Any cross-examination for
- 23 Mr. Traxler?
- MR. MILLS: I do have a few questions with
- 25 respect to the reconcilement.

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1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Yes, sir.
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- 2 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 3 BY MR. MILLS:
- 4 Q Mr. Traxler, can you -- can you explain to me
- 5 exactly what this is showing on page 2 of 2 with respect
- 6 to the Office of Public Counsel position? There are --
- 7 there three issues listed in lines 122 through 124 and
- 8 then a total revenue requirement number at lines 125.
- 9 What is the starting point for those -- for the
- 10 values shown on those issues?
- 11 A The -- the assumption made here is the Office of
- 12 Public Counsel is in agreement with the Staff's position
- 13 on the other issues. And so this represents the
- 14 incremental difference between the Office of Public
- 15 Counsel and Kansas City Power & Light company that's not
- 16 already reflected or not reflected in the Staff position.
- 17 Q Okay. So, for example, in line 122 where it
- 18 shows a positive number for return on equity, that's
- 19 because Public Counsel's position on that issue is closer
- 20 to the company's issue than Staff's?
- 21 A That is correct.
- 22 Q And the next two lines show negative numbers
- 23 because Public Counsel's position moves farther away from
- 24 the company's position and Staff --
- 25 A That is correct.

- 1 Q Okay. So in total to find out the -- the -- the
- 2 value of the Public Counsel's case, you essentially net
- 3 the 6.5 million from the 14. 4 million of the Staff; is
- 4 that correct?
- 5 A Well, you'd net the three issues above it with
- 6 the 14 to get a net of 6.5 million for Public Counsel,
- 7 Office of Public Counsel. Yes.
- 8 MR. MILLS: Okay. Thank you. That's all I had.
- 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Mills, thank you. Further
- 10 cross? All right. Any questions from the Bench?
- 11 Commissioner Jarrett? All right. I have no questions.
- 12 Redirect?
- MR. THOMPSON: None, thank you.
- 14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. And if
- 15 there's nothing further from counsel, Mr. Traxler, you can
- 16 step down on this issue.
- 17 It's my understanding we would be moving on to
- 18 Mr. Giles on Hawthorn 5 subrogation proceedings.
- 19 MR. FISCHER: Your Honor, I -- I have talked
- 20 with counsel about perhaps taking my witness on incentive
- 21 compensation out of order to get him on an airplane if
- 22 possible yet this evening.
- 23 I think there's limited cross. But if we could
- 24 do that, with leave of the Commission, that would be
- 25 greatly appreciated.

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1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Any -- any objection from
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- 2 counsel? All right. Hearing none -- I'm sorry. Who is
- 3 your witness, Mr. Fischer?
- 4 MR. FISCHER: KCPL would call Michael Halloran.
- 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Mr. Halloran, if
- 6 you'd come forward to be sworn, please.
- 7 MR. WILLIAMS: I don't know. We need to get
- 8 another attorney here.
- 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Since we're -- I'm sorry,
- 10 Mr. Halloran. You can have a seat since we're going a
- 11 little bit out of order. Staff Counsel said they're
- 12 looking for another attorney. So let's go off the record
- 13 for just a moment.
- 14 (Break in proceedings.)
- 15 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Mr. Halloran, if
- 16 you'd raise your right hand to be sworn, please.

- 18 MICHAEL HALLORAN,
- 19 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 20 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 21 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 22 BY MR. FISCHER:
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very much. Anything
- 24 from KCPL before he's tendered for cross.
- 25 DIRECT EXAMINATION

- 1 BY MR. FISCHER:
- 2 Q Mr. Halloran, your testimony has been marked as
- 3 Exhibit 14?
- 4 A Uh-huh.
- 5 Q Do you have any corrections to that exhibit?
- 6 A I do not.
- 7 MR. FISCHER: I would tender the witness for
- 8 cross-examination.
- 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. And
- 10 Staff will have cross, I assume?
- 11 MR. DOTTHEIM: I -- yes. But I think we're
- 12 last.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: I understand. I'm just trying
- 14 to -- trying to see who else may have cross besides Staff.
- 15 Any -- any other parties besides Staff wish to counsel --
- 16 excuse me -- wish to cross-examine on this issue?
- 17 MR. BRUDEN: Department of Energy has some
- 18 limited cross-examination.
- 19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Whenever you're
- 20 ready, Mr. Bruden.
- MR. BRUDEN: Thank you.
- 22 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 23 BY MR. BRUDEN:
- 24 Q I'm looking at -- on your rebuttal testimony of
- 25 page 3, lines 19 through 21. Tell me when you have it,

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1 please, sir.
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- 2 A I have it.
- 3 Q You say that additional cash -- I'm reading a
- 4 word "additional cash" from line 19 and now dropping to
- 5 21?
- 6 A Uh-huh.
- 7 Q You say, Additional cash ensures a steady,
- 8 reliable, low-cost supply of electricity to the customer.
- 9 sir, additional cash doesn't really ensure --
- 10 that is your word, ensure a reliable low cost of
- 11 electricity to the customer, does it? It may influence
- 12 that, but it certainly doesn't ensure it, does it?
- 13 A I would say that's correct.
- 14 Q Thank you. At page 4, line 20, you refer to
- 15 something called Tier 1 standing, do you not?
- 16 A Page 4?
- 17 O Yes.
- 18 A It's page 5 of my copy, but yes, I see that.
- 19 Q Okay. Can you explain what that is that you
- 20 refer to as Tier 1 standing?
- 21 A That is related to the category in which KCPL
- 22 has been placed with respect to its position regarding its
- 23 ratings.
- Q And -- and what entity places it there, sir?
- 25 A I'm not a hundred percent sure, to be honest.

- 1 Q Okay. Where would we find this Tier 1?
- 2 A This could be found, I believe, if you looked at
- 3 how the credit rating agencies classify utilities.
- 4 Q Is there a publication or something online where
- 5 we could find it?
- 6 A I could certainly find that for you.
- 7 Q Okay. Again, at page 4, line 20, you speak of
- 8 an Edison award. Could you tell me what award that is
- 9 you're referring to?
- 10 A That's an award the Edison Electric Institute
- 11 awards on a periodic basis to utilities for certain kinds
- 12 of performance.
- Q Do you know what kind of performance that was
- 14 awarded for in this situation to which you --
- 15 A I don't know the specific performance. It was
- 16 related to the award.
- 17 O When was this award?
- 18 A I believe it was in 2005.
- 19 Q Okay. Now, as I understand it, it's your
- 20 testimony that these things, the Tier 1 and the award,
- 21 constitute evidence that the company delivers benefits to
- 22 its customers. I'm finding that at page 4, line 21.
- 23 Can you tell me how those things constitute
- 24 evidence that the company delivers benefits to the
- 25 customers?

- 1 A I think in -- in each case, the -- in the case
- 2 of the award, and, secondly, in the case of the tiering
- 3 situation that that is indications of an organization that
- 4 is being efficiently managed in the case of the Tier 1
- 5 status.
- 6 The Edison Award is for numerous classifications
- 7 in terms of how they put and give these awards out in
- 8 terms of the performance in all categories by utility.
- 9 Again, I don't know all the exact criteria that
- 10 Edison uses for the awarding of these situations. But in
- 11 any case, they're given to those who are deemed to be
- 12 better performing utilities.
- 13 Q Well, in the case of the Edison award, you don't
- 14 know, is it not correct, what the reason was that the
- 15 company received this award?
- 16 A It's advertised as being for multi-faceted type
- 17 of performance and categories. I don't know all the
- 18 criteria and the weighting they place on those criteria.
- 19 No, I do not.
- 20 Q Is it fair to say that in the case of both the
- 21 Tier 1 and the Edison award which we've discussed briefly
- 22 here that we really can't tell since we don't have the
- 23 specifics on either one whether those benefitted
- 24 customers?
- 25 A Without knowing the exact criteria and the

- 1 weighting upon which -- weighting they placed on those, I
- 2 think that's probably an accurate statement.
- 3 Q Thank you. I'm looking now at page 5 of your
- 4 testimony, lines 12 through 13.
- 5 A Okay.
- 6 Q There, you speak of the possibility of giving a
- 7 reward for strong performance for the consumer that is
- 8 unrelated to financial results.
- 9 A Uh-huh.
- 10 Q Sir, can you give us an example of this company
- 11 recognizing with an award to an employee strong
- 12 performance to the customer unrelated to financial
- 13 results?
- 14 A The plan is designed to allow that category of
- 15 the incentive program to make awards like that. I don't
- 16 have the exact ratings of each employees and which --
- 17 which criteria were used to give which awards to those
- 18 people. So I couldn't cite what Bob Smith or Mary Jones
- 19 may have received and why.
- 20 Q Well, let me ask the question a different way.
- 21 Do you know of any specific example in which any
- 22 particular employee received this sort of award for a
- 23 strong performance for the customer unrelated to the
- 24 financial results?
- 25 A It is my understanding and the purpose of the

- 1 design of this part of the incentive program was to reward
- 2 performance in non-financial categories. So I can't cite,
- 3 again, specifically how Bob Smith and Mary Jones were
- 4 recognized in certain areas with the intention of the
- 5 plan, and that part of it was to reward that kind of
- 6 performance.
- 7 Q Well, once again, I'm going to ask you, sir, I
- 8 understand that -- that your review was the intended
- 9 purpose of this. But do you know any specific example of
- 10 it -- of it's actually having?
- 11 A I couldn't at this stage sit here and be able to
- 12 cite that. No.
- 13 Q Okay. Are you familiar with the stipulation and
- 14 agreement that was agreed to and executed by most of the
- parties in the 2005 KCP&L rate proceeding?
- 16 A I'm not.
- 17 Q Then you won't know what effect the terms of
- 18 that stipulation and agreement may have on the company's
- 19 chances of financial success?
- 20 A Being unfamiliar with it, I would not.
- 21 MR. BRUDER: Nothing further. Thank you, sir.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Bruder, thank you. Any
- 23 other counsel other than Staff have cross?
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Mr. Dottheim.
- MR. DOTTHEIM: Thank you.

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1 CROSS-EXAMINATION
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- 2 BY MR. DOTTHEIM:
- 3 Q Good afternoon, Mr. Halloran.
- 4 A Hello.
- 5 Q Mr. Halloran, do you know what percentage of
- 6 KCPL and GPE executives that were eligible for a
- 7 short-term discretionary bonus award received a short-term
- 8 discretionary bonus award?
- 9 A I do not know the exact percentage. It's my
- 10 understanding that a large proportion did.
- 11 Q Do you know whether it was 100 percent?
- 12 A I do not know that.
- Q Your answer then is you don't -- you do not know
- 14 what the percentage is, do you not?
- 15 A I don't -- as I just said, I do not know the
- 16 exact percentage, no.
- 17 Q Do you know what the size of those bonus awards
- 18 were for the test year in this case?
- 19 A Well, they ranged up to 20 percent of the award
- 20 opportunity for those, each person eligible. So are you
- 21 looking for a percentage term or dollar term or --
- 22 Q Dollar term.
- 23 A I would say they ranged from zero at the low end
- 24 to as much as -- let me just think on a round numbers
- 25 basis. Probably 15 to \$20,000 at the high end.

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1 Q Do you know specifically what the size of any of
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- 2 those discretionary bonus awards were?
- 3 A By person or --
- 4 Q By size. Could you --
- 5 A I don't have a chart with me, no, that would
- 6 allow me to cite those numbers.
- 7 Q Do you know about name any of the -- the
- 8 individuals? Could you identify -- and I'm not asking you
- 9 to disclose any highly confidential information by
- 10 actually naming one of those -- those -- those
- 11 individuals.
- 12 A Could you maybe elaborate a bit on your
- 13 question?
- 14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Did I understand the question --
- 15 the question, I'm sorry, is if you -- if you -- could you
- 16 match a dollar figure to a name like you're saying, Steve?
- 17 MR. DOTTHEIM: Yes.
- 18 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Like your hypothetical Mary
- 19 Jones received X amount of dollars, would you be able to
- 20 do that?
- 21 A Oh, you mean, for example, had a list of names
- 22 here and a list of dollars here could I match them up?
- 23 Would I be able to do that?
- 24 Q (By Mr. Dottheim) Yes.
- 25 A I don't think I would be able to do that, no.

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1 Q Have you ever seen a list of the individuals who
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- 2 received short-term discretionary bonus awards for 2006
- 3 for KCPL and GPE?
- 4 A Yes, I have seen a list.
- 5 MR. DOTTHEIM: May I approach the Bench?
- 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: You may.
- 7 Q (By Mr. Dottheim) Mr. Halloran, I'm going to
- 8 hand you a copy of KCPL's response to Staff Data Request
- 9 205, which -- which asks, one, provide the executive
- 10 short-term incentive work sheet which reflects the
- 11 calculation of the incentive compensation paid in 2007 for
- 12 the 2006 plan.
- Two, provide the individual goals for each
- 14 executive paid under the 2005 and 2006 annual executive
- incentive plan (See Data Request 406 ER-2006-0314). And
- 16 the response says, See attached response.
- 17 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Would you like that labeled,
- 18 Mr. Dottheim.
- 19 Q (By Mr. Dottheim) Well, I'm going to turn to a
- 20 page that's identified -- it's -- it's a legal size sheet.
- 21 It's termed -- it's printed sideways. And at the top,
- 22 it's 2006 Officer Annual Incentive Plan Calculation Work
- 23 Sheet. And it's -- it's marked highly confidential.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Did you want that marked as an
- 25 exhibit, Mr. Dottheim?

- 1 MR. DOTTHEIM: No, not at this time.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you.
- 3 Q (By Mr. Dottheim) Mr. Halloran, have you ever
- 4 seen that document before?
- 5 A I have seen this or something very close to it.
- 6 Yes.
- 7 Q Okay. And does that identify the short-term
- 8 incentive compensation plan, the discretionary -- excuse
- 9 me -- the short-term discretionary bonus awards on that --
- 10 on that work sheet that I've turned to?
- 11 A It appears to for the year 2006.
- 12 Q Okay. And do you -- do you know whether that
- 13 identifies all the discretionary awards that were -- were
- made for the year 2006?
- 15 A It would appear to by its format. To the extent
- 16 that there was any adjustment or correction, it might miss
- 17 something. So --
- 18 Q Do you know whether it would indicate whether
- 19 there might be any KCPL or GPE executives who did not
- 20 receive short-term discretionary bonus awards?
- 21 A If this is a comprehensive list of all of those
- 22 eligible, then it would indicate that everyone received
- 23 something.
- 24 Q And without naming any names, if -- if Kansas
- 25 City Power & Light would not consider just the -- the

- 1 range of the -- the awards not to be highly confidential,
- 2 I'd ask you to identify what the -- the actual awards or,
- 3 I'd say, the range of the awards were. Or we could go
- 4 in-camera. But I'm not asking for -- for any names.
- 5 MR. FISCHER: We can stay in public session.
- 6 A The low range of KCPL was \$3500, and the high
- 7 end was 48,750.
- 8 Q (By Mr. Dottheim) When you say 48,750, could
- 9 you put that in --
- 10 A I'm sorry. \$48,750.
- 11 Q What you identified, was that just for KCPL?
- 12 A Right. That's the question I was asking --
- 13 answering.
- 14 Q Okay. And could you identify for -- for GPE
- executives the range for the short-term discretionary
- 16 bonus awards?
- 17 Again, if -- if the company would indicate if it
- 18 does not consider that to be highly confidential if we
- 19 would not have to go in-camera.
- 20 MR. FISCHER: We can stay in public session.
- 21 A The low end was \$9,975. The high end was
- 22 \$130,000.
- 23 Q (By Mr. Dottheim) Thank you, Mr. Halloran, for
- 24 looking at that -- that document. Mr. Halloran, if I
- 25 could ask you to turn your attention from the short-term

- 1 discretionary bonus award to the short-term incentive
- 2 compensation plan.
- 3 I don't think I've asked you this question. But
- 4 do you know the percentage of KCPL and GPE executives that
- 5 were eligible for the short-term incentive compensation
- 6 award based on earnings per share that received a
- 7 short-term incentive compensation?
- 8 A You may have asked that earlier. But I don't
- 9 know the exact percentage of how many received it. I
- 10 believe it was a very high percentage.
- 11 Q And I apologize if I asked you that previously.
- 12 I'd like to -- to ask you about the long-term incentive
- 13 compensation plan. And do you know what percentage of
- 14 KCPL and GPE executives that were eligible for long-term
- 15 incentive compensation plan based on earnings per share
- 16 and return on total capital paid in shares of GPE stock
- were awarded such long-term incentive compensation?
- 18 A I do not know the exact percentage.
- 19 Q Okay. Do you know whether it was a large
- 20 majority? Do you have any idea when percentage of -- of
- 21 the GPE and KCPL executives received the award?
- 22 A I'm certain it was over 90 percent of those
- 23 eligible received an award.
- Q Mr. Halloran, are you aware that the earnings
- 25 per share calculation of GPE under the short-term energy

- 1 incentive compensation plan is -- is adjusted for the
- 2 earnings of strategic energy?
- 3 A I have seen that written before. Yes.
- 4 Q Okay. And can you identify Strategic Energy as
- 5 a subsidiary of GPE?
- 6 A I could identify that. Yes.
- 7 Q Now, do you know whether Strategic Energy is a
- 8 regulated or unregulated entity?
- 9 A I believe it is unregulated.
- 10 Q Do you know whether Strategic Energy operates in
- 11 the state of Missouri?
- 12 A I'm not exactly sure of its entire geographic
- 13 scope.
- 14 Q Can you identify in what business Strategic
- 15 Energy functions?
- 16 A In terms of --
- 17 Q What services does it provide? What business
- 18 activities is it engaged in, Strategic Energy?
- 19 A In terms of lines of business or --
- 20 Q Yes. Lines of business.
- 21 A I'm trying to think of the best way to describe
- 22 it. I mean, I believe they're providing -- well, I don't
- 23 know the entire product line, but, basically, all
- 24 alternative energy.
- Q Mr. Halloran, do you know whether the earnings

- 1 per share calculation to GPE under the short-term energy
- 2 incentive compensation plan was adjusted upward by a
- 3 hypothetical amount for Strategic Energy?
- 4 A That, I do not know.
- 5 MR. DOTTHEIM: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Halloran.
- 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Dottheim, thank you. Let me
- 7 see if we have any questions from the Bench.
- 8 Mr. Chairman?
- 9 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: I'll pass -- I'll pass for
- 10 right now, Judge.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you.
- 12 Commissioner Clayton?
- 13 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: No questions. Thank you.
- 14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Commissioner
- 15 Jarrett?
- 16 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 17 BY COMMISSIONER JARRETT:
- 18 Q Good afternoon, sir.
- 19 A Good afternoon.
- 20 Q I had a question regarding your testimony. As I
- 21 understand it, you had indicated that the program focuses
- 22 on the achievement of earnings per share is beneficial for
- 23 both customers and shareholders?
- 24 A Correct.
- 25 Q And I can understand as far as -- as earnings

- 1 per share for shareholders, it enhances the value of the
- 2 stock and, therefore, makes it a more desirable stock to
- 3 hold. But how does it affect or how is it beneficial for
- 4 ratepayers?
- 5 A The EPS answer is basically an indicator of
- 6 funds from operation that are available, what kind of
- 7 operating income they have. Those results are used for
- 8 several things while shareholders certainly look at that
- 9 as a result of how the company is performing.
- 10 In addition, it's an indication of the company's
- 11 ability to continue to fund the growth of the business.
- 12 Clearly, growth is not funded just by the results of
- 13 operations.
- One may issue equity and/or borrow money. But
- 15 the fact is that's one of several sources there are. In
- 16 addition, good performance that is measured by generating
- 17 funds also has a positive impact on the interest that you
- 18 charge when you do borrow. And that can be beneficial for
- 19 ratepayers as well.
- 20 Q Is there a way to quantify the amount for
- 21 ratepayers, the amount that's beneficial to ratepayers
- 22 based on -- or due to the incentive package?
- 23 A At best just directionally, given that when you
- 24 look at result, one takes the funds, you could use them in
- 25 a lot of different methods or ways. And so the fact that

- 1 some may be invested in the business to make it more
- 2 efficient. Some may help and reduce the need to borrow.
- 3 So it further reduces interest costs which then helps your
- 4 borrowing rate and things like that. So -- but it would
- 5 be incorrect. It's hard to prove a direct relationship.
- 6 COMMISSIONER JARRETT: I have no further
- 7 questions. Thank you.
- 8 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Commissioner, thank you.
- 9 Anything further from the Bench?
- 10 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: No.
- 11 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. Any
- 12 recross based on Bench questions? If there's no recross,
- 13 redirect?
- 14 MR. FISCHER: No redirect, your Honor. Thank
- 15 you.
- 16 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. Nothing
- 17 further from this witness. Mr. Halloran, thank you very
- 18 much.
- 19 MR. FISCHER: Your Honor, I would ask that his
- 20 testimony be admitted into the record at this time.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: And let me make sure I got -- I
- 22 believe I have that as Exhibit No. 14.
- MR. FISCHER: Yes.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Exhibit No. 14 has
- 25 been offered. Any objections? Hearing none, Exhibit 14

- 1 is admitted.
- 2 MR. FISCHER: I'd also like to thank counsel for
- 3 allowing us to take him out of order.
- 4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you very much.
- 5 Did -- was the plan, then, to resume Hawthorn 5 with
- 6 Mr. Giles? All right. Then, Mr. Giles, if you'd come
- 7 back to the stand, please.
- 8 All right. And, Mr. Giles, you've already been
- 9 sworn. Anything from counsel, Mr. Fischer, before he's
- 10 tendered for cross on Hawthorn 5?
- 11 MR. RIGGINS: Actually, I'm going to put him on,
- 12 Judge.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: I'm sorry, Mr. Riggins.
- 14 MR. RIGGINS: That's fine. I was wondering
- 15 whether it would be appropriate to ask Mr. Giles about the
- 16 issue that Mr. Mills raised earlier. I -- I had offered
- 17 to do that at this time. And if there no objections, I
- 18 would --
- 19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: I don't know. Mr. Mills?
- 20 MR. MILLS: And I -- from my perspective, I
- 21 think what's important is the Commissioner's point of view
- 22 about what the trans -- what the conversation was about.
- 23 But if -- you know, if Mr. Riggins wants to ask questions
- 24 about that, I don't suppose I have an objection at this
- 25 point. I may object to some -- some questions, but I

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1 don't object to the -- to the concept of -- of talking to
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- 2 Mr. Giles about that.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Will this be --
- 4 MR. CONRAD: I'm not sure if I do either. But
- 5 it's kind of a little bit odd because we've already been
- 6 through this, and counsel had his opportunity to -- to
- 7 direct -- redirect, if you will, on that. So now we're on
- 8 a new issue.
- 9 MR. RIGGINS: Well, that's fine. I simply
- 10 offered to do it after Mr. Mills raised the concern in
- 11 which, again, was after Mr. Giles was off the stand.
- 12 But --
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: But if I'm not mistaken, Mr.
- 14 Giles is due to be back other days?
- MR. RIGGINS: Yeah. He'll be back on Thursday,
- 16 I think.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: What might be a -- a cleaner way
- 18 to do it, at least as I see it, is to let Mr. Mills review
- 19 whatever it is he wants to review from the CD or
- 20 transcript and see if counsel has any questions based on
- 21 that. Mr. Mills, wasn't that your concern?
- 22 MR. MILLS: Yeah. That was mine. Before --
- 23 before I make more of a big stink out of this, I want to
- 24 make sure my memory of what I thought I heard was actually
- 25 what was said. And until -- until I'm able to do that

- 1 with the transcript and CD, I don't know that we need to
- 2 go any further down this road.
- 3 MR. RIGGINS: That's fine.
- 4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Okay. Thank you.
- 5 We'll just postpone that for now. All right.
- 6 MR. RIGGINS: And with this, then, Mr. Giles is
- 7 available for, I guess I should say further
- 8 cross-examination on subrogation processes from Hawthorn
- 9 5.
- 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. We're on Hawthorn 5
- 11 subrogation. I assume we'll have cross-examination from
- 12 Staff, Mr. Williams?
- 13 MR. WILLIAMS: Judge, I believe all the topics I
- 14 was going to cover were handled earlier today.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Any -- any
- 16 cross-examination from counsel on Hawthorn 5? All right.
- 17 Seeing none, are there any Bench questions on Hawthorn 5,
- 18 commissioner Clayton?
- 19 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: If that's all right, let
- 20 me ask a few questions, if I can, Judge.
- 21 TESTIMONY OF CHRIS GILES
- 22 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 23 BY COMMISSIONER CLAYTON:
- Q Good afternoon, Mr. Giles. I apologize for
- 25 coming in late. We've got a busy agenda tomorrow and

- 1 trying to juggle several things. So if I'm repetitive or
- 2 if I cover ground that's already been covered, I
- 3 apologize.
- 4 First of all, where is this issue located on
- 5 Staff's reconciliation? Is it an expense item?
- 6 A I -- go ahead, Nate.
- 7 MR. WILLIAMS: Commissioner, since you've asked
- 8 about Staff's reconciliation, perhaps I should direct you
- 9 to where it is. I believe it's line 102 on the second
- 10 page.
- 11 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: I didn't want to trouble
- 12 you, Mr. Williams. 102. Thank you, though.
- 13 Q (By Commissioner Clayton) I think what I was
- 14 asking -- it's an expense item. It's not a rate-based
- 15 item. It's not a -- it's what -- okay. Mr. Giles, can
- 16 you just very briefly explain the issue to me and -- and
- 17 KCP&L's position?
- 18 A Sure. In 1999, KCPL's Hawthorn 5 unit had a gas
- 19 explosion, destroyed the boiler. The unit was out of
- 20 service for about two and a half years. It came back into
- 21 service in the summer of 2001.
- During that time frame, the company incurred
- 23 about \$150 million in purchase power expense above what
- 24 would have normally been incurred had Hawthorn been
- 25 operating.

- 1 These costs were never passed through to
- 2 customers. KCPL did not file a rate case, did not ask for
- 3 recovery of those costs. The insurance proceeds consisted
- 4 of two parts from that explosion.
- 5 There was first the property damage that we were
- 6 paid in excess of \$200 million. That property settlement
- 7 was reduced -- was used to reduce the rebuild costs and,
- 8 thus, reduce rate base.
- 9 During the course of the past eight years,
- 10 several lawsuits, litigation issues have been resolved.
- 11 There were about 12 parties that the company sued and got
- 12 some money from all 12 of those.
- The most recent one was received in 2006, which
- 14 just happens to coincide with the test year of this case.
- 15 KCPL adjusted out those proceeds due to two things. One,
- 16 it was a non-recurring event that really had nothing to do
- 17 with setting rates for 2008.
- 18 And, two, customers had never paid those
- 19 purchase power costs in the first place, which the
- 20 subrogation proceeds were related to.
- 21 Q So the subrogation -- the subrogation proceeds
- 22 were received from -- this wasn't an insurance claim.
- 23 This would have been --
- 24 A This was -- no. This was subrogation claims for
- 25 third parties.

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1 Q Third parties. Okay. And that's the -- the
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- 2 amount on this reconciliation over \$2 million, that's the
- 3 total amount re --
- 4 A I believe that's probably the amortization
- 5 amount, but I'm not sure. The Staff is proposing that
- 6 that be flowed through at an amortization over five years
- 7 into rates. And our position is it's inappropriate
- 8 because customers never paid the costs.
- 9 Q Was this issue -- did this issue arise in the
- 10 last rate case?
- 11 A No, it did not.
- 12 Q Wasn't there a similar issue --
- 13 A I --
- 14 Q -- relating to insurance proceeds? It may have
- 15 been the property damage. But I --
- 16 A It may have been property damage. Yes. There
- 17 was an issue related to how the property damage was
- 18 booked. And I think we resolved that issue. But --
- 19 Q Now I remember it coming before us. Somebody
- 20 resolved it, whether it was you all or us?
- 21 A Yeah.
- 22 Q If there is a different issue --
- 23 A This is a totally different issue.
- 24 Q Just so we're not relitigating an issue from the
- 25 prior case.

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1 A No.
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- Q Okay. I think that's what I was wanted to
- 3 understand. Thank you very much.
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Commissioner Jarrett?
- 6 COMMISSIONER JARRETT: No.
- 7 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. Any
- 8 recross based on Bench questions?
- 9 MR. CONRAD: Yeah.
- 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Conrad.
- 11 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 12 BY MR. CONRAD:
- 13 Q Mr. Giles, earlier, we went through the
- 14 statement that you made that customers didn't pay these
- 15 costs. Are you talking about customers in a generic
- 16 sense, or are you talking about all customers 100 percent?
- 17 A Yes. I was talking about customers in a generic
- 18 sense. As I indicated earlier in response to your
- 19 question, and agreed with you that GST at that time was on
- 20 a special contract, and they were billed real-time prices,
- 21 which included the cost of this purchase power.
- 22 Q And that special contract was the matter that
- 23 was approved by the Commission, right?
- 24 A Yes. It was approved by the Commission.
- 25 Q And those were regulated revenues?

- 1 A Yes, they were.
- 2 Q So, in fact, then, the other part of your
- 3 statement that it should adjust these out because
- 4 customers didn't pay them, that also isn't quite correct,
- 5 is it?
- 6 A Well, no. It is correct.
- 7 Q Well, is it correct with respect to GST?
- 8 A Not correct with respect to GST.
- 9 Q So how have you addressed that in your
- 10 adjustment?
- 11 A Pardon?
- 12 Q How have you addressed that in your proposed
- 13 adjustment?
- 14 A GST declared bankruptcy sometime in 2002 or
- 15 three and no longer is a customer. And, also, at the time
- 16 they left our system, they left owing us approximate
- 17 \$6 million.
- 18 Q So have you done a calculation of how much they
- 19 had paid?
- 20 A I have not done that calculation, but it was not
- 21 going to equal \$6 dollars.
- Q What is the basis, then, of that statement?
- 23 A Just my gut.
- Q Where -- okay. Now we're -- that's -- that's
- 25 the test is whether it offends or doesn't offend your gut?

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1 A Well, what's your question?
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- Q Is that the test that you're going to use now?
- 3 A Test for what?
- 4 Q For whether an adjustment is correct or not.
- 5 A GST is no longer a customer.
- 6 Q That's right. We -- we understand that.
- 7 A So what is your question?
- 8 Q The question, sir, is how have you accounted for
- 9 what GST paid with respect to the adjustment that you've
- 10 proposed?
- 11 A We took all of the insurance proceeds out of the
- 12 test year.
- 13 Q Have you quantified what GST paid for purchase
- 14 power?
- 15 A No.
- 16 Q So the answer, then, to my earlier question is
- 17 you have not accounted for the portion that GST paid?
- 18 A No.
- 19 Mr. CONRAD: Thank you. That's all.
- 20 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Conrad, thank you. Any
- 21 further recross?
- MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, Judge.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Williams.
- 24 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 25 BY MR. WILLIAMS:

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1 Q Mr. Giles, good afternoon.
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- 2 A Good afternoon.
- 3 Q For the rates that were charged to KCPL
- 4 customers in the years 1999, 2000 and 2001, was Hawthorn 5
- 5 included in the cost of service upon which those rates
- 6 were based?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q And that would have included a return on the
- 9 Hawthorn 5 unit -- Hawthorn Unit 5 costs?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q And depreciation on Hawthorn Unit 5?
- 12 A Yes.
- Q And property taxes on Hawthorn Unit 5?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q And property insurance on Hawthorn Unit 5?
- 16 A Yes.
- MR. WILLIAMS: No further questions.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Williams, thank you. If
- 19 there's no further recross, redirect?
- 20 MR. RIGGINS: Just one question, your Honor.
- 21 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 22 BY MR. RIGGINS:
- 23 Q And this is a follow-up to Mr. Williams'
- question, and it's similar to one that we discussed when
- 25 Mr. Giles was up here earlier today. But recognizing that

- 1 costs associated with Hawthorn 5 remained in KCPL's rates
- during that time frame when Hawthorn 5 was not operating,
- 3 can costs associated with the Hawthorn 5 outage still
- 4 exceed those costs?
- 5 MR. WILLIAMS: Judge, I'm going to object. He's
- 6 mischaracterized my question. My question was whether or
- 7 not the rates were based upon the cost of service that
- 8 included the costs associated with Hawthorn 5.
- 9 MR. RIGGINS: Well, that's what I intended to
- 10 state if I didn't state it that way. But I'll go with Mr.
- 11 Williams' characterization of his question to repeat.
- 12 Q (By Mr. Riggins) Did the expenses associated
- 13 with Hawthorn 5 outage exceed those costs that were
- 14 included as per Mr. Williams' statement?
- 15 A Yes.
- MR. RIGGINS: That's all I have, your Honor.
- 17 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. Nothing
- 18 further?
- MR. BRUDEN: If I may --
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right, Mr. --
- MR. BRUDEN: -- say -- thank you.
- 22 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 23 BY MR. BRUDEN:
- Q You say that those costs exceeded -- the costs
- of the outage exceeded the costs that were included in

- 1 rates for Hawthorn 5?
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q Now, they exceeded them -- the amount in which
- 4 they exceeded them, was that the \$150 million you
- 5 mentioned earlier?
- 6 A The \$150 million was the additional purchase
- 7 power fuel costs attributable above what we would have
- 8 incurred had Hawthorn 5 been operating.
- 9 MR. BRUDER: I'm -- I'm going to ask, please,
- 10 for a yes or no answer to my question.
- 11 Q (By Mr. Bruder) My question is, that
- 12 \$150 million figure that you mentioned, is that the total
- 13 amount by which the amount of money the company expended
- 14 be caused as a result of this explosion?
- 15 Is that the amount by which -- what it had to
- 16 expend exceeded what it would have expended if there were
- 17 not such an explosion, or is that merely the \$150 million
- 18 that you paid for purchase power?
- 19 A Since you want a yes answer, I will say yes. I
- 20 believe that's exactly what I just said.
- 21 Q The \$150 million is a measure of the total
- 22 amount that you paid for purchase power; is that right?
- 23 A No.
- Q What is the -- what does the \$150 million
- 25 measure?

- 1 A I believe I just explained that before you
- 2 wanted a yes or no answer.
- 3 Q Well, perhaps I misunderstood you, sir.
- 4 A The \$150 million is in excess of what the fuel
- 5 and purchase power costs would have been had Hawthorn 5
- 6 been operating as normal. It was incremental costs above
- 7 and beyond Hawthorn 5's normal cost.
- 8 Q Did the explosion cause some of the company's
- 9 costs to go down?
- 10 A What company?
- 11 Q I'm sorry. I haven't understood you, sir. What
- 12 company?
- 13 A Pardon? Did you just ask me a question? You
- 14 said did this cause some other company's costs to go down,
- 15 and I said what company.
- 16 Q Oh, no, sir. I -- no. You misunderstood me.
- 17 What I asked was, there was an explosion. That explosion
- 18 caused your purchase power costs to go up. Did that
- 19 explosion result in any of your costs going down?
- 20 A As I said just before that, yes. Those costs
- 21 that we did not have to spend on the normal fuel and O&M
- 22 at the unit went down. They went to zero --
- 23 Q Okay.
- 24 A -- because the unit was not in existence.
- Q Okay. And do we have a number for how far --

- 1 for what they were before they went to zero?
- 2 A I don't have it here with me. No.
- 3 Q Okay. But if we had that number, that would
- 4 constitute some result in savings to the company for this
- 5 explosion, would it not, sir?
- 6 A I believe I already answered. The 150 million
- 7 is in excess of that number. So if that number were to be
- 8 20 million, then the 150 is above the 20 million.
- 9 In other words, it's incremental costs. We
- 10 would have incurred 20 million. But, instead, we incurred
- 11 170 million, and the net difference is 150 million.
- 12 Q Okay. That's what I was seeking, sir. Thank
- 13 you very much.
- 14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. If there's nothing
- 15 further for this witness? All right. Thank you,
- 16 Mr. Giles. We will then go on to Mr. Dittmer.
- 17 MR. MILLS: Thursday.
- 18 MR. RIGGINS: Your Honor, we all agreed we'd do
- 19 Mr. Dittmer's cross on all issues on Thursday.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. That was probably
- 21 stated earlier, and I missed that. We'll go to
- 22 Mr. Hyneman on Hawthorn 5; is that correct?
- 23 All right, Mr. Hyneman, if you'd come forward
- 24 and be sworn, please.
- 25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. If you'll raise your

- 1 right hand to be sworn, please?
- 2 CHARLES HYNEMAN,
- 3 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 4 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 5 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 6 BY MR. WILLIAMS:
- 7 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very much, sir.
- 8 Please have a seat. Anything to clear up before he's
- 9 tendered for cross?
- 10 MR. WILLIAMS: I'd just ask a couple questions.
- 11 Q (By Mr. Williams) Mr. Hyneman, do you have any
- 12 changes to your direct testimony which has been -- has
- 13 been marked for identification as Exhibit 108 and your
- 14 surrebuttal testimony that's been marked as Exhibit 109?
- 15 A No, I do not.
- MR. WILLIAMS: Tender the witness.
- 17 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Mr. Williams, thank
- 18 you. Any parties other than KCPL wish to cross
- 19 Mr. Hyneman on Hawthorn 5? Seeing no volunteers, any
- 20 questions from KCP&L?
- MR. RIGGINS: Yes. I have a few, your Honor.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Riggins.
- 23 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 24 BY MR. RIGGINS:
- Q Good afternoon, Mr. Hyneman.

- 1 A Good afternoon.
- 2 Q I just have a few questions for you this
- 3 afternoon. In your surrebuttal testimony, you talk a
- 4 little bit about the Hawthorn explosion, the -- the KCPL
- 5 rate decrease that occurred about that time. And I just
- 6 want to kind of go through the chronology with you to make
- 7 sure we're together on that.
- 8 The -- the approximately \$15 million rate
- 9 reduction that occurred around that time that was the
- 10 result of a stipulation between KCPL Staff and Public
- 11 Counsel, and that occurred in January of '99; is that
- 12 correct?
- 13 A That sounds correct. I know -- I think the
- 14 rates took effect in March.
- 15 Q Right. I think the stipulation specified that
- 16 the parties wanted the rate reduction to be effective
- 17 March 1st of '99?
- 18 A Correct.
- 19 Q And the -- the Commission actually ended up
- 20 approving that stipulation in -- in April of '99. Do you
- 21 recall that?
- 22 A I don't know the date of the approval of the
- 23 stipulation.
- 24 Q But -- but it did occur?
- 25 A Yes.

- 1 Q And as you pointed out in your testimony, I
- 2 believe, during that time frame, February of '99 was --
- 3 was when the Hawthorn plant exploded, correct?
- 4 A Correct.
- 5 Q And in the stipulation between the parties that
- 6 had been entered into and filed but had not yet gone into
- 7 effect, there was a -- a provision that allowed parties
- 8 to, in essence, break a moratorium if certain events
- 9 occurred, correct?
- 10 A That's correct.
- 11 Q And one of the events that would have allowed
- 12 KCPL to disregard the moratorium provision was an extended
- 13 outage or shut-down of a major unit which had a major
- 14 effect on KCPL; is that correct?
- 15 A That is correct.
- 16 Q Okay. And KCPL did not use that provision to
- 17 file a rate increase during the period of the moratorium,
- 18 did it?
- 19 A No, it did not.
- 20 Q And, in fact, it didn't file a rate increase
- 21 request until the first of '06; is that correct?
- 22 A That's correct.
- Q Do you agree with -- with Mr. Giles that KCPL
- 24 incurred additional purchase power expenses as a result of
- 25 the Hawthorn outage?

- 1 A If you're looking for a yes/no response, I would
- 2 say yes.
- 3 Q All right. Do you agree -- Mr. Giles has in his
- 4 testimony the figure of \$150 million. Do you agree with
- 5 that number?
- 6 A No. I've seen no support for that number.
- 8 suggest another number is a more appropriate number?
- 9 A I have no opinion on that number.
- 10 Q Did -- did you ask for any sort of documentation
- or support for that number after it appeared in Mr. Giles'
- 12 testimony?
- 13 A No. The -- the relevance to Staff's position of
- 14 that number wasn't -- wasn't very relevant, so I did not
- 15 pursue additional discovery on that.
- 16 Q I understand. We -- we talked earlier about the
- 17 fact that KCPL did not use the out provision contained in
- 18 the stipulation agreement. KCPL also did not request --
- 19 for example, in the accounting authority order, it did not
- 20 file a request to amortize those costs in any way; is that
- 21 correct?
- 22 A That's correct.
- 23 Q You were -- were you here when Mr. Giles
- 24 testified a little bit earlier today about the subrogation
- 25 proceeds?

- 1 A Yes, I was.
- 2 Q And in response to a question about the proceeds
- 3 that were received in '06, the ones that are at issue here
- 4 today, Mr. Giles said, basically, that the reason they
- 5 were received in '06 was because that was how long the
- 6 litigation took. Do you recall that question and answer?
- 7 A I re -- I do recall that.
- 8 Q Is that consistent with your understanding of
- 9 why the proceeds were received in '06 as opposed to some
- 10 other year?
- 11 A I would -- it's logical that that is true. I
- 12 have no independent verification that that is true.
- 13 Q Okay. Did KCPL receive any subrogation proceeds
- 14 before 2006?
- 15 A I believe it did.
- 16 Q Do you know whether it expects to receive any
- 17 subrogation proceeds in 2007?
- 18 A I do not believe it does.
- 19 Q Okay.
- 20 A But that's just on my memory of reading
- 21 documents to that effect.
- Q What about 2008, the year the rates are going to
- 23 be affected in this case?
- 24 A I recall reading a document -- again, I'm
- 25 testing my memory -- that this completed the subrogation

- 1 issue. That's all I can remember.
- 2 Q Okay. If -- let's -- let's kind of talk in
- 3 hypothetical terms for a moment. If KCPL had, in fact,
- 4 asked for some sort of recovery of those costs as it was
- 5 incurring either through a rate increase or request for an
- 6 AAO or whatever so that those costs actually were flowed
- 7 through to customers, your position still would be that
- 8 once proceeds were received that those proceeds should go
- 9 back to customers, correct?
- 10 A Yes. My position is that KCPL's customers paid
- 11 for those costs, incremental costs.
- 12 Q Okay. And --
- 13 A Now, whether they were explicit in an AAO rate
- 14 increase, that's not relevant in my position.
- 15 Q And that position is based upon your belief that
- 16 KCPL could have asked for recovery of those costs and
- 17 didn't, so it must have been doing all right? I'm
- 18 paraphrasing, I know. But is that the gist of your
- 19 position?
- 20 A Well, it's -- it's not as simple as that. My
- 21 position is -- is based on KCPL did not demonstrate -- it
- 22 had a significant earnings impact of -- of the Hawthorn 5
- 23 where it was not earning a reasonable rate of return. And
- 24 all the evidence available to me is with the prior years
- 25 to 1999, even in 1999, KCPL agreed to rate reductions.

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1 And when a utility agrees to rate reductions,
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- 2 that's an indication to me that their earnings were in
- 3 excess of their allowed rate of return. And subsequent to
- 4 that, KCPL provided documentation, which I list on page 8
- 5 of my surrebuttal testimony, that indicates their ROEs
- 6 were, you know, in the range between 13, 14, 12.8 percent.
- 7 So very hefty return on equities and appeared subsequent
- 8 to that.
- 9 Q You're right. Those were years in Hawthorn 5
- 10 was back online.
- 11 A Right. And they agreed to rate reductions on
- 12 years prior to that. So my -- the evidence indicates to
- 13 me that KCPL's earnings were so sufficient that it not --
- 14 it did not have a need to seek explicive rate recovery of
- 15 those subrogation -- or of the incremental costs from the
- 16 Hawthorn 5 explosion.
- 17 Q Just so the record is clear, KCPL agreed to that
- 18 rate reduction before the Hawthorn explosion, right?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q Yes. And the numbers that you have in your
- 21 testimony regarding ROE are for periods of time when
- 22 Hawthorn 5 was back online. Would I find in your
- 23 testimony the returns on equity for 1999, 2000 and 2001
- 24 when Hawthorn 5 was not online?
- 25 A You -- you won't. The request -- data request

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1 response did not go back that far. It went back as early
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- 2 as 2002.
- 3 MR. RIGGINS: Okay. Thank you. That's all I
- 4 have.
- 5 A So -- okay.
- 6 MR. RIGGINS: Thank you.
- 7 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Let me see if we have any Bench
- 8 questions. Commissioner Clayton?
- 9 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: No questions.
- 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Commissioner Jarrett?
- 11 COMMISSIONER JARRETT: No questions.
- 12 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Any redirect?
- MR. WILLIAMS: Just a couple of questions,
- 14 Judge.
- 15 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 16 BY MR. WILLIAMS:
- 17 Q Mr. Hyneman, do you know of any reason why KCPL
- 18 could not have sought an accounting authority order or
- 19 have filed a rate case after Hawthorn 5 exploded in
- 20 February of 2000 -- or 1999?
- 21 A No.
- 22 Q And what does that mean to you, the fact that
- 23 they did not file for an accounting authority order or for
- 24 a rate -- or a rate case in that time frame?
- 25 A It indicates to me that their earnings during

- 1 that time frame were sufficient to absorb -- absorb any
- 2 incremental. costs of the Hawthorn 5 explosion.
- 3 MR. WILLIAMS: No further questions.
- 4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. All
- 5 right, Mr. Hyneman, thank you very much. And if
- 6 Mr. Dittmer is being taken on Thursday, would we then be
- 7 going on to Mr. Traxler on incentive compensation and
- 8 executive compensation?
- 9 MR. FISCHER: That's my understanding.
- 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Mr. Traxler, if you
- 11 would come back to the stand, please.
- 12 MR. WILLIAMS: Let me go track down
- 13 Mr. Dottheim.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. We'll go off the record
- 15 for just a moment.
- 16 (Break in proceedings.)
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Is counsel ready?
- MR. DOTTHEIM: Yes.
- 19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Back on the record,
- 20 please. And Mr. Traxler is on the stand now on long-term
- 21 incentive compensation, short-term executive compensation.
- 22 Anything before he's tendered for cross on those issues?
- MR. DOTTHEIM: I think he's made the one
- 24 correction to his testimony that he -- that he -- that he
- 25 had, so -- and he's been sworn in.

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1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Does KCPL wish to
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- 2 cross on this issue?
- 3 MR. FISCHER: Just briefly, your Honor.
- 4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Any other counsel wish cross on
- 5 this issue? All right. Mr. Fischer, when you're ready.
- 6 TESTIMONY OF STEVE TRAXLER
- 7 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 8 BY MR. FISCHER:
- 9 Q Good afternoon, Mr. Traxler.
- 10 A Good afternoon.
- 11 Q I've got just a few questions on the incentive
- 12 compensation issue. I think you discussed the short-term
- 13 and the long-term incentive compensation disallowances in
- 14 pages 29 through 31 of your testimony. Is that correct?
- 15 A Which -- which testimony are we talking?
- 16 Q Well, it's the direct testimony.
- 17 A Direct testimony?
- 18 Q Yeah.
- MR. DOTTHEIM: Exhibit 112, Mr. Fischer?
- MR. FISCHER: I believe that's correct.
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 Q (By Mr. Fischer) And did you have a copy of the
- 23 reconcilement/reconciliation available to you as well?
- 24 A Yes, I do.
- 25 Q Just so the record is clear, line 71 has the

- 1 notation, Remove long-term incentive compensation with an
- 2 amount of \$1,314,185?
- 3 A That's correct.
- 4 Q Is that the amount Staff's proposed to disallow
- 5 for the long-term incentive compensation in this case?
- 6 A Yes, it is.
- 7 O And if we look on line 90 of that
- 8 reconcilement/reconciliation, there's also a notation for
- 9 incentive compensation in the amount of 677,327. Is that
- 10 the amount for the short-term incentive compensation
- 11 disallowance?
- 12 A Yes, it is.
- 13 Q Okay. Now, as I read your testimony, it's my
- 14 understanding that Staff's objection to KCPL's incentive
- 15 compensation goes largely to the fact that KCPL ties some
- of its incentive compensation for an earnings per share
- 17 goal; is that correct?
- 18 A Yes, it is.
- 19 Q Staff's not opposed to any form of incentive
- 20 compensation. Is that correct, too?
- 21 A That's correct. In fact, we've -- we have
- 22 allowed 100 percent of the incentive compensation for all
- 23 incentive comp. plans with the exception we have in the
- 24 executive plan.
- 25 Q In fact, Staff believe that's public utilities

- 1 should be incentive -- incented to provide good quality of
- 2 service to their customers; is that --
- 3 A That's what I -- we're not opposing that
- 4 concept. No.
- 5 Q For example, if the goals for the incentive
- 6 compensation were tied to excellent customer service,
- 7 Staff wouldn't be opposed to such incentives; is that
- 8 true?
- 9 A That's correct.
- 10 Q Or if the goals for incentive compensation were
- 11 tied to reliability metrics, Staff wouldn't be opposed to
- 12 giving such incentives to provide reliable service to
- 13 KCPL's customers?
- 14 A No. In fact, that's part of your current
- 15 incentive plan. We haven't made any disallowance for the
- 16 costs associated with that goal.
- 17 Q Mr. Traxler, would you agree with me that a
- 18 public utility must be able to attract capital if it's to
- 19 continue to build new power plant such as IATAN II?
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q Would you also agree with me that the
- 22 construction of adequate capacity benefits ratepayers?
- 23 A Yes.
- Q Without adequate capacity or the ability to
- 25 purchase capacity energy from the wholesale market, an

- 1 electric company like KCPL would not be able to provide
- 2 safe and adequate service to its customers over the
- 3 long-term. Would you agree?
- 4 A Yes, I would.
- 5 Q If a public utility did not have any earnings
- 6 over the long-term, do you believe it would be possible to
- 7 attract investors to fund its construction program?
- 8 A No. A utility would have to have a fair return
- 9 on equity to attract equity investors.
- 10 Q Would you agree that public utilities also use
- 11 some of their retained earnings to fund construction
- 12 programs?
- 13 A That's a source of cash. Yes.
- 14 Q Without any retained earnings, it would be
- 15 necessary for a public utility to finance its construction
- 16 program using outside sources of capital. Wouldn't you
- 17 agree?
- 18 A Yes. That's generally true.
- 19 Q By having retained earnings, it is possible to
- 20 fund a portion of the public utility's construction
- 21 program through the use of these retained earnings; is
- 22 that correct?
- 23 A All sources of cash can be utilized for the
- 24 purpose of funding construction.
- 25 Q A public utility could also use some of its

- 1 retained earnings to help fund its ongoing maintenance
- 2 programs; is that correct?
- 3 A No. I wouldn't agree with that. The regulated
- 4 utility receives its maintenance costs through normalized
- 5 costs allowed in cost of service. There's no requirement
- 6 for rectification.
- 7 The regulated utility would have to rely on
- 8 retained earnings to fund any kind of a maintenance
- 9 project.
- 10 Q It's possible it could do so, though, even if
- 11 there's not that expectation; is that true?
- 12 A No, sir. I wouldn't agree with that.
- 13 Q Okay.
- 14 A That's a normal cost of service.
- 15 Q Would you agree that it's important to
- 16 ratepayers that a public utility adequately maintain its
- 17 facilities?
- 18 A Certainly.
- 19 Q Mr. Traxler, I understand that you're one of the
- 20 principal sponsors of the Staff's cost of service report
- 21 that was filed in this case?
- 22 A Yes, I am.
- 23 Q Do you have that available to you there?
- 24 A Yes, I do.
- Q Could you turn to page 53 of that report? On

- 1 page 53 of the Staff's cost of service report on the last
- 2 line of that page, it begins, The company has consistently
- 3 -- has been consistently providing call center data to the
- 4 Staff, and Staff's monitoring has not resulted in any
- 5 matter known to date that it believes warrants action or
- 6 concern on the part of the Commission. Is that correct?
- 7 A Yes, it is.
- 8 O Would it be correct to conclude from that
- 9 statement that Staff has not found any call center
- 10 problems at KCPL which warrant action or concern on the
- 11 part of the Commission?
- 12 A I think it's a fair characterization.
- 13 Q Okay. And let's turn to page 54 of the Staff's
- 14 cost of service report under the heading Reliability.
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q There it states, Reliability reflects overall
- 17 system performance and can help in assessing the
- 18 performance of a utility in its delivery of electric
- 19 service by providing quantitative measures of the quality
- 20 of service. Staff has reviewed the five years of data
- 21 containing the following four most common reliability
- 22 indexes and has not identified any long-term trends of
- 23 that data that should be cause for concern to the
- 24 Commission; is that correct?
- 25 A Yes, it is.

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1 O Would it be correct to conclude from that
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- 2 portion of the Staff's cost of service report that Staff
- 3 has not identified any long-term trends of the reliability
- 4 measures that would be a cause of concern to the
- 5 Commission?
- 6 A Yes. That's a fair characterization of that
- 7 statement.
- 8 Q Would it be correct to conclude that KCPL is
- 9 providing adequate quality of service when measured by
- 10 these call center reliability metrics that are mentioned
- in the Staff's cost of service report?
- 12 A I think that's a fair characterization of these
- 13 statements, yes.
- 14 Q Mr. Traxler, would you agree that KCPL needs to
- 15 compete in the employment market place to attract
- 16 employees to KCPL to serve its customers?
- 17 A Yes, I would.
- 18 Q And compensation is one factor that prospective
- 19 employees or current employees will take into account when
- 20 they decide whether to accept a job or stay on their job
- 21 at KCPL?
- 22 A That's correct.
- 23 Q And if KCPL fails to pay a competitive
- 24 compensation package over the long-term, KCPL will not be
- 25 able to attract and maintain a high quality work force.

- 1 Would you agree?
- 2 A That's correct.
- 3 MR. FISCHER: Thank you very much for your
- 4 patience. That's all I have.
- 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Fischer, thank you. Let me
- 6 see if we have any Bench questions. Commissioner Jarrett?
- 7 All right. I don't have any questions. Redirect?
- 8 MR. DOTTHEIM: Yes. Moment, please.
- 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Certainly.
- 10 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 11 BY MR. DOTTHEIM:
- 12 Q Mr. Traxler, Mr. Fischer asked you a question or
- 13 two about KCPL, the need of attracting qualified
- 14 employees. Are you aware of KCPL having any difficulty
- 15 attracting qualified employees?
- 16 A Not at this time, no.
- 17 Q Okay. Mr. Fischer asked you a number of
- 18 questions regarding KCPL providing customer service and
- 19 the quality of service that it -- it provides and the
- 20 reliability of that service, and he referred you to
- 21 various portions of the staff's cost of service report.
- 22 And Mr. Fischer also made, I think, reference to
- 23 the incentizing of -- of utility companies. Is -- is the
- 24 Staff in this case proposing any incentive plan to Kansas
- 25 City Power & Light?

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1 A Proposing a -- a change or proposing a plan?
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- 2 Q Proposing a plan, an incentive plan for Kansas
- 3 City Power & Light.
- 4 A We're not challenging the plan itself or
- 5 proposing any changes to the plan.
- 6 Q Well, I was referring to an incentive plan. I
- 7 think you may be referring to the Kansas City Power &
- 8 Light experimental regulatory plan. I wasn't referring to
- 9 the Kansas City Power & Light regulatory plan.
- 10 And I wasn't referring to the -- the long-term
- 11 or the short-term incentive compensation plan. I was
- 12 referring to the Staff itself is not proposing any
- 13 incentive plan for Kansas City Power & Light in this
- 14 proceeding, is it?
- 15 A No, it is not.
- MR. DOTTHEIM: No further questions.
- 17 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Dottheim, thank you. All
- 18 right. This witness can be excused on this issue. And if
- 19 I'm not mistaken, since Mr. Dittmer is not available until
- 20 Thursday, is that the last scheduled witness for today?
- MR. FISCHER: Yes, your Honor.
- MR. DOTTHEIM: Yes.
- JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Is there anything
- 24 further from counsel before we adjourn for the day? All
- 25 right. Hearing nothing, the schedule shows we will begin

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with return on equity at 8:30 in the morning, and that is
     the only scheduled issue, rate of your return, return on
 2
 3
     equity and capital structure.
               All right. If there's nothing further from
 4
     counsel, thank you very much, and we will go off the
 5
 6
     record.
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1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
2	
3	STATE OF MISSOURI )
4	)ss. COUNTY OF OSAGE )
5	
6	I, Monnie S. VanZant, Certified Shorthand Reporter,
7	Certified Court Reporter #0538, and Registered
8	Professional Reporter, and Notary Public, within and for
9	the State of Missouri, do hereby certify that I was
10	personally present at the proceedings as set forth in the
11	caption sheet hereof; that I then and there took down in
12	stenotype the proceedings had at said time and was
13	thereafter transcribed by me, and is fully and accurately
14	set forth in the preceding pages.
15	
16	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and
17	seal on October 4, 2007.
18	
19	
20	
21	Monnie S. VanZant, CSR, CCR #0539
22	Registered Professional Reporter
23	
24	
25	

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4	NO.	DESCRIPTION	OFFERED	ADMITTED
5	101	Cost-of Service Report	136	136
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13	107	Surrebuttal Testimony of Matthew Barnes	*	*
14 15	108	Direct Testimony of Charles Hyneman	*	*
16	109	Surrebuttal Testimony of Charles Hyneman	*	*
17 18	110	Rebuttal Testimony of Shawn Lange	*	*
19	111	Surrebuttal Testimony	*	*
20	110	of Janice Pyatte		
21	112	Direct Testimony of Steven Traxler	*	*
22	113	Rebuttal Testimony of Steven Traxler	*	*
23	114	Surrebuttal Testimony	*	*
24	115	of Steven Traxler Surrebuttal Testimony	*	*
25		of Graham A. Vesely		

1		EXHIBITS (CO	ONTINUED)	
2	STAFF EXHIBIT			
	NO.	DESCRIPTION	OFFERED	ADMITTED
3	116	Direct Testimony of James C. Watkins	*	*
4	117	Rebuttal Testimony of	*	*
5	11/	James C. Watkins		
	118	Surrebuttal Testimony	*	*
6		of James C. Watkins		
7	119	Direct Testimony of Curt Wells	*	*
8	120	Rebuttal Testimony of	*	*
9		Curt Wells		
10	KCP&L EXHIBIT			
11	NO.	DESCRIPTION	OFFERED	ADMITTED
12	1-NP/HC	Direct Testimony of Ed Blunt	*	*
13	2	Direct Testimony of Lora Cheatum	*	*
14		or hora cheacam		
15	3-NP/HC	Direct Testimony of Michael Cline	*	*
	4-NP/HC	Rebuttal Testimony	*	*
16		of Michael Cline		
17	5-NP/HC	Direct Testimony of Burton Crawford	*	*
18	6-NP/HC		*	*
19		of F. Dana Crawford		
20				
21	7	Direct Testimony of	*	*
22		Christine M. Davidson		
23	8-NP/HC	Direct Testimony of	*	*
24		Chris Giles		
25				

1		EXHIBITS (CO	NTINUED)	
	KCP&L			
2	EXHIBIT NO.	DESCRIPTION	OFFERED	ADMITTED
3	9-NP/HC	Rebuttal Testimony of Chris Giles	*	*
4				
5	10	Direct Testimony of John Grimwade	*	*
5	11	Direct Testimony of	*	*
6		Samuel C. Hadaway		
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11	15	Rebuttal Testimony of Melissa K. Hardesty	*	*
Т.Т		merissa K. Hardesty		
12	16	Direct Testimony of	*	*
13	17	William Herdegen, III Direct Testimony of	*	*
		George McCollister, Ph.D		
14	1.0	Division Mantimonia of	*	*
15	18	Direct Testimony of Susan Nathan	^	^
	19	Direct Testimony of	*	*
16		Tim Rush		
17	20	Rebuttal Testimony of	*	*
1.0	0.1	Tim Rush	*	*
18	21	Rebuttal Testimony of	^	^
19		Tim Rush		
20				
21	22-NP/HC	Direct Testimony	*	*
22		of Michael Schnitzer		
23	23-NP/HC	Surrebuttal Testimony of	*	*
24		Michael Schnitzer		
25				

1	MODEL	EXHIBITS (CO	ONTINUED)	
2	KCP&L EXHIBIT			
3	NO. 24	DESCRIPTION Rebuttal Testimony of Robert Spielberger	OFFERED *	ADMITTED *
4	25	Direct Testimony of	*	*
5		Richard Spring	^	^
6	26-NP/HC	Direct Testimony of John Weisensee	*	*
7	27	Rebuttal Testimony of John Weisensee	*	*
8	OPC EXHIBIT			
9	NO.	DESCRIPTION	OFFERED	ADMITTED
10	201	Direct Testimony of Michael Gorman	*	*
11	000 /			
12	202-NP/HC	Rebuttal Testimony of Michael Gorman	*	*
13	203-NP/HC	Surrebuttal Testimony of Michael Gorman	*	*
14	204	Rebuttal Testimony	*	*
15	0.05 /	Barbara Meisenheimer		
16	205-NP/HC	Direct Testimony of Ted Robertson	*	*
17	206	Surrebuttal Testimony	*	*
18	207	of Ted Robertson Direct Testimony of	*	*
19		Russell Trippensee		
20	208	Rebuttal Testimony of Russell Trippensee	*	*
21				
22				
23				
24				
25				

1		EXHIBITS (COI	NTINUED)	
2	PRAXAIR EXHIBIT			
3	NO. 601	DESCRIPTION Direct Testimony of Maurice Brubaker	OFFERED *	ADMITTED *
4	602	Currebuttal Magtimen.	*	*
5	602 TRIGEN	Surrebuttal Testimony of Maurice Brubaker	^	^
6	EXHIBIT			
7	NO. 701	DESCRIPTION Direct Testimony of Joseph Herz	OFFERED *	ADMITTED *
8	700 ND /HG		*	*
9	/UZ-NP/HC	Rebuttal Testimony of Joseph Herz	^	^
10	703	Surrebuttal Testimony of Joseph Herz	*	*
11	U.S. DEPT			
12	OF ENERGY EXHIBIT			
13	NO. 801-HC	DESCRIPTION Direct Testimony of	OFFERED *	ADMITTED *
14		James Dittmer		
15	802	Direct Testimony of James Dittmer - Public	*	*
13	803	Surrebuttal Testimony of	*	*
16		James Dittmer - Public		
17	804	Direct Testimony of Gary Price - Public	*	*
18	805	Rebuttal Testimony of	*	*
19		Gary Price - Public		
20				
21	806	Surrebuttal and Cross	*	*
22		Surrebuttal Testimony of		
23		Gary Price		
24				
25				