

Exhibit No.: Issues:

Rate Case Expense, Iatan Regulatory Assets

Witness: Sponsoring Party: Keith A. Majors MoPSC Staff

Sponsoring Party
Type of Exhibit:
File Nos.

True-Up Retuital Testimony ER-2010-0355 and ER-2010-0356

Date Textimony Prepared: February 28, 2011

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION UTILITY SERVICES DIVISION

TRUE-UP REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

KEITH A. MAJORS

KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

FILE NO. ER-2010-0355 and FILE NO. ER-2010-0356

KCPL 310

Staff Exhibit No 640-25

Date 3/3/4 Reporter 8m3 File No. E2-2010-0355

ER-2010-0356

Jefferson City, Missouri February 2011

1	TRUE-UP REBUTTAL TESTIMONY		
2		OF	
3		KEITH A. MAJORS	
4		KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY	
5		KCPL Greater Missouri Operations Company	
6		FILE NOS. ER-2010-0355 and ER-2010-0356	
7	Q.	Please state your name and business address.	
8	Α.	Keith A. Majors, Fletcher Daniels Office Building, 615 East 13th Street,	
9	Room G8, Kansas City, Missouri, 64106.		
10	Q.	By whom are you employed and in what capacity?	
11	A.	I am a Regulatory Auditor with the Missouri Public Service Commission	
12	("Commission").		
13	Q.	Are you the same Keith A. Majors who has previously filed direct, rebuttal,	
14	surrebuttal, and true-up direct testimony in these proceedings for the Staff?		
15	A.	Yes, I am.	
16	Q.	What is the purpose of your true-up direct testimony?	
17	A.	The purpose of this testimony is to address the true-up direct testimony of	
18	Kansas City Power & Light (KCPL) and KCPL-Greater Missouri Operations (GMO) witnes		
19	John Weisensee in File No. ER-2010-0355 and ER-2010-0356 concerning rate case expense		
20	which has been updated for costs through December 31, 2010. I also address the Iatar		
21	regulatory assets and their ratemaking treatment.		
	4		

RATE CASE EXPENSE

- Q. Did you propose adjustments to rate case expense in this proceeding?
- A. Yes. Staff proposed adjustments to rate case expense updated through December 31, 2010. The adjustments concern legal expenses and consulting fees. The Commission, in its Report and Order in Case No. GR-2004-0207 reduced attorney fees that were significantly higher than the local counsel of MGE. The Commission also recognized that duplicative attorney work should be removed from rate case expense. Staff's proposed adjustments, as detailed in my true-up direct, account for some duplication and redundancy of attorney fees as well as the significantly higher rates that KCPL paid attorneys for prosecuting the current rate cases.
- Q. Why is Staff's adjusted level of rate case expense as described in true-up direct fair, just, and reasonable?
- A. KCPL did incur a substantially higher amount of rate case expense as compared to the last rate case. KCPL paid hourly attorney fees that are unnecessarily high. However, Staff's proposed adjustments only remove approximately 15% of total rate case expense for the current rate case expense updated through December 31, 2010.
- Q. Does Staff have an issue with KCPL/GMO witness Weisensee's proposal to defer rate case expense incurred after the cutoff of December 31, 2010 for consideration in a future rate case?
- A. No. Staff does not have an issue with KCPL/GMO requesting the deferral of these expenses. However, Staff has not evaluated rate case expenses on post-December 31, 2010 expenditures and would review those expenses for prudence and reasonableness in a subsequent rate case.

22

23

- Does Staff have an issue with KCPL/GMO witness Weisensee's proposed mechanism to use "over-recovery" of rate case expenses to offset current rate case expense?
- No. Staff is also utilizing this mechanism to offset current rate case expense with the over-recovery of amortizations from prior rate case expense deferrals.

IATAN REGULATORY ASSETS

- What rate did Staff propose to use to amortize the Iatan Common and Iatan 2 regulatory assets in true-up direct?
- Staff proposed to use the aggregate depreciation rate of both categories of Missouri jurisdictional plant to amortize both assets.
 - What is KCPL's position regarding the amortization of the regulatory assets?
- KCPL proposes to amortize the regulatory assets over the life of Iatan 1 and 2, i.e., over 26 and 60 years, respectively (KCPL Workpaper CS-111 and CS-112). Additionally, KCPL's proposed to blend the regulatory assets into the corresponding plant balances in its direct case. If the Commission adopts KCPL's proposal to incorporate these assets into the plant balances, then the aggregate depreciation rates would determine the recovery of the asset, similar to Staff's proposal for the amortization in true-up direct.
- Does Staff have an alternative approach if the Commission does not adopt
- Yes. KCPL proposes to amortize the regulatory assets over the life of Iatan 1 and Iatan 2, or 26 years and 60 years, respectively, as detailed in KCPL's true-up direct workpapers. Staff does not believe that this amortization period is flawed for use in these cases. However, this distinct amortization period would only be applicable if the regulatory assets were kept separate, contrary to KCPL's direct position. Because these assets will

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

continue to accrue carrying cost and depreciation until the date new rates are scheduled to take effect in ER-2010-0355 and ER-2010-0356, the full amount of the assets will not be known until KCPL's and GMO's next rate cases. It would be more appropriate at that time to consider the transfer of the regulatory assets to plant-in-service when the amounts are more certain. In the interim, amortization of the assets over the life of the units and segregating the asset from plant-in-service is an appropriate methodology for recovery. Thus, the Commission should revisit this issue during KCPL's/GMO's next rate cases.

- Q. Does that conclude your true-up rebuttal testimony?
- A. Yes, it does.

- Page 4 -

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Kansas City Power & Light Company for Approval to Make Certain Changes in its Charges for Electric Service to Continue the Implementation of Its Regulatory Plan)) File No. ER-2010-0355)			
AFFIDAVIT OF KEITH A. MAJORS				
STATE OF MISSOURI)) ss. COUNTY OF COLE)				
Keith A. Majors, of lawful age, on his preparation of the foregoing True-Up Rebutt consisting of pages to be present foregoing True-Up Rebuttal Testimony were matters set forth in such answers; and that such knowledge and belief.	ed in the above case; that the answers in the given by him; that he has knowledge of the			
<i>t</i>	Keith A. Majors			
Subscribed and sworn to before me this	8th day of February, 2011.			
D. SUZIE MANKIN Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Commissioned for Cole County My Commission Expires: December 08, 2012 Commission Number: 08412071	Deuxillankin Notary Public			

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of KCP&L) Greater Missouri Operations Company for) Approval to Make Certain Changes in its) Charges for Electric Service)
AFFIDAVIT OF KEITH A. MAJORS
STATE OF MISSOURI)) ss. COUNTY OF COLE)
Keith A. Majors, of lawful age, on his oath states: that he has participated in the preparatio of the foregoing True-Up Rebuttal Testimony in question and answer form, consisting of
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28th day of February, 2011.
D. SUZIE MANKIN Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Commissioned for Cole County My Commission Expires: December 08, 2012 Commission Number: 08412071