1	STATE OF MISSOURI
2	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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б	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
7	Evidentiary Hearing
8	March 14, 2018
9	Jefferson City, Missouri Volume 3
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12	In the Matter of Great) Plains Energy Incorporated)
13	for Approval of its) File No. EM-2018-0012 Merger with Westar)
14	Energy, Inc.
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18	MICHAEL BUSHMANN, Presiding, REGULATORY LAW JUDGE. DANIEL Y HALL, Chairman,
19	WILLIAM KENNEY, SCOTT T. RUPP,
20	MAIDA J. COLEMAN, COMMISSIONERS.
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23	REPORTED BY:
24	KELLENE K. FEDDERSEN, CSR, RPR, CCR NO. 838 ALARIS LITIGATION SERVICES
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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	(WHEREUPON, the evidentiary hearing
3	began at 9:00 a.m.)
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Good morning. Today
5	is March 14, 2018. It's the second day of the
6	hearing in EM-2018-0012. At our last hearing day
7	we completed all of the company witnesses. We are
8	now ready for Staff's witness.
9	MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Judge. We
10	would call Natelle Dietrich.
11	(Witness sworn.)
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please be seated.
13	NATELLE DIETRICH testified as follows:
14	DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. THOMPSON:
15	Q. Please state your name.
16	A. Natelle Dietrich.
17	Q. Could you spell your last name for
18	the reporter, please.
19	A. D-i-e-t-r-i-c-h.
20	Q. And how are you employed?
21	A. Commission Staff Director.
22	Q. Are you the same Natelle Dietrich
23	that prepared or caused to be prepared rebuttal
24	testimony that's been marked as Exhibit 200 and
25	surrebuttal testimony that's been marked as

1 Exhibit 201? 2 A. Yes. 3 0. And do you have any corrections to 4 that testimony? 5 A. I do not. 6 Q. So if I were to ask you the same 7 questions today, would your answers be the same? 8 Α. Yes, they would. 9 And those answers would be true to 0. 10 the best of your knowledge and belief? 11 Α. That's correct. MR. THOMPSON: I would offer Staff's 12 13 Exhibits 200 and 201. 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Are there any 15 objections? 16 (No response.) 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Hearing none, those 18 are admitted. 19 (STAFF EXHIBITS 200 AND 201 WERE 20 MARKED AND RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE.) 21 MR. THOMPSON: I tender the witness 2.2 for cross-examination. 23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: First cross would be 24 by Applicants. 25 MR. ZOBRIST: No questions, Judge.

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                  JUDGE BUSHMANN: MJMEUC?
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                  MR. WHIPPLE: No questions. Thank
 3
    you, Judge.
 4
                  JUDGE BUSHMANN: Public Counsel?
 5
                 MS. SHEMWELL: Just a couple. Thank
6
    you.
    CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. SHEMWELL:
7
8
                  Good morning, Ms. Dietrich.
            Q.
9
           Α.
                 Good morning.
10
                  I'm Lera Shemwell. Staff signed two
            Q.
11
     Stipulations & Agreements with the company in this
12
    case?
13
           Α.
                 That's correct.
14
                 When Staff entered into those, had
            0.
15
    Staff seen the Stipulation & Agreement offered by
16
    the parties to the case at the Kansas Corporation
17
    Commission? Had you seen that stipulation
18
    presented to the KCC?
19
            Α.
                  I had not.
20
                  In either situation, at either time?
            0.
21
            Α.
                 Oh, correct. It was after both
22
    stipulations in Missouri.
23
                  MS. SHEMWELL: Thank you.
24
                  JUDGE BUSHMANN: Cross by Division of
25
    Energy?
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1 MR. POSTON: No questions. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Renew Missouri? 2 3 MR. OPITZ: Thank you, Judge. 4 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. OPITZ: 5 Good morning, Ms. Dietrich. 0. The 6 Joint Applicants filed their direct testimony in 7 this case on August 31st; is that right? 8 Α. Yes. 9 0. And Ms. Shemwell was asking about the 10 two stipulations that the Staff has signed. The 11 first stipulation that the Staff joined with the 12 Applicants was filed on January 12th; is that 13 correct? 14 Α. That sounds right. 15 And that testimony -- or that Q. 16 agreement was filed prior to any rebuttal testimony 17 being filed in this case? 18 Α. That's correct. 19 Q. Then on January 16th, you were the 20 sole Staff witness to file testimony in this case? 21 Α. That's correct. 2.2 Q. Is it accurate to say that your 23 testimony was filed in support of the Stipulation & 24 Agreement? 25 A. Yes.

1 0. However, in that testimony would you 2 agree that you don't identify any possible 3 detriments to the public interest? 4 That's correct. On page 5 of my Α. 5 testimony, starting at line 22, I state that Staff 6 recommends the Commission approve the agreement as 7 it provides key protections for Missouri ratepayers, helping to ensure the transaction is 8 9 not detrimental to the public interest. 10 So in the event that a party were to Q. 11 object to that stipulation, as Renew Missouri 12 ultimately did, how is the Commission supposed to know what aspects of the public interest those 13 14 conditions in your testimony were meant to address? 15 Well, my understanding, and I'm not Α. 16 an attorney, is that if a stipulation is objected to, it becomes the position of the party. And so 17 our position would still be that if the Commission 18 19 approves the merger with the conditions contained 20 in the stipulation or approves the stipulation as 21 it is, then it would be providing the protections 2.2 that are needed so that there would not be a 23 detriment to the public interest. 24 0. So your testimony is more akin to a position statement than something that identifies 25

1 the particular detriments; is that correct? It's supporting the conditions to 2 Α. 3 alleviate or reduce any detriments. 4 Okay. So can you tell me what those 0. 5 detriments were that those conditions were designed 6 to quard against? 7 Well, we did not identify specific Α. detriments saying this will happen, so do this to 8 protect it. We put consumer protections in place 9 10 to prevent any potential of detriment. So you were taking a sort of 11 Q. proactive role in identifying conditions that would 12 13 ensure there was no detriment to the public 14 interest? 15 Α. Correct. 16 Were you in the hearing room on 0. 17 Monday during your counsel's opening statement? 18 Α. I was. 19 0. And there was some questions, I 20 believe, from the Chairman about -- and I can't 21 recall the correct -- the exact phrasing, but a 2.2 most favored nations discussion. Can you, I guess, 23 help clarify what the Staff's position is related 24 to that? 25 In my surrebuttal testimony, I noted Α.

1	that Dr. Marke expressed some concerns. He called
2	it equal outcomes. And then also I was summarizing
3	the KCC staff testimony, and they had expressed
4	some concerns about anything that the Missouri
5	Commission might do that would affect the Kansas
6	situation or the Kansas ratepayers.
7	And so my recommendation was that
8	this Commission condition its approval on the
9	concept that there would be no detriment to
10	Missouri ratepayers from anything that the KCC
11	might do. I think Mr. Thompson characterized that
12	as the possibility of the Commission holding off on
13	its decision until after the KCC reaches its
14	decision.
15	That was not my intent. My intent
16	was that, I think all along people were
17	anticipating that the Missouri Commission would act
18	before the KCC just because of the different types
19	of procedures and different standards and that type
20	of thing.
21	So my intent was that the Commission
22	would make a statement that anything that the KCC
23	might do that would harm Missouri ratepayers would
24	be considered. I think it's likely that that would
25	be in a future rate case, perhaps in the pending

1 rate cases. I don't think it's anything that we would know on day one after the KCC approval unless 2 3 it was just something extreme. 4 So you're aware that a Nonunanimous 0. 5 Stipulation & Agreement was filed in the KCC, 6 correct? 7 Right, after my testimony. Α. And have you had a chance to review 8 0. 9 or see that stipulation filed by the KCC? 10 Α. T have. 11 Q. So now that you have seen that KCC 12 stipulation, what additional conditions do you 13 believe should be applied by the Missouri 14 Commission in this case? 15 I think the KCC stipulation Α. 16 alleviates any potential concerns. I guess there's 17 always the opportunity for the Kansas Corporation Commission to do something, but the agreement was 18 19 between many of the parties in Kansas, including 20 CURB, the Kansas OPC if you will, and so I think it 21 alleviates concerns that we would have. 2.2 So in your view, there's nothing in Q. 23 that document that would, by being adopted in 24 Kansas, would be a detriment to Missouri 25 ratepayers?

1 Α. That's correct. MR. OPITZ: That's all I have. 2 Thank 3 you. 4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Kansas Electric 5 Power? 6 MR. SCHULTE: No questions. Thank 7 you. 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Is Mr. Woodsmall 9 here? I don't see him. Questions by Commissioners? 10 11 QUESTIONS BY CHAIRMAN HALL: 12 Q. Good morning. 13 A. Good morning. 14 So based on your responses to 0. 15 questions from Public Counsel, it is my 16 understanding that you do not believe it is 17 necessary for this Commission to wait for Kansas, 18 the Kansas Corporation Commission to make a 19 determination before we make a determination; is that correct? 20 21 A. That's correct. That was never my 2.2 intent. 23 Q. And you also believe that there is 24 nothing in the stipulation filed in the Kansas case 25 that, if approved, would present a detriment to

1 Missouri ratepayers? 2 Α. Correct. 3 0. Is there anything in that stipulation 4 that is an advantage for Kansas ratepayers that 5 Missouri ratepayers are not also going to recognize 6 if the stipulations filed in this case get 7 approved? 8 Α. I don't believe so. There are some 9 differences, but a lot of it is related to the 10 different constructs between the two states and 11 timing of rate cases, different mechanisms that 12 they have in Kansas versus Missouri, things like 13 that. 14 Well, if there is something in the 0. 15 stipulations that is good for Kansas ratepayers 16 that is not in the stipulations here, is that in 17 and of itself a detriment to Missouri ratepayers? 18 Α. If there's something that's good for 19 Kansas, would it be a detriment for Missouri, is 20 that what you asked? 21 I mean, there are things in the 0. 22 Kansas stipulation that are -- that present 23 benefits for Kansas ratepayers that does not exist 24 in the Missouri stipulations. Now, I do not 25 believe that that in and of itself means that the

1 proposed transaction presents a detriment to 2 Missouri ratepayers, but I want to make sure that 3 you agree with that. 4 Yes, I agree. The differences, like Α. 5 I said, are largely due to the difference, 6 differences in regulations and some of the things 7 that they have in Kansas that they don't have in 8 Missouri. So I don't know that I would be 9 comfortable agreeing with some of the proposals that are different just because of those 10 11 differences. 12 Well, for example, in Kansas the 0. 13 stipulation includes a rate moratorium for five 14 years? 15 Α. Correct. 16 0. Now, I personally would view a 17 similar provision in the stipulations here a good 18 thing, and I think that would be a benefit for 19 Missouri ratepayers. But the fact that -- the 20 benefit in one state and its lack in this state 21 does not mean that the transaction itself is 2.2 detrimental to Missouri ratepayers? 23 I would agree. Α. 24 Q. Do you also agree that a rate 25 moratorium for five years would be a good thing for

1	Missouri ratepayers?
2	A. In and of itself, yes, but it depends
3	on, I guess, what would be associated with that.
4	For instance, as part of the rate moratorium in
5	Kansas, my understanding of the agreement is there
б	were also some additional bill credits. There
7	is
8	Q. There are some additional bill
9	credits for whom?
10	A. For Kansas customers. In other
11	words, Missouri gets the bill credits up front, and
12	then there's an analysis done in the next rate case
13	which would be tied to the fuel adjustment charge.
14	In Kansas they don't have that. So
15	my understanding of the agreement is that they have
16	the rate moratorium, but then they don't get all of
17	the bill credits up front like they are in
18	Missouri. There is some provisions for spreading
19	that out based on the timing of different
20	adjustments that they have in Kansas and that type
21	of thing.
22	So there are differences that if
23	you do a rate moratorium in Missouri, it may affect
24	the timing of the bill credits. We haven't thought
25	that through.

1 0. How do you interpret the ROE 2 provision in the Kansas stipulation? 3 My interpretation of it is that the Α. 4 parties agree to support a 9.3 percent ROE. There 5 also is a range, I think it's 20 basis points above 6 or below, something like that, but it's also tied 7 to their periodic adjustments and an earnings sharing mechanism. So there's several different 8 9 moving pieces to it. And I don't read it that it's 10 a guaranteed 9.3, but that's what the parties would 11 support in their next rate case. Wouldn't a similar provision have 12 0. 13 been advantageous to Missouri ratepayers? 14 Not necessarily. We've had Α. 15 discussions with the companies over the past few 16 years in different rate cases about trying to 17 establish an ROE in a settlement agreement, as an 18 example, and without getting into any details, 19 there is just a difference of opinion between the 20 different parties. There's also not all the different 21 2.2 mechanisms, so the company is not as willing to 23 perhaps negotiate on ROE in Missouri. We're not, we being Staff, are not necessarily willing to 24 25 agree to some of the terms in capital structure

1	that the company may want in accordance with
2	setting an ROE. And then I think you mentioned on
3	Monday, the Commission also suggested that it may
4	want to look at capital structure if the merger is
5	approved.
6	So while if we could have gotten
7	there it may have provided some advantages, there
8	are just so many differences between Kansas and
9	Missouri that I don't think we could have gotten
10	there, and I would not have felt comfortable
11	locking the Commission into something unless it
12	could have been advantageous.
13	Q. Can you explain to me why Staff
14	supports the waiver of the affiliate transaction
15	rule?
16	A. I was reviewing the affiliate
17	transaction rule after your questions on Monday,
18	and the rule talks about in the purpose regulated
19	and nonregulated entities, and in this case we have
20	two regulated entities, but then some of the other
21	provisions of the rule seem to apply to regulated.
22	But what it anticipates to me is
23	something that the regulated entities would be able
24	to purchase or sell to the market and/or get from
25	another source. And so the intent of the affiliate

1 transaction rule is that if they're doing it
2 between each other, they would not be providing
3 some kind of preferential treatment as opposed to
4 going outside.

5 The types of transactions that we're 6 talking about here to allow the integration and the 7 merger moving forward, while many of the services 8 possibly could be purchased from external sources, 9 I don't know that it would be advantageous. And so 10 it makes sense to approve the waiver and allow them 11 to do it at cost instead of trying to basically bid 12 against each other.

13 0. So you don't believe that costs 14 between KCP&L and transmission-owning affiliates 15 would be included within the waiver; is that 16 correct? Because I believe what you said is that 17 it would be between regulated entities, and I 18 assume that that also would include Westar, but it 19 should not include, for obvious reasons, 20 transactions with transmission-owning affiliates; 21 is that correct? 2.2 The stipulation says signatories' Α. 23 rights and obligations. So to me that would not include the transmission-owning affiliates. 24 25 Q. Isn't Great Plains Energy a

1 signatory? 2 Α. Yes. 3 0. Doesn't Great Plains Energy own 4 Transource? 5 Good point. Α. 6 Now, there is a -- I mean, it does in 0. 7 paragraph 17 say, except for wholesale power transactions, which would be based on rates 8 9 approved by FERC, but I don't know if that 10 necessarily covers all transactions between KCP&L, 11 GMO, Holdco and transmission companies. That may 12 have been the intent. I'm not sure that language 13 actually covers that. 14 In my opinion, the intent would not Α. 15 include the transmission companies. 16 0. I believe that to be the case. I'm 17 not sure that the language does that. 18 Okay. Well, concerning future 19 mergers on the second Stipulation & Agreement, and 20 I -- you were in the hearing room when this came up 21 at the beginning of the hearing, correct? 2.2 Α. Yes. 23 And Mr. Bassham made it clear that it 0. 24 was his understanding that that provision would 25 involve any acquisition by a public utility,

1 whether in Missouri or outside Missouri, of Holdco or its subsidiaries, and that would also include 2 3 consolidation. Is that your understanding as well? 4 Yes, when read in combination with Α. 5 Case No. EM-2001-464, and I quess also the Commission's order in EC-2017-0107. 6 7 Are there -- are there other 0. provisions in the Kansas stipulation that are not 8 9 in the Missouri stipulations that are particularly 10 significant? 11 Α. The only other significant difference 12 is related to things such as reliability metrics, call center metrics, those types of things. 13 Ι 14 believe you had a discussion with Mr. Akin on 15 those. 16 And I would point out that while the 17 language is different and it appears that the 18 Kansas stipulation has more provisions in there, 19 the Missouri stipulations refer to previous Commission cases and commitments that were made in 20 previous Commission cases, and so I think, in my 21 2.2 opinion, the terms are comparable. It's just we, 23 we meaning Missouri, have already had a lot of that in place. We already have rules related to SAIDI, 24 25 SAIFI, CAIDI, CAIFI, those types of things. So I

1 think it wasn't necessary to be as explicit in our stipulation because we incorporated it in other 2 3 ways or we have rules that cover those things. 4 So any other major differences? 0. 5 Α. No. 6 The first Stipulation & Agreement, 0. 7 paragraph 14, I believe Mr. Ives testified that it was his understanding -- and somebody correct me if 8 9 I've got the wrong witness or I mischaracterize the 10 testimony, please -- it was his understanding that 11 that provision was designed to ensure that all 12 savings from this merger related to cost of service 13 would inure to the benefit of ratepayers --14 Α. That's correct. 15 -- in future rate cases? 0. 16 Α. That's correct. I think his 17 characterization of increased cost of service is 18 the protection. I would agree with that. 19 And in the Kansas case, there was a 0. 20 requirement that those savings be reflected in the 21 revenue requirement in the next rate case. Is 2.2 there a similar requirement under these 23 stipulations or would this provision essentially 24 require it? 25 I don't recall anything specific that Α.

1 says in the next rate case. I think this provision would require it. And I would also note that there 2 3 is some testimony addressing it in the pending rate 4 cases. 5 I would also add, too, in addition to 6 this provision, there are also some provisions in 7 the first stipulation that talk about rates cannot 8 be increased as a result of the merger and things 9 like that. So I think there's a couple other 10 protections, too. 11 Q. You're familiar with KCP&L and GMO's 12 MEEIA programs generally? 13 Α. Generally, yes. 14 Do you have any reason to believe 0. 15 that post merger, if the merger is approved, that 16 KCP&L and GMO would take a different approach 17 towards energy efficiency as reflected in those 18 programs? 19 A. I do not. 20 0. Why is that? 21 Well, I think, first of all, they've Α. 2.2 demonstrated that they are committed to energy 23 efficiency. I would point out that the Missouri MEEIA statute is voluntary, but there are also 24 25 provisions in there that talk about valuing supply

1	side and demand side equally, benefits to all
2	consumers whether they take advantage of the
3	programs or not. So there are some provisions in
4	the statute that may change what is necessary, but
5	I don't think KCP&L, based on what they've
6	demonstrated in the past, would on their own just
7	make the change.
8	Q. And it is true that the MEEIA program
9	provides a financial incentive to participate?
10	A. That's correct.
11	Q. And GMO and KCP&L make the decision
12	based upon many factors, but included in those
13	factors would be the opportunity to profit from
14	those programs?
15	A. Correct.
16	Q. And as long as that opportunity to
17	profit doesn't change, their incentive to
18	participate post merger should not change?
19	A. Correct.
20	Q. Would regarding KCP&L and GMO's
21	interest, focus on clean energy, in particular wind
22	energy, would you say that it's accurate that that
23	is at least in part motivated by the financial
24	rewards that those types of generation could
25	provide? I.e. low-cost low-cost generation is

1	attractive to those two companies?
2	A. I would say that's true, and also
3	Missouri has the IRP process, and so they do a lot
4	of analysis through that, the integration as to
5	what would be the proper combination of renewables,
6	energy efficiency and nonrenewable type energy.
7	Q. You wouldn't expect KCP&L and GMO's
8	interest in clean energy to change in any way as a
9	result of this merger, would you?
10	A. Not as a result of the merger. Again,
11	you know, the IRP process may show something
12	different, but the merger itself, no.
13	Q. Looking at the merger commitments and
14	conditions, starting on page starting on page 5
15	of Exhibit A and going to page 7, it would appear
16	that the parties, including Staff, were concerned
17	that possible this merger could possibly affect
18	the credit rating of Holdco, GMO, KCP&L is that
19	
20	A. I wouldn't characterize it as a
20	concern. These sections came partially out of
22	response to the previous merger proposal, and so
23	they provide a protection should there be a
24	downgrade, but I especially with the merger of
25	equals and the restructuring and some of the things

1	that we've seen coming out of the credit rating
2	agencies since the announcement of the change. I
3	wouldn't characterize it that we had a concern, but
4	we wanted the protections in place in case.
5	Q. And is it, in fact, true that the
6	credit ratings the credit ratings have improved
7	post announcement of this particular merger?
8	A. I'm not familiar with all of the
9	agencies that were discussed on Monday, but of the
10	ones I've seen, they have had positive statements
11	or improved, improvement.
12	CHAIRMAN HALL: I have no further
13	questions. Thank you.
14	QUESTIONS BY JUDGE BUSHMANN:
15	Q. Good morning, Ms. Dietrich.
16	A. Good morning.
17	Q. I have a few questions. In your
18	rebuttal testimony, you summarized provisions of
19	the January stipulation and stated that the
20	stipulation provides key protections for Missouri
21	ratepayers. Could you elaborate a little bit
22	generally on why those provisions are important and
23	what kind of benefits would be provided to
24	ratepayers?
25	A. I think a lot of it goes to the

1 discussion that I was having with the Chairman. For instance, the credit ratings, it provides 2 3 protections so that the Commission is made aware 4 should there be a downgrade, and then it provides 5 that the companies will have a plan to address that. 6 7 There are the various meetings with 8 Staff related to such things as reliability, 9 consumer call centers, those types of issues. 10 There are requirements -- there are employee 11 commitments, so the Kansas -- Kansas City office 12 will remain in place, which would provide benefits 13 to Missouri. There are commitments that there will 14 be no voluntary -- involuntary -- try this again --15 involuntary severances. So that provides 16 protections. 17 There are various reporting 18 requirements that provide Staff and the Commission 19 access to records so that we can be proactive 20 should there be a concern. Of course, there's a 21 commitment that the Staff and Commission have 2.2 access to records, which I think we generally have 23 anyway, but this codifies it or makes it more 24 apparent. 25 Okay. And the March Stipulation & 0.

1 Agreement seems to supplement or modify that 2 January stipulation; is that correct? 3 Α. Supplement, yes. 4 Do you have a copy of that March 0. 5 stipulation? I do. 6 Α. 7 So starting on page 4, could you 0. briefly describe each of the new provisions of that 8 9 agreement and explain what benefit that provision 10 provides to ratepayers? 11 Α. On transition costs, that just puts a 12 specific dollar amount or limitation of what could 13 be included in rate cases. The previous 14 stipulation discussed transition costs. This puts 15 a dollar amount so that ratepayers would have no 16 further potential of transition costs being 17 included in rates. 18 Future mergers is the discussion I 19 was having with the Chairman that the Holdco agrees 20 that it will come in for Commission authority for 21 any future mergers no matter the type of structure 22 anticipated. 23 The name changes is to provide the customer clarity. Right now we have KCP&L and GMO, 24 25 and so their bills indicate which entity is serving

1	the customer. We don't know yet what a new name
2	would be, but ABC Company doing business as GMO or
3	something like that is what that provision means so
4	that, again, it will be clear which entity is
5	providing service.
6	Industrial customer meetings, I'm not
7	sure about that one. Since that's between the
8	industrials and the companies, I'm not sure what
9	they anticipated meeting about.
10	Go on to page 5?
11	Q. Yes, if you would.
12	A. My interpretation of OPC agreeing to
13	withdraw its equal outcome is similar to what I was
14	suggesting, that there were some concerns that the
15	KCC might impose some conditions that could affect
16	Missouri, but I think those are no longer the
17	concern. I'm assuming that's why OPC agreed to
18	withdraw that condition.
19	Up-front bill credits, the the
20	first stipulation outlined that there would be bill
21	credits and that it would be \$50 million. I
22	believe this incorporates an additional \$25 million
23	in bill credits. Yes, it does. And then it talks
24	about how those will be divvied up among the
25	different customer classes. In the first

1 stipulation we were still working through that and anticipated a process where that division would be 2 3 brought to the Commission once it was finalized. 4 This just memorializes it. 5 Is this allocation between rate 0. 6 classes and among rate classes, are there any 7 further calculations that would need to be made in the future or does this complete that? Would that 8 9 take care of it here in this -- if the Commission 10 were to adopt these allocations? 11 Α. There would have to be calculations 12 as to, you know, divide -- dividing it equally, what the energy usage would be and the calculations 13 14 based on that, but the methodology is formalized 15 here. 16 0. In your opinion, is this allocation 17 fair and reasonable between the rate classes and 18 among the rate classes? 19 Α. Yes. 20 And finally, on page 6, the provision 0. 21 number 16, do you have any information about that 2.2 that you can provide or is that best directed to 23 another witness? 24 That would be best directed to Α. 25 Mr. Hyman.

1	Q. A few minutes ago you said, I
2	believe, that you thought at least at this point
3	that the Kansas stipulation did not have any
4	provisions that would be harmful to Missouri
5	ratepayers; is that right?
6	A. That's correct.
7	Q. Is it still your recommendation that
8	the statement in your rebuttal testimony on page 10
9	that the condition be included that that
10	Missouri ratepayers not be harmed by any condition
11	imposed by the KCC, are you still recommending that
12	that be included since we don't know what the
13	Kansas Commission's doing or going to do at this
14	point?
15	A. My recommendation would be that
16	something similar to that be included, but not to
17	hold up the approval, just that it would be
18	analyzed in future rate cases, that obviously Staff
19	could bring a complaint to the Commission should
20	there be a need, those types of things.
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Recross
22	based on bench questions, Applicants?
23	MR. ZOBRIST: Yes, a couple of
24	questions, Judge.
25	RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. ZOBRIST:

Phone: 1.800.280.3376

1	Q. Ms. Dietrich, let me follow up on the
2	questions that the Chairman asked you about the
3	affiliate transaction rule. Am I correct that in
4	the application the Applicants requested that the
5	variance of the affiliate transactions rule only
6	occur with regard to the regulated entities, Kansas
7	City Power & Light Company, KCP&L Greater Missouri
8	Operations Company, and their dealings with Westar
9	Energy as a regulated entity?
10	A. Correct.
11	Q. And if there's any language that may
12	not make that distinction, it was the intent of the
13	applicants as well as the parties to the January
14	Stipulation & Agreement that Staff was a party to
15	to limit any waiver of the rule to the regulated
16	public utilities, correct?
17	A. It's my understanding that was the
18	Applicants' intent and Staff's intent. I'm not
19	sure about other signatories.
20	Q. And the application as well as I
21	believe the stipulations say that excepted from
22	that waiver are wholesale power transactions which
23	would be based on rates approved by the Federal
24	Energy Regulatory Commission, right?
25	A. Correct.

1 0. And there was never any discussion of 2 any of the affiliates of Great Plains Energy, like 3 Transource Missouri or any of those type of 4 transmission companies, correct? 5 That's correct. Α. 6 And to your knowledge, there was no 0. 7 intent to try to include that kind of a company or 8 specifically Transource Missouri to get some kind 9 of a waiver of the affiliate transactions rule? 10 Α. That's correct. 11 Q. Thank you. Were you provided by the 12 company, I believe it was yesterday or maybe late 13 Monday, a summary of the Kansas and the Missouri 14 agreements that Westar and Great Plains Energy 15 published on their respective corporate websites? 16 Α. I was provided what appears to be a 17 PowerPoint or something similar to that, and I did check and it is on their websites. 18 19 MR. ZOBRIST: Exhibit 16, Judge? 20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Yes. (APPLICANTS' EXHIBIT 16 WAS MARKED 21 2.2 FOR IDENTIFICATION BY THE REPORTER.) 23 BY MR. ZOBRIST: 24 Q. Do you have a copy of that, 25 Ms. Dietrich, or do you need one?

1 Α. T have one. Now, Ms. Dietrich, does this summary 2 Q. 3 in form describe the terms of the two Missouri 4 Stipulations & Agreement? And I'm inviting your 5 attention, if I might, to page 2 of Exhibit 16. 6 Α. Page 2 of my copy is --7 Q. I'm sorry. -- the forward-looking statement. 8 Α. 9 Q. Right. Page 3. 10 Α. Page 3 is a summary of the Kansas 11 agreement. 12 0. Right. Okay. Let me rephrase the 13 question. I'll get the page numbers right here. 14 Pages 3, 4 and 5 review the details of the Kansas 15 settlement agreement, correct? 16 Α. Correct. 17 And then when we go to page 6, that 0. 18 summarizes the, they call it the settlement 19 agreement, but the Stipulations & Agreements in 20 Missouri, correct? 21 Α. Correct. 2.2 Q. And then page 7 contains a graph at 23 the bottom that compares the elements of the 24 Stipulations & Agreement of the states, correct? 25 Α. That's correct.

1 0. And then the final page deals with 2 other regulatory approvals that are required and 3 the anticipated time that they will occur, correct? 4 Α. Correct. 5 And have you had an opportunity to 0. 6 compare this with the provisions of the two 7 stipulations in Missouri? 8 Α. I have. 9 0. And are they true and accurate as far 10 as you are concerned? 11 Α. Pages 1 through 6 are. Page 7, since 12 it's a comparison of the dollar amounts, I -- I 13 mean, those weren't part of the stipulations. 14 Right. That's the summary that the 0. 15 company provided, correct? 16 Α. Right. Uh-huh. 17 And based upon your review, not only 0. 18 of the stipulations themselves and the settlement 19 agreement in Kansas, it's -- is it your opinion 20 that the Missouri stipulations, both of them 21 provide equivalent benefits to Missouri ratepayers 2.2 when compared to the benefits provided to Kansas 23 ratepayers? 24 When you consider the timing and the Α. 25 differences in provisions and how they're worded,

1 yes. 2 0. And I think you were responding to 3 the Judge's question, maybe it was the Chairman's, 4 about the up-front bill credits in Missouri. Is it 5 correct that they are credited to Missouri 6 customers sooner than the bill credits that are 7 anticipated on the Kansas settlement? 8 That's my understating, yes. Α. 9 So the provision in Missouri is that 0. 10 within 120 days of closing the bill credits will be 11 credited to Missouri ratepayers? 12 The reason I'm hesitating is I was Α. 13 thinking that was changed in the second 14 stipulation, so I'm double checking. 15 If you'd turn to page 5 of the second 0. 16 stipulation, I think it still has that 120-day 17 figure in paragraph 15. 18 Α. Yes. Correct. I'm sorry. I was 19 thinking it was adjusted. Well, it was adjusted and an 20 0. 21 additional \$25 million was agreed upon, correct? 2.2 Α. Correct. 23 0. And is it also correct, to your 24 understanding, on page 7 that in Missouri there are 25 approximately 610,900 retail electric customers?

1 Α. Yes. 2 0. And in Kansas there's almost a 3 million, it's 964,200, correct? 4 Α. That's correct. 5 So, in essence, a smaller group of 0. 6 Missouri ratepayers will share in an equivalent 7 amount of money when you spread this out over the 8 timeline; is that a fair conclusion? 9 An equivalent amount of the up-front Α. 10 credits and then the ongoing adjustments, yes. 11 Q. Now, the Chairman asked you about the 12 mechanisms in Kansas we don't have in Missouri. Do 13 you recall that? 14 Α. We had a discussion about them, yes. 15 Do you have a copy of the Kansas 0. 16 stipulation in front of you? 17 I do. Α. 18 0. If you could turn, please, to page 14 19 of the Kansas settlement agreement. 20 Α. Okay. 21 At the bottom do you see the last Q. 22 paragraph that starts with the two little I's? 23 T do. Α. 24 Q. Am I correct that the settlement 25 agreement in Kansas was based upon the ability of

Westar and the Kansas operations of KCP&L to 1 2 continue to recover appropriate costs under those 3 five mechanisms there? 4 That's correct. The provision says Α. 5 it shall not -- does not preclude Westar and KCP&L 6 from changing rates or tariffs pursuant to the 7 various mechanisms. And one of those mechanisms is a 8 ο. 9 property tax surcharge which allows increases in 10 property taxes to be flowed through to ratepayers 11 without a general rate case, correct? 12 Correct. Α. 13 Q. And we can't do that in Missouri, can 14 we? 15 Α. No. 16 0. And there's also a transmission 17 delivery charge mechanism under Kansas law that 18 permits those kinds of charges to be flowed through 19 to ratepayers in Kansas, correct? 20 Α. Correct. 21 And again, we don't have that kind of Q. 2.2 mechanism in Missouri, do we? 23 We do not. Α. 24 0. And is that also true for the other 25 elements that are spoken of there, the RECA, the

1 retail energy cost adjustment, an annual cost 2 adjustment, and finally the energy efficiency 3 rider? 4 The RECA retail energy adjustment in Α. 5 my -- to my understanding is equivalent to the fuel 6 adjustment charge in Missouri, although it's my 7 understanding that it's permanent in Missouri -- I 8 mean in Kansas, whereas it's subject to each rate 9 case in Missouri. 10 Thank you. Q. And then the -- I'm not familiar with 11 Α. 12 the terms of the energy efficiency rider. But overall, these are the mechanisms 13 0. 14 in Kansas that we don't have a -- we may have 15 certain equivalent concepts here, but we don't have 16 the exact mechanisms that they have in Kansas, 17 correct? It's not the exact mechanisms. 18 Α. T'm 19 not sure how the energy efficiency rider compares 20 to MEEIA. 21 Now, is it also correct that if the 0. 22 merger is approved and it's closed, that Missouri 23 will gain a Fortune 500 company and that the 24 headquarters of the holding company will be in 25 Kansas City?

1 Α. The headquarters will be in Kansas City. I'm not sure about the Fortune 500 2 3 part. 4 Okay. And overall, based upon your 0. 5 review of these agreements, the Kansas settlement 6 agreement and the two Stipulations & Agreement in 7 Missouri, do you believe that they ensure that the 8 merger is not detrimental to the public interest? 9 Α. The two Missouri standard -- or stipulations do. 10 11 Q. And do you believe that the elements 12 of the Kansas settlement do not shift risks to 13 Missouri ratepayers that would cause this merger to 14 be detrimental to the public interest? 15 Α. I would agree with characterizing it 16 that way. 17 And so it's your opinion, if I 0. 18 understand you, that the merger should be approved 19 consistent with the terms of the two Missouri 20 Stipulations & Agreements? 21 Α. That's correct. 2.2 MR. ZOBRIST: That's all I have, 23 Judge. Thank you. 24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Do you want to 25 offer --

EVIDENTIARY HEARING - Vol. 3 3/14/2018

Page 301

MR. ZOBRIST: I do. I offer 1 2 Exhibit 16 into evidence. 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Are there any 4 objections to its receipt? 5 (No response.) JUDGE BUSHMANN: Hearing none, it's 6 7 admitted. (APPLICANTS' EXHIBIT 16 WAS RECEIVED 8 9 INTO EVIDENCE.) 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Recross by MJMEUC? 11 MR. WHIPPLE: None. Thank you. 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Public Counsel? 13 MS. SHEMWELL: Just a couple. Thank 14 you. 15 RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. SHEMWELL: 16 Ms. Dietrich, I'm seeing this for the 0. 17 first time this morning. I'm assuming you are, 18 too. 19 A. The presentation? 20 0. Yes. 21 Α. I had a chance to review it 22 yesterday. 23 0. Looking at the bottom of page 4, 24 let's look at the bill credits. It's your 25 testimony that the 29 million up-front bill credits

1 to Missouri is essentially equivalent to the 75 million bill credits for Kansas customers? 2 What I said was the 29 million 3 Α. No. 4 and the 30 million up front were comparable, and 5 then the provision to consider sharing in future benefits in the next rate case in Missouri is 6 7 equivalent to what would be the 45 million. 8 If you look at the very last line, it 0. 9 addresses treatment of tax reform benefits? 10 Α. Yes. 11 Q. That's something that is not included 12 in Missouri, the Missouri stipulations, correct? 13 Α. It's not included in the Missouri 14 stipulations, but it is being addressed by the 15 Commission in another forum in KCP&L and GMO's case 16 in their pending rate cases. 17 But here the Applicants have actually 0. 18 made a commitment to Kansas as part of their 19 stipulation to Kansas that they won't attempt an 20 offset, is what this says? 21 Α. That's what it says, yes. 2.2 MS. SHEMWELL: That's all I have. 23 Thank you, Ms. Dietrich. 24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Division of Energy? 25 MR. POSTON: No questions.

1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Renew Missouri?
2	MR. OPITZ: Yes, Judge.
3	RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. OPITZ:
4	Q. Ms. Dietrich, the Chairman, I
5	believe, was asking you about the Missouri
6	Applicants' approach to MEEIA, and in response you
7	mentioned the IRP process. Do you recall that?
8	A. Yes.
9	Q. And are you aware, I guess, based on
10	either reviewing the case or from being in the
11	hearing room on Monday, that the Joint Applicants
12	did put forward a combined IRP as a part of their
13	plans in this case?
14	A. They committed to looking at it.
15	They didn't put forth a combined IRP.
16	Q. So you heard do you recall
17	discussion on Monday by Applicants' witnesses about
18	how they had evaluated certain retirements based on
19	a combined IRP?
20	A. Yes.
21	Q. Did you review that combined IRP as a
22	part of your review in this case?
23	A. I don't remember specifically seeing
24	it, no.
25	Q. The Commission Staff does have a

1 group of experts dedicated to reviewing IRPs; is 2 that correct? 3 Α. Yes, under my purview. 4 And did they review the combined IRP 0. 5 in this merger application? 6 Α. They did not, that I'm aware of. 7 So would you agree that Staff doesn't 0. have a position on whether the combined IRP was 8 9 adequate? 10 Α. We don't have a position on a 11 proposed combined IRP at all. 12 And so you don't have -- the Staff 0. 13 doesn't have a position on whether the analysis in 14 that combined IRP was realistic? 15 We don't have a position on the Α. 16 combined IRP at all. 17 And you don't have a position on 0. 18 whether the choices in that -- or scenarios in that 19 combined IRP were the most beneficial to 20 ratepayers? 21 Α. We don't have a position, but my 2.2 understanding was it was not a full-blown analysis 23 because of the legal limitations on being able to access each company's information. So I'm not 24 25 sure, even if we had put a lot of faith in it, how

much you could rely on it since it wasn't all the 1 information that could be available post merger in 2 3 a combined company IRP review. 4 Do you agree that doing comprehensive 0. 5 resource planning is something that is important to 6 protecting the public interest? 7 Yes, and I think that's why we have Α. 8 the robust IRP process in Missouri. 9 But you don't believe that it should 0. 10 have been done ahead of this merger? 11 Α. I don't think that it was -- was 12 appropriate to the analysis for the merger, necessary for the analysis of the merger beyond 13 14 what they did. 15 Doesn't the merger have all sorts of 0. 16 implications about how the combined company will 17 utilize its resources? 18 Α. There are provisions related to 19 retirement of plants and that type of thing, if 20 that's what you mean. 21 And the retirement of those plants 0. 2.2 is -- do you understand that to be an integral part 23 of achieving the merger savings proposed in this 24 case? 25 It's a part of it, yes. Α.

1	Q. And so in your evaluation of the
2	merger, the Staff believes that it didn't need to
3	look at how those integrated resources might be
4	used to attain the proposed savings?
5	A. Well, I said we didn't review the
6	combined IRP. I did not say or mean to imply that
7	we did not consider the effects of what they were
8	proposing.
9	Q. Tell me how you went about
10	considering those effects of what they were
11	proposing.
12	A. Basically looking at the retirement
13	dates, what they have as far as current resources,
14	what we know about their Missouri IRP, which is
15	relevant for Missouri, and then going forward from
16	there.
17	Q. So the Staff didn't perform a
18	comprehensive evaluation of the costs or the
19	benefits of the kind of generation that might be
20	retired as a part of this merger?
21	A. We did not perform a cost/benefit
22	analysis. We reviewed the information the company
23	provided.
24	Q. Would you agree that, in general, a
25	comprehensive evaluation of the costs and benefits

1 of the company's generation would be in the public 2 interest? 3 Α. Could you repeat that, please? 4 Would you agree that a comprehensive 0. 5 evaluation of the costs and benefits of the various 6 generation units would be in the public interest? 7 I quess where I'm struggling is what Α. you mean by would be in the public interest since 8 9 the -- since the standard is not detrimental to the 10 public interest. 11 Q. Would it be detrimental to the public 12 interest if the company did not perform a comprehensive evaluation of the costs and benefits 13 14 of its various generating units? 15 I don't know that it would be Α. 16 detrimental to not do the -- to perform the 17 analysis. The analysis would demonstrate whether there were detriments or not. 18 19 0. So would you -- would you agree that 20 that kind of analysis of the costs and benefits of 21 a generating unit should be performed on both 22 utility-owned and customer-owned generation? 23 At each level, is that what you're Α. 24 suggesting? 25 For -- well, help me understand what 0.

1 you mean by each level. Well, you said at utility-owned and 2 Α. 3 I'm drawing a blank on what the other one at --4 was. 5 So in terms of resource planning, as 0. 6 the company is doing that, would you agree that a 7 part of resource planning should include a comprehensive evaluation of the costs and benefits 8 9 of a generating unit? 10 Α. I'm not sure that the analysis gets 11 to that level. I'm struggling with generating 12 unit. And when I say --13 0. So I'll step it back. So as a part 14 of the resource planning, a utility should evaluate 15 the costs and benefits of a kind of generation? 16 Α. Correct. 17 Okay. And would you agree that they 0. 18 should do that, evaluate the costs and benefits as 19 a part of resource planning, for kinds of 20 generation that may be owned by customers? 21 Α. That -- I would say that probably 2.2 should be part of the analysis. Whether it is or 23 not, I don't know that our rules are that clear at 24 this point. 25 Q. So the closure and retirement of

1 certain plants implies selection of which plants to 2 retire. How do you know that there is a benefit or 3 a detriment from the merger without an analysis of 4 the plants that were selected? 5 From -- it's my understanding that Α. 6 the company did the analysis. We reviewed the 7 analysis that the company did. We did not review 8 the IRP itself. So we reviewed what was in 9 testimony, what was in the application. 10 Isn't the IRP the method of analysis Q. 11 for selecting the units to retire? 12 In Missouri, yes. Α. 13 0. So do you have a position on whether 14 applicants chose the best plants to retire as a part of this merger? 15 16 Α. I do not. 17 Judge Bushmann asked you a few 0. 18 questions. Do you recall that? 19 Α. Yes. 20 And one of -- in response to one of 0. 21 his questions, you talked about -- he was walking 22 you through the Stipulation & Agreement in 23 Missouri, and in response you mentioned that there 24 were certain employee commitments in the 25 stipulation. Do you recall that?

A. I do. 1 2 Q. So would you agree that evaluating employment considerations would be something that 3 4 is appropriate when evaluating whether this merger 5 is not detrimental to the public interest? 6 Α. Commitments to employment 7 considerations, yes. 8 MR. OPITZ: That's all I have. Thank 9 you. 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Cross by Kansas 11 Electric Power? 12 MR. SCHULTE: No cross. 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Redirect by Staff? 14 MR. THOMPSON: No questions. Thank you, Judge. 15 16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, Ms. Dietrich. You may step down. 17 18 (Witness sworn.) 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Be seated. GEOFF MARKE testified as follows: 20 21 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. SHEMWELL: 2.2 Q. Good morning. 23 A. Good morning. 24 Q. Dr. Marke, would you please state 25 your name and spell it for the court reporter.

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Page 311
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1 Α. It's Geoff, G-e-o-f-f, Marke, M-a-r-k-e. 2 3 Where do you work? 0. 4 Α. I work for the Missouri Office of the 5 Public Counsel. 6 What do you do there? 0. 7 I'm the Chief Economist. Α. Have you prepared testimony in this 8 Q. 9 case? 10 Yes, I have. Α. 11 MS. SHEMWELL: Judge, I apologize. 12 Neither of us knows the number of this. 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Your first number is 14 350. 15 MS. SHEMWELL: 350? 16 THE WITNESS: Yes. 17 BY MS. SHEMWELL: 18 0. Do you have any changes to your 19 testimony? 20 Α. I do not. Oh, other than to say that our position now with the stipulation would be to 21 2.2 strike the outstanding concern. 23 You're saying that you have agreed in 0. 24 the Stipulation & Agreement that you will strike 25 the even or equivalent outcomes section?

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1
            Α.
                  Yes. And that's Section 3, page 6
     and page 7.
 2
 3
            0.
                  And that's upon approval of the
 4
     Stipulation & Agreement?
                  That's correct.
 5
            Α.
 6
            0.
                 Any other changes?
 7
            Α.
                  No.
            Q. Additions?
 8
 9
            Α.
                 No.
10
                  With that, is your testimony true and
            Q.
11
     correct to the best of your knowledge and belief?
12
            Α.
                  Yes.
13
                  MS. SHEMWELL: I tender the witness
14
     for cross. Thank you.
15
                  JUDGE BUSHMANN: Do you want to offer
16
     that into evidence?
17
                  MS. SHEMWELL: I do, please.
18
                  JUDGE BUSHMANN: Are there any
19
     objections to Exhibit 350, Marke rebuttal?
20
                  (No response.)
                  JUDGE BUSHMANN: Hearing none, it is
21
2.2
     received.
23
                  (OPC EXHIBIT 350 WAS MARKED AND
24
    RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE.)
25
                  JUDGE BUSHMANN: First cross would be
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1 Division of Energy. 2 MR. POSTON: No questions. Thank 3 you. 4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Renew Missouri? 5 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. OPITZ: 6 Good morning, Dr. Marke. 0. 7 Α. Good morning. 8 In your rebuttal testimony you talk Q. 9 about concerns about conditions that might be 10 attached to a Kansas order which would have a 11 negative or detrimental impact to Missouri 12 ratepayers; is that correct? 13 Α. That's correct. 14 And have you had a chance to review 0. 15 the Stipulation & Agreement that's been filed in 16 the KCC? 17 Α. Yes. 18 0. And having reviewed that stipulation, 19 are there any conditions contained in there that 20 would have a negative impact on Missouri 21 ratepayers? 2.2 Α. No. 23 MR. OPITZ: That's all the questions 24 I have. Thank you. 25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Kansas Electric

1 Power? CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. SCHULTE: 2 3 Good morning, Mr. Marke. 0. 4 A. Good morning. 5 Dr. Marke. I'm sorry. Just one 0. 6 question. Do you believe that this Commission 7 should wait to make its decision until after the 8 KCC issues its order? 9 Α. Out of an abundance of caution, I think that would probably -- if I was the 10 Commission, that would make sense. 11 12 MR. SCHULTE: No further questions. 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Cross by MJMEUC? 14 MR. WHIPPLE: None. Thank you. 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Commission Staff? 16 MR. THOMPSON: No questions. Thank 17 you. 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Applicants? 19 MR. ZOBRIST: No questions, Judge. 20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any bench questions? 21 QUESTIONS BY CHAIRMAN HALL: 2.2 Good morning, Dr. Marke. Q. 23 A. Good morning. 24 Q. Turning to the second Stipulation & 25 Agreement, paragraph 13 on page 5.

1 Α. Page 3? 2 Q. Page 5, paragraph 13. Α. 3 Yes. 4 Can you explain to me why OPC 0. 5 withdrew the equal outcome provision that you 6 explained in your written testimony? 7 My understanding is that at the time Α. 8 of withdrawal, we were operating with the best 9 knowledge that we had available to us at that 10 moment, and that the provisions that were put in 11 place would help ensure a favorable treatment for 12 Missouri ratepayers. 13 0. So based upon provisions in the 14 second stipulation, you no longer believe it is 15 necessary to condition approval of the two pending 16 stipulations on some type of most favored nation 17 provision; is that correct? 18 Α. Yes. 19 Can you tell me specifically what 0. 20 provisions in the second stipulation caused you to 21 take that position? 2.2 My understanding in combination with Α. 23 the provisions that were signed on to the first stipulation, Section 9 over transition cost, 24 25 section 10 over future mergers.

1 0. Let's go one by one. So paragraph 9, 2 what is it in paragraph 9 that you believe is of 3 significance and at least in part caused you to 4 believe that there would be no need for this MFN 5 provision? 6 Α. Specifically that there are tangible 7 dollar amounts attached to that. That's not 8 something that for a future rate case where 9 reasonable minds might differ and -- or the error band might be very large on how we differ on this 10 11 transition cost. Being able to have the certainty 12 of this is what we're talking about gives us --13 gives our office a level of comfort. 14 Do you believe that the actual 0. 15 transition costs exceed these dollar amounts, or do 16 you know? 17 I don't know. I don't think I can Α. 18 tell you with full confidence. 19 There was at least a position voiced Q. 20 by the Applicants that their merger transition 21 costs exceeded those amounts? 2.2 There was -- there was that position, Α. 23 yes. 24 0. All right. What other paragraphs in 25 the second stipulation?

1	A. Section 10 for future mergers. I
2	think it clarifies or resupports, I think, the
3	position that carries over from the previous merger
4	and acquisition where that was at least at some
5	point a contested issue, whether or not Missouri
6	had jurisdiction over future mergers or
7	Q. And so you believe that, in
8	paragraph 10, if there are future mergers which
9	include public utilities that may not be in
10	Missouri, Holdco would need to come to this
11	Commission for approval under that provision?
12	A. Yes.
13	Q. What other paragraphs?
14	A. I think those are the primary ones.
15	Section 5 15 as far as bill credits resolves
16	sort of an outstanding issue we had sort of kicked
17	to the back burner, but that was an issue that all
18	parties collectively felt was a fair outcome.
19	Q. So these bill credits will inure to
20	the benefit of ratepayers prior to the next rate
21	case or prior to the effective date of new rates in
22	the next rate case?
23	A. That's correct.
24	Q. Any other provisions in here relevant
25	to your view that it was appropriate to withdraw

1	that equal outcomes provision?
2	A. No.
3	CHAIRMAN HALL: I have no further
4	questions. Thank you.
5	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: No questions.
6	COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: No questions.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Recross based on
8	Bench questions. Division of Energy?
9	MR. POSTON: No questions.
10	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Renew Missouri?
11	MR. OPITZ: No, thank you, Judge.
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Kansas Electric
13	Power?
14	MR. SCHULTE: No questions.
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: MJMEUC?
16	MR. WHIPPLE: No questions. Thank
17	you.
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Commission Staff?
19	MR. THOMPSON: No questions. Thank
20	you, Judge.
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Applicants?
22	MR. ZOBRIST: Just a couple.
23	RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. ZOBRIST:
24	Q. Dr. Marke, on paragraph 15 the
25	Chairman was asking you about, that not only

1	resolved the allocation of bill credit amounts
2	between rate classes and within rate classes, but
3	it also provided an additional \$25 million in
4	up-front bill credits, correct?
5	A. Correct.
6	Q. Now, in response to, I think it was
7	the Chairman's questions about why you withdrew the
8	equal outcomes provision, you still stand by that
9	today in light of your review of the two Missouri
10	stipulations as well as the terms of the Kansas
11	settlement agreement; is that correct?
12	A. That's the office's position, yes.
13	Q. And would you agree that the outcome
14	in Missouri, given all of these agreements, is
15	materially equivalent to the outcome in Kansas in
16	that it's fair and equitable to both Missouri and
17	Kansas ratepayers?
18	MS. SHEMWELL: Judge, Mr. Marke has
19	not had time to review the KCC and decide if it's
20	fair to Kansas. He's not testifying about what's
21	fair or not fair to Kansas.
22	MR. ZOBRIST: I think then he can say
23	that on the record, Judge.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: I agree. Objection
25	overruled.

1	THE WITNESS: So I haven't I would
2	say that the Kansas stipulation allows for a
3	greater degree of certainty moving forward, where
4	that question's still an outstanding concern for
5	future rate cases here in Missouri.
6	BY MR. ZOBRIST:
7	Q. Are you generally aware that Kansas
8	provides cost recovery to its public utilities for
9	things like transmission charges, property taxes,
10	elements of recovery that we cannot get in Missouri
11	except through a general rate case; is that
12	correct?
13	A. That is true. Different regulatory
14	environment.
15	MR. ZOBRIST: That's all I have,
16	Judge. Thank you.
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Redirect?
18	MS. SHEMWELL: Thank you.
19	REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. SHEMWELL:
20	Q. Dr. Marke, you agreed to withdraw
21	your equal outcomes requirement or recommendation
22	to the Commission upon approval of the
23	Stipulation & Agreement, correct?
24	A. That is correct.
25	Q. At that time that you entered into

1 the second stipulation, had you seen the KCC order? 2 T had not. Α. 3 You recommended that the Commission 0. 4 wait to see what Kansas actually does? 5 Α. Yes. 6 0. Why? 7 There is a degree of uncertainty, I Α. think, that is permeating between the two states as 8 9 to what the ultimate outcome would be as far as a Commission ruling. Again, out of an abundance of 10 11 caution, I think that it would make sense to see 12 what outcome Kansas would agree to if they do ultimately approve this merger. 13 14 Do you take any position on this 0. 15 Commission's ability to order specific conditions? 16 Α. I think the Commission is in a unique 17 position to order, to have the freedom to order additional conditions if they feel that's in 18 19 ratepayers' best interests. 20 MS. SHEMWELL: Thank you. 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may step down. 2.2 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Let's go ahead and take the Division of Energy witness. 24 25 MR. POSTON: Division of Energy calls

1 Martin Hyman. 2 (Witness sworn.) 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Be seated. 4 MARTIN HYMAN testified as follows: 5 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. POSTON: 6 0. Please state your name. 7 Α. Martin Hyman, H-y-m-a-n. 8 And by whom are you employed and in Q. 9 what capacity? I'm employed by the Missouri 10 Α. 11 Department of Economic Development, Division of 12 Energy as an Energy Policy Analyst. 13 And are you the same Martin Hyman 0. 14 that prepared and caused to be filed rebuttal and 15 surrebuttal testimony that's been premarked as 16 Exhibits 300 and 301? 17 Α. Yes. 18 0. And do you have any corrections to 19 your testimony? 20 Just one. On page 5, line 1 of my Α. 21 rebuttal, it should be presents rather than 2.2 resents. I never resent information. 23 So you don't resent Mr. Ives' direct 0. 24 testimony? 25 A. No, I do not.

1 **Q**. And with that correction, if I asked 2 you the same questions that are in your testimony 3 today, would your answers be the same? 4 They would. Α. 5 Are they true to the best of your 0. 6 knowledge and belief? 7 Α. Yes. 8 MR. POSTON: Your Honor, I offer 9 Exhibits 300 and 301. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any objections? 10 11 (No response.) 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Hearing none, 13 they're admitted. 14 (DIVISION OF ENERGY EXHIBITS 300 AND 15 301 WERE MARKED AND RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE.) 16 MR. POSTON: Tender the witness for 17 cross. 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: First cross would be 19 by Public Counsel. 20 MS. SHEMWELL: I have no questions. 21 Thank you. 2.2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Renew Missouri? 23 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. OPITZ: 24 Q. Good morning, Mr. Hyman. 25 A. Good morning.

1 0. The Division of Energy did not sign 2 onto either of the Nonunanimous Stipulation & 3 Agreements filed in this case; is that correct? 4 In the first one, we didn't sign. Α. In 5 the second one, we did not oppose. 6 Okay. And so you'd agree that the 0. 7 Division of Energy also filed a position statement as part of this case? 8 9 Yes. I believe that was prior to the Α. 10 second stipulation. 11 Q. And had you read that position 12 statement? 13 It is our office's position. Α. Yes. 14 So within that position statement 0. 15 there were several conditions that your agency 16 suggested should be applied to this merger; is that 17 correct? 18 Α. At that time, yes. 19 And one of those conditions was to 0. 20 work with stakeholders to develop and file one or 21 more green tariff options for customers of both 2.2 KCP&L and GMO in the event that the green tariffs 23 offered by KCP&L and GMO in their current rate 24 cases are not approved? 25 Yes, I would agree with that. Α.

1 0. How would a condition like that 2 protect the public interest? 3 I would start by saying that where we Α. 4 are with the current stipulation again is 5 non-opposition rather than full support or 6 advocacy. 7 I think it would have been helpful to 8 have additional conditions like that to protect the 9 public interest, for example, if for some reason 10 the green tariff or other renewable energy 11 proposals in the case fall through, that it would 12 have been helpful to have a backstop, if you will. 13 Again, you know, some of that, 14 though, is adapting to changing circumstances 15 where, as of the time of rebuttal, we didn't have 16 any sort of rate case to pin such a condition on 17 and now we do. 18 0. Well, in your rebuttal you didn't 19 actually offer any testimony about green tariff 20 options. That's correct, right? 21 Α. No. I disagree. 2.2 Can you point to me in your rebuttal Q. 23 where you discuss that? 24 Let's see. I would direct you to Α. 25 pages 6 and 7, lines 1 through 15 and 1 through 4.

1	Let's see. Specifically, starting on page 6,
2	line 12, quote, Holdco could consider the creation
3	of options for businesses and households to
4	purchase additional renewable energy as had been
5	proposed or agreed to by other Missouri utilities
б	and could also consider continuing to employ or
7	contract to provide energy efficiency services or
8	incentives. Both actions would enable Holdco to
9	reassign employees that already have the
10	appropriate skills to work on expanded customer-
11	oriented programs such as, quote/unquote, community
12	solar, quote/unquote, subscriber solar and green
13	tariffs, as well as on KCP&L's and GMO's existing
14	and plant renewable energy and energy efficiency
15	initiatives.
16	Q. Thank you. And so would you agree
17	that doing all of those things would be in the
18	public interest?
19	A. I would say so, yes.
20	Q. In the Division's position statement,
21	one of the proposed conditions was also that the
22	Holdco would continue the pursuit of all cost
23	effective demand side savings under the Missouri
24	Energy Efficiency Investment Act. Can you tell me
25	how that condition would protect the public

1 interest?

2	A. So there was discussion earlier today
3	just a bit ago with Ms. Dietrich about the
4	circumstances under which MEEIA currently operates,
5	and she did point out that it's voluntary and that
6	some of it has to do with the profit motive, as
7	with any other utility decision.
8	However, I think the other part of
9	that consideration is that the MEEIA statute
10	explicitly says that it's the policy of the state
11	to pursue to find ways to pursue all cost
12	effective demand side savings. So I think it goes
13	beyond just the simple engineering and economic
14	analyses and IRP.
15	MR. OPITZ: That's all I have. Thank
16	you.
17	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Kansas Electric
19	Power?
20	MR. SCHULTE: No questions.
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: MJMEUC?
22	MR. WHIPPLE: No questions.
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Staff?
24	MR. THOMPSON: No questions. Thank
25	you, Judge.

1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Applicants?
2	Questions from Applicants?
3	MR. BREGMAN: No questions.
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from
5	Commissioners?
6	QUESTIONS BY CHAIRMAN HALL:
7	Q. Good morning.
8	A. Good morning.
9	Q. Turning to your conclusions on
10	page 14 of your surrebuttal.
11	A. One second. Okay. I'm there.
12	Q. Do you believe that the Commission
13	should insert those four conditions as part of any
14	approval of the two stipulations at issue in this
15	case and the transaction as a whole?
16	A. So given that we are not opposed to
17	the second stipulation and the Commission's
18	approval of this transaction, I would also say that
19	we would not be opposed to other conditions that
20	would ensure no detriment to the public interest.
21	Q. So the answer is yes?
22	A. Yeah. We would not be opposed to
23	that, no.
24	Q. I'm not asking what you might not be
25	opposed to. I'm asking whether or not you believe

1	that the Commission should condition approval of
2	the two stipulations and the transaction in general
3	upon these four conditions set forth on pages 14
4	and 15 of your surrebuttal testimony.
5	A. Again, I would say that we're
6	certainly not opposed and we probably would support
7	that action by the Commission.
8	Q. That's as close as I'm going to get
9	to an answer, huh?
10	A. Afraid so today.
11	Q. Concerning the stakeholder process
12	for the green tariff option on Condition 2
13	A. Uh-huh.
14	Q and the Missouri-based generation
15	facilities stakeholder process on paragraph 3, the
16	Commission could require or establish those kind of
17	working dockets separate and apart from an approval
18	of this particular merger; is that correct?
19	A. They could. I think that might not
20	be a bad idea, quite honestly, given the increased
21	interest we've seen in these kinds of initiatives
22	not only by utilities and by, you know, Division of
23	Energy or Renew, but frankly by a lot of companies
24	as well at this point. I think that might be a
25	helpful docket.

1 And concerning Condition 4, do you 0. 2 have any reason to believe that KCP&L and GMO might 3 be less aggressive on demand side savings in the 4 MEEIA program post merger than they are now? 5 I don't nec-- I don't -- I have not Α. 6 seen any concrete evidence, if you will, that would 7 lead me to that conclusion, no. And then concerning Condition 1, what 8 0. 9 is it that you are advocating for? So in the context -- when the 10 Α. 11 surrebuttal testimony was filed, that was, of 12 course, in response partly to OPC's position at the 13 time as well as prior to the filing of a 14 stipulation before the Kansas Corporation 15 Commission. So at that time it seemed reasonable 16 to us to support a provision that would make sure 17 that there was no harm to Missouri customers from 18 what was agreed to in Kansas and that, in fact, we 19 might even be able to get a better deal if 20 possible. 21 Since that time, we've seen -- we've 2.2 had the Kansas stipulation filed. OPC has looked 23 at -- well, I don't want to speak for OPC, but I would note that they agreed to withdraw the equal 24 25 outcome provision since that time. And all

relevant factors considered, such as the two of the 1 three employment outcomes that we were looking for, 2 3 employment-related companies, we were able to get 4 to not oppose without the equal outcome provision. 5 So do you believe that there is 0. 6 anything in the Kansas stipulation that should be 7 in either a Missouri stipulation or in a Commission 8 order approving the transaction? 9 Α. From the Kansas stipulation, I 10 haven't seen anything that I would necessarily say 11 we just cut and paste into the Missouri 12 stipulation. I don't believe there's anything that 13 would harm Missouri ratepayers. And as others have 14 noted, there's a different regulatory environment 15 in Kansas in terms of the available riders that 16 allowed -- evidently allowed parties to get to a 17 position where they could agree on things, such as 18 a 9.3 return on equity, rate case moratorium, 19 annual bill credits, et cetera. 20 0. So there's nothing in the Kansas 21 stipulation that is not in either the Missouri 22 stipulations that you would like to see? 23 From my review, I don't believe so, Α. 24 no. CHAIRMAN HALL: I have no further 25

1 questions. Thank you. 2 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I have none. 3 QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER RUPP: 4 0. Good morning. 5 A. Good morning, sir. 6 Following up on the Chairman's 0. 7 questions about the items in your conclusions and potential recommendations, do you believe that all 8 9 of those would benefit the people in Missouri? 10 Α. And are you referring to --11 Q. In your surrebuttal, the one we were 12 just talking about. 13 The four in the surrebuttal? Α. 14 0. Yes. 15 I believe that those in addition to Α. 16 the recommendations from my rebuttal that were in 17 my surrebuttal, all of those would be beneficial to Missourians, yes. 18 19 And do you agree that this is an 0. 20 appropriate forum of which to put those? 21 Α. So that's a bit more of a difficult 2.2 question, to be honest. We -- Kansas is a net 23 benefit, uses a net benefit standard, which Missouri doesn't precisely use. It uses a no 24 detriment standard. But my understanding from a 25

1	policy perspective is that that is still based on a
2	balance of costs and benefits. So I think to some
3	extent we can consider those additional
4	recommendations that I had, but we do have to keep
5	in mind that the standard is slightly different
6	here and that there are other venues which we will
7	certainly pursue for some of our recommendations,
8	such as during IRP cases, during rate cases, during
9	MEEIA cases. So even if those things are not
10	ordered in this case, we will certainly still
11	pursue them.
12	Q. But if they were ordered, you think
13	that it was in the Commission's purview that this
14	could be an appropriate place to make those
15	determinations?
16	A. Well, I'm always hesitant to tell the
17	Commission what it should do or what I think its
18	power is, but I don't see any reason why you
19	couldn't order it.
20	Q. Okay. So in Renew Missouri's
21	position, they had three conditions. One was an
22	energy storage demonstration program. Do you
23	believe that that type of program would be
24	beneficial for the ratepayers and for the state?
25	A. I believe it would be, yes. We've

1	seen the cost of storage drop very rapidly over the
2	past year, year plus. It's been a few years, as I
3	understand, since the smart grid demonstration
4	pilot wrapped up with the battery that KCP&L used.
5	So I think it would be beneficial for Missourians
6	to move forward on even using what could be a
7	domestic resource since, you know, with stationary
8	batteries it's not as much an issue with the weight
9	of a lead battery, and Missouri, of course, has
10	lead resources.
11	Q. And in previous testimony the company
12	had stated that they didn't believe that this was
13	the correct venue to be making condition of
14	approval on those types of programs. How would you
15	respond to that?
16	A. I guess I partially agree. I mean,
17	given that we are a no net detriment or no
18	detriment state, I think it does become a little
19	trickier to discuss everything we might want to see
20	the company do. But to the extent that it does get
21	us to no detriment, I think it certainly could be
22	something considered by the Commission.
23	Q. Another one they had was the value of
24	solar study. Do you believe that would be a
25	benefit for the state and for the ratepayers?

1	A. I think the caveat I would add is we
2	would like to see it as a value of distributed
3	energy resource study since the solar is important,
4	distributed solar is important to consider for the
5	future, but it's certainly not the only resource;
6	for example, distributed storage.
7	Q. And same question about the company
8	said this was not an appropriate forum for that.
9	Would you have a similar answer or different?
10	A. Same answer, I would say.
11	Q. And then the third one was commitment
12	to have no tariff or rate design adverse to
13	applying distributed energy resources. Do you
14	believe that would be a benefit to the state of
15	Missouri and ratepayers?
16	A. I do. I think the caveat is that
17	here we have a different regulatory environment
18	with regards to tariffs on distributed energy. At
19	the very least under the Net Metering and Easy
20	Connection Act, it's my understanding that you
21	cannot that a utility cannot charge a customer
22	with distributed generation as defined under the
23	act differently than any other customers.
24	However, that doesn't necessarily
25	preclude, say, proposing a higher customer charge

1	or some other fixed charge, which the company might
2	try to conceivably use to address such a question.
3	So certainly I don't think that I think that
4	might be something that would be beneficial to
5	Missouri ratepayers, but then again that's also
б	something that could be considered in the context
7	of a rate case.
8	Q. So my next follow-up question is, the
9	company has stated this is not an appropriate forum
10	for those types of conditions. Do you have the
11	same response as the last two or anything
12	different?
13	A. Yes, with more of a focus on rate
14	cases perhaps and even to some extent distribution
15	planning in the IRP process.
16	Q. If the Commission were to condition
17	those three as part of approval, would the Division
18	of Energy be supportive of those provisions?
19	A. We'd be supportive of those
20	provisions, I think. I think, you know, what we
21	got in the stipulation was part of what we were
22	asking for on the employment outcomes. We got
23	additional reporting through five years on changes
24	in employment.
25	I think the company was unable to

1	agree to our retraining provision that was
2	included, and I think that would have been one
3	thing that could have helped us get to supporting
4	the merger rather that just simply not standing in
5	the way, if you will.
б	But I think that and some of the
7	other things you were discussing would certainly be
8	helpful in determining our position, you know, what
9	we might think of the merger and moving forward.
10	COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you.
11	That's all I have.
12	QUESTIONS BY JUDGE BUSHMANN:
13	Q. I just have one question about the
14	March stipulation.
15	A. Sure.
16	Q. On page 6, paragraph 16, do you have
17	any opinion about whether or not that particular
18	provision would be of any benefit to ratepayers and
19	why?
20	A. I think it's beneficial to ratepayers
21	and Missourians to make sure that we are looking at
22	making sure that the savings that inure to
23	ratepayers are not coming at the cost of changes in
24	employment beyond voluntary severance, if you will.
25	This gets back to my discussion with Commissioner

1	Rupp that these were conditions that these were
2	two of the three conditions effectively that we
3	were hoping for out of this merger, and the one
4	one of the ones that certainly things that
5	certainly kept us from fully supporting the
6	transaction was that there was no commitment to
7	employee retraining in the event of involuntary
8	severance.
9	I understand that the Applicants have
10	committed to no involuntary severance, and given
11	that we did not get the retraining safeguard, we
12	will certainly be looking at these reports very
13	carefully over the next few years.
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Recross
15	based on bench questions, Public Counsel?
16	RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. SHEMWELL:
17	Q. Mr. Hyman, just a couple. Are you
18	aware that Kansas City Power & Light has already
19	done a battery storage experimental program and
20	abandoned that program?
21	A. I don't know that I agree that they
22	abandoned the program. I think the
23	Q. Let me rephrase, then. Are you aware
24	that they have done a battery experimental program?
25	A. I am aware that a few years back when

1 there were different economics around batteries, that they did do a program, as I was discussing 2 with the Commission. 3 4 0. And that program is not continuing? 5 Α. It is not. 6 If they do another, who pays for the 0. 7 experimental program? 8 Α. I think that would be for the 9 Commission to determine. Would it be customers? 10 Q. 11 Α. Potentially it could be customers. 12 Shareholders? 0. 13 Again, I think that's for the Α. 14 Commission to determine based on prudency review. 15 What about in this case, should that 0. 16 be decided by the Commission? 17 While it could be, I think generally Α. in Missouri my understanding is that we make 18 19 determinations about prudence in the context of 20 rate cases. We don't do ratemaking in a single-21 issue ratemaking except for -- except for limited 22 exceptions, such as the FAC. 23 **Q**. But isn't that what you're 24 recommending the Commission do in this case? 25 Α. Can you clarify what you mean by what

1 I'm recommending the Commission do in this case? 2 0. You're recommending the Commission 3 adopt certain programs? 4 I'm saying that we would not be Α. 5 opposed to those and that certainly they would be beneficial. 6 7 Is that a recommendation? 0. 8 Α. I think my -- I would stop short of 9 calling it a recommendation given that I said not 10 oppose. 11 Q. Is Westar pursuing a battery program? 12 I believe so, but I'm not entirely Α. 13 sure. 14 And should the results of that inform 0. 15 KCP&L? 16 Α. It could. It certainly could. But I 17 think there is a difference between doing things in the context of Kansas and doing things in the 18 19 context of Missouri, particularly when one starts 20 to consider the economic development implications of lead acid batteries. 21 2.2 What are those implications? Q. 23 Well, as I'm sure you are aware, Α. historically we have been quite -- been a lead 24 25 producer. We are a still a significant producer of

1	lead. And lead acid batteries, while they are
2	heavier than the lithium ion option, that the
3	weight is not as much an issue when you're talking
4	about applications such as stationary storage. For
5	example, I would note that the Springfield, City
6	Utilities of Springfield is doing a pilot project,
7	if you will, using batteries from Northstar.
8	Q. You're not suggesting, however, that
9	KCP&L should not gain every bit of information it
10	can from other pilot programs?
11	A. Oh, no. Of course not, but as was
12	MS. SHEMWELL: Okay. Thank you, sir.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Renew Missouri?
14	MR. OPITZ: Thank you.
15	RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. OPITZ:
16	Q. Mr. Hyman, in your discussion with
17	Commissioner Rupp, you were talking about various
18	conditions that you have put forward in testimony.
19	A. Yes.
20	Q. And your conditions are designed to
21	prevent detriments to the public interest; is that
22	correct?
23	A. I would agree that they were written
24	with the with the intention that one could at
25	least reduce the likelihood of a detriment by

1	ensuring beneficial outcomes.
2	Q. So you would agree that it's
3	appropriate for the Commission to order conditions
4	in order to protect the public interest?
5	A. I would agree that if there are
6	conditions the Commission believes could protect
7	the public interest, that they that it would be
8	wise to do so, yes.
9	Q. And in some of the questions from
10	Commissioner Rupp, you were asked about whether
11	certain conditions were benefits. Do you recall
12	that?
13	A. I do.
14	Q. And you're aware that or would you
15	agree that Missouri uses a balancing approach when
16	evaluating the benefits and the detriments?
17	A. From my understanding as a policy
18	analyst, yes, that is I believe we mentioned
19	that in our position statement actually.
20	Q. So would you agree that even if a
21	condition or something that's a benefit, that that
22	would be an important factor in the overall
23	evaluation of whether the merger is detrimental to
24	the public interest?
25	A. Depending on the condition, I would

1 say yes, it could be used in the balancing, again, from a policy perspective. 2 3 Would you say that that's true of the 0. 4 conditions that you proposed in your testimony? 5 I would say so in general, yes. Α. 6 Would you agree that the conditions ο. 7 in the testimony of Renew Missouri's witness would be appropriate to consider in reviewing the not 8 9 detrimental to the public interest? 10 Α. I would say that some of those could 11 certainly be considered. 12 Which of those should be considered? 0. 13 In my surrebuttal, I specifically Α. 14 discuss the green tariff and subscriber/shared/ 15 community renewable proposals as well as the energy 16 efficiency proposal. 17 ο. And on questions from Commissioner 18 Rupp, you agreed that consideration could be given 19 to the distributed generation study? 20 Are you referring to the --Α. 21 I believe you called it a -- he was 0. 22 asking about a value of solar study, and you used a 23 different term. 24 Right. Value of distributed energy Α. 25 resources. Yes, I believe that is another

condition that the Commission could consider. 1 2 MR. OPITZ: That's all I have. Thank 3 you. 4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Kansas Electric 5 Power? 6 MR. SCHULTE: No questions. Thank 7 you. 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: MJMEUC? 9 MR. WHIPPLE: No questions. Thank 10 you. 11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Staff? 12 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Judge. 13 THE WITNESS: Good morning, 14 Mr. Thompson. RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. THOMPSON: 15 16 Good morning, Mr. Hyman. Do you 0. 17 agree it would be more appropriate for the 18 Commission to achieve additional renewables through 19 the IRP process than simply to mandate them in this 20 case? 21 Α. I guess I'm not clear what you mean 2.2 by mandate them in this case. I don't know which 23 proposal you're referring to on that one. 24 Q. Well, I think there's some proposals 25 out there, are there not, to require specific

1	commitments towards increasing renewables or
2	maintaining at least the current level of
3	involvement in renewables?
4	A. There are some proposals that would
5	get to that, yes. Again, I don't think
6	Q. So my question is, is it not more
7	appropriate to do that through the existing IRP
8	process than simply do it by fiat in this case?
9	A. Generally, I think it's better to
10	look at the merger from the context of no
11	detriment. So I would say to some extent it's less
12	of a it's not necessarily something that has to
13	be done in this case, but I would also note that I
14	have some reservations about the current structure
15	of the IRP process, which I've certainly talked
16	about before, most recently in a working docket.
17	Q. Okay. You're aware, are you not,
18	that KCP&L and GMO have filed rate cases in
19	Missouri?
20	A. I am.
21	Q. And those cases are pending now?
22	A. I am.
23	Q. So isn't that something that could be
24	addressed in the context of those rate cases?
25	A. It could, and that's certainly

1 something we intend to look at in the context of those rate cases. 2 3 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you. No further 4 questions. 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions by 6 Applicants? 7 MR. BREGMAN: Just a few, your Honor. 8 Thank you. 9 RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. BREGMAN: 10 Mr. Hyman, during your discussion Q. 11 with Commissioner Rupp, you talked about some of 12 the conditions that were proposed by Renew Missouri. Do you recall that? 13 14 Α. Yes. 15 And one of those conditions was a **Q**. 16 suggestion that the Applicants be prohibited from 17 filing tariffs that might have negative impact on 18 distributed generation. Do you remember that 19 proposed condition? 20 I remember discussing that, yes. Α. 21 Do you agree that the Commission --0. 2.2 in order to put a tariff in place that might have 23 an impact on distributed generation, the Applicants 24 would have to get approval from this Commission? 25 A. Yes, through a rate case.

1 0. And the determination of whether to 2 approve such a tariff and the design of such a 3 tariff would come after review of a class cost of 4 service, among other evidence? 5 I'm glad you brought that up Α. 6 actually. One of the things that I've been 7 concerned about with all of these proposals that would adversely affect distributed generation is 8 9 that there have not been very good data to back 10 that up in the Missouri context. 11 That's -- I personally think that 12 that's one of the important reasons to do a value 13 of distributed energy resources study would be all 14 parties would get the chance to look at these 15 questions about costs and benefits of renewables 16 rather than simply throwing policy statements at 17 each other about renewables are always beneficial 18 or renewables are eroding the utility's profit 19 margin. 20 Would a study of that nature include 0. 21 a view of an attempt to quantify externalities 2.2 related to solar? 23 Absolutely. We would be remiss not Α. to look at all aspects of market decisions. 24 25 Hasn't the Commission traditionally 0.

1 set rates based on cost of service? Traditionally, though I would note 2 Α. 3 that the new MEEIA rules do allow for some 4 consideration of non-energy benefits. 5 Now, as I understand it, the Division 0. 6 of Energy originally opposed the merger on the 7 grounds that it did not meet the no detriment test; 8 is that correct? 9 I don't recall that. If you could Α. 10 point me to a part of my testimony that said that. 11 Q. Well, didn't you propose conditions 12 that you believe were necessary to allow the merger 13 to pass the test? 14 I proposed conditions that -- if you Α. 15 will give me one second -- help to assure the 16 Commission that the merger will not be detrimental 17 to the public interest but will instead provide a net benefit to the public. 18 19 Q. So --20 That's on page 8 of my rebuttal. Α. 21 Division of Energy has withdrawn its Q. 22 objection to the merger? 23 I wouldn't say we've withdrawn our Α. 24 objection per se. We simply don't oppose. Not 25 that we ever had an objection, a hard objection

1	that we had thrown out there. I would note, for
2	example, we did not oppose the first stipulation
3	that came out, though we were certainly
4	disappointed that it did not include all of the
5	outcomes we were hoping for.
6	Q. If you don't oppose the merger if
7	it's conditioned under the two stipulations that
8	have been provided, does that mean that the
9	Division of Energy believes that the merger as
10	conditioned under those stipulations meets the
11	requirements of the Missouri no detriment test?
12	A. So to rephrase, you're asking if no
13	position equates to supporting the merger under no
14	detriment?
15	Q. I'm asking whether not opposing
16	indicates that the Division of Energy believes that
17	the merger meets the requirements of Missouri law
18	to be approved by this Commission?
19	A. I would say it means that we neither
20	oppose it on that ground nor support it on those
21	grounds. As I was noting earlier, we did not get
22	all of the employment-related outcomes that we were
23	hoping for from this merger. Had we gotten those,
24	we would have been closer to being able to support
25	it on the basis of no detriment.

1 MR. BREGMAN: Thank you. I have no further questions. 2 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Redirect? 4 MR. POSTON: No questions. 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may step down, 6 sir. Why don't we take a short break. Be in 7 recess until about 10 minutes after 11. 8 (A BREAK WAS TAKEN.) 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Let's go back on the record. Just a brief scheduling note. The 10 11 Commission does have an agenda session scheduled 12 for noon today. So if we're not finished with our 13 final witness by then, we'll have to break a few 14 minutes before that and maybe come back at 1:30 to 15 finish that witness. 16 I think we are ready for our final 17 witness from Renew Missouri. 18 MR. OPITZ: Thank you, Judge. Renew 19 Missouri calls Mr. Karl Rabago. 20 (Witness sworn.) 21 KARL R. RABAGO testified as follows: 2.2 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. OPITZ: 23 Mr. Rabago, would you please state 0. 24 and spell your name for the record. 25 Yes. My name is Karl Rabago. Last Α.

1 name is spelled R-a-b-a-q-o. And, of course, Karl is with a K. 2 3 0. And where are you employed and in 4 what capacity? 5 Α. I'm employed by the Pace Energy and Climate Center, which is located at the Elisabeth 6 7 Haub School of Law, a part of Pace University in 8 White Plains, New York. 9 And in this case, did you prepare 0. 10 prefiled testimony on behalf of Renew Missouri that 11 has been premarked as Exhibit 450? 12 Α. Yes. 13 0. Do you have any corrections or 14 changes to that testimony? 15 I do not have any corrections or Α. 16 changes. I do want to note sort of in the interest of disclosure that after I filed this -- after you 17 caused this testimony to be filed, I did submit 18 19 testimony in the Kansas side of this case on behalf 20 of the Sierra Club. I'm just sort of getting it 21 out there. 2.2 So for your testimony in Missouri, if Q. 23 I were to ask you the questions posed in that 24 document, would your answers be the same? 25 Yes, they would, or substantially the Α.

1 same. 2 Q. And that testimony is true and 3 accurate to the best of your knowledge and belief? 4 Yes, it is. Α. 5 MR. OPITZ: Judge, at this time I would offer Exhibit 450 into evidence. 6 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any objections? 8 (No response.) 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Hearing none, it's admitted. 10 (RENEW MISSOURI EXHIBIT 450 WAS 11 12 MARKED AND RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE.) 13 MR. OPITZ: Thank you, Judge. I'll 14 tender the witness for cross-examination. 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: First cross would be 16 by Public Counsel. 17 MS. SHEMWELL: Thank you. CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. SHEMWELL: 18 19 Q. Good morning. 20 A. Good morning. 21 I'm looking at page 23 of your Q. 22 rebuttal testimony. 23 Okay. Got it. Α. 24 Q. Lines 3 through 5. 25 Α. Yes.

1 0. In that sentence you say, a value of 2 solar study should be funded by the Applicants, overseen by the Commission Staff, and conducted by 3 4 a third-party consultant with stakeholder 5 investment? Yes, ma'am. 6 Α. 7 MS. SHEMWELL: That's all I have. Thank you. 8 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Division of Energy? 10 MR. POSTON: No questions. 11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Kansas Electric 12 Power? 13 MR. SCHULTE: No questions. 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: MJMEUC? 15 MR. WHIPPLE: None. Thank you. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Commission Staff? 16 17 MR. THOMPSON: No questions. Thank 18 you, Judge. 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions by 20 Applicants. 21 MR. FISCHER: Thank you, Judge. 2.2 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. FISCHER: 23 Good morning, Mr. Rabago. My name is 0. 24 Jim Fischer, representing the Applicants in this 25 case. I understand you're missing a performance of

1 Hamilton by being with us tonight? 2 Α. On Broadway, yeah. But the 3 granddaughter and the wife are having a good time. 4 Well, they're also experiencing a 0. 5 snowstorm out on the east coast, I think. 6 Α. Yeah. 7 Well, welcome to Missouri in any 0. event. I have just a few questions for you. 8 9 On page 1 of your rebuttal testimony, 10 you state you're appearing on behalf of Renew 11 Missouri Advocates and then in parentheses, in 12 quotation marks, Renew Missouri; is that correct? 13 Yes, sir. Α. 14 MR. FISCHER: Judge, I'd like to have 15 an exhibit marked. I think it's 17. Is that 16 right? 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: 17 would be the next 18 number. (APPLICANTS' EXHIBIT 17 WAS MARKED 19 20 FOR IDENTIFICATION BY THE REPORTER.) BY MR. FISCHER: 21 2.2 Mr. Rabago, I'd like to show you a Q. 23 copy of the Articles of Incorporation of an 24 organization called Renew Missouri Advocates, which 25 I obtained from our Missouri Secretary of State's

1 website. Does this appear to be the Articles of 2 Incorporation of Missouri -- Renew Missouri 3 Advocates? 4 I am not an expert on that, but it Α. 5 looks like Articles of Incorporation that I've seen 6 before, and it appears to have the kind of 7 information that I would expect and it is titled as 8 such. So what's that phrase we use? Subject to 9 check, I'll assume this is a legitimate copy of a 10 legitimate document. I'd like to ask you to turn to page 2 11 Q. 12 of that. 13 Okay. Α. 14 Where it has a statement, the 0. 15 specific purpose for which the corporation is 16 organized is to transform Missouri into a leading 17 state in renewable energy and energy efficiency 18 within the meaning of Section 170(b)(1)(a), little 19 6, I guess, of the code. Do you see that? 20 Yes, sir. Α. 21 Is that your understanding of the 0. 22 specific purpose of your client? 23 MR. OPITZ: Mr. Fischer, can you 24 point me to where that's at? 25 MR. FISCHER: Yeah. It's on the

1 second page, at the very top of the page. It runs over from the bottom. 2 3 MR. OPITZ: Okay. Thank you. 4 BY MR. FISCHER: 5 Q. Is that right? 6 Α. So I -- I don't have any, you know, 7 expertise to state what specific purpose means 8 under Articles of Incorporation. I don't know what 9 that code section is. I will say that I know Renew 10 Missouri to be a group that advocates for clean and 11 renewable energy, that participates in commission 12 processes, and I'm not surprised that they would 13 have an aspirational goal of Missouri being a 14 leading state in renewable energy and energy 15 efficiency. So it comports with my understanding 16 of what the group works for. 17 And it looks like on the front corner 0. 18 there at the top it was filed on July 13 of 2016; 19 is that right? 20 That is the date that appears on what Α. 21 you gave me, yes. 2.2 MR. FISCHER: Judge, I'd move for 23 admission of 17. 24 MR. OPITZ: Judge, I don't have any 25 objection to the document as for speaking for

1	itself, but I do note that the registered agent on
2	the front of this page is a prior registered agent
3	who's no longer the registered agent. So I wonder
4	if this is an outdated form. However, if the
5	purpose is to ask about the purpose of being
6	incorporated, I have no objection to it.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: All right. Then
8	Exhibit 17 will be admitted.
9	(APPLICANT'S EXHIBIT 17 WAS RECEIVED
10	INTO EVIDENCE.)
11	BY MR. FISCHER:
12	Q. I also took a look at the website of
13	Renew Missouri, and it also indicated that Renew
14	Missouri's interests were to advance renewable
15	energy and energy efficiency in the state of
16	Missouri. And I believe you testified that's your
17	understanding of what their purpose is?
18	A. Yes, sir.
19	Q. But it indicated that the
20	organization was founded in 2006. Do you know,
21	Mr. Rabago, is there a difference between the Renew
22	Missouri Advocates which was formed by the filing
23	of this Secretary of State document in 2016 and the
24	Renew Missouri which had a website in 2006?
25	A. No, sir, I do not know.

1 0. You don't know. Okay. Mr. Opitz, I 2 think on Monday it was -- you may not have been in 3 the hearing room. I don't think you were. 4 No, sir. Α. 5 -- asked the Commission to take 0. 6 official notice of a decision involving GMO's 7 request for permission to build a utility scale solar plant near Greenwood, Missouri. 8 9 Α. Okay. 10 And that was Case No. EA-2015-0256. 0. 11 I'd like to show you a copy of an application to 12 intervene in that case by Renew Missouri, if that 13 would be all right. 14 Α. Sure. 15 I don't think I need to make it an 0. 16 exhibit. I'll give your counsel one. Judge, I can 17 let you follow along if you'd like. 18 In this application to intervene in 19 that case, there's an entity called Earth Island 20 Institute, doing business as Renew Missouri, and 21 they requested to intervene. Is this the same 22 legal entity that's your client in this case? 23 I don't know for sure, but given the Α. dates and what's going on here, this does not 24 25 surprise me. I've done -- I spent many years

1	working in the nonprofit sector, and many times
2	nonprofit advocacy organizations will operate under
3	the IRS approval of a parent organization. A lot
4	of city community trust type organizations set up
5	that way and or community foundations set up
6	that way to sponsor up and coming organizations as
7	they move towards incorporation in their own right.
8	Q. Let me just ask you this question:
9	On paragraph 2 it says, Earth Island Institute is a
10	nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of
11	California
12	A. Right.
13	Q with its principal place of
14	business at 2150 Alston Way, Suite 460, Berkeley,
15	California, and then down below it says, Renew
16	Missouri is a registered fictitious name of Earth
17	Island Institute. Do you see that?
18	A. Yes, sir.
19	Q. With its principal place of business
20	there and address in Columbia?
21	A. Yes, sir.
22	Q. And then it goes on to say, Renew
23	Missouri is a nonprofit policy group whose mission
24	is to transform Missouri into a leading state in
25	renewable energy and efficiency by 2016. Is that

1 what it says? 2 Α. It appears to say that, yes. 3 There's also an Earth Island 0. 4 Institute website --5 Α. Okay. 6 Ο. -- which indicated that Earth Island 7 Institute was formed by a David Brower, who was the first executive director of the Sierra Club. 8 Is 9 that your understanding? 10 Α. I don't know. 11 Q. Okay. 12 T know David Brower was --Α. 13 MR. OPITZ: I'm going to object to 14 this line of questioning as irrelevant. 15 MR. FISCHER: I think it's going to become relevant if you give me a few questions. 16 17 MR. OPITZ: Renew Missouri is no longer associated or under the umbrella of Earth 18 19 Island Institute. 20 MR. FISCHER: Maybe counsel could 21 explain that. 2.2 MR. OPITZ: My understanding is there 23 was a period of time several years ago, and it may have been up to within the last year or two, prior 24 25 to my joining Renew Missouri, that they were

1	operating under the umbrella of Earth Island
2	Institute, doing business as Renew Missouri.
3	However, and I don't have documentation prepared to
4	show it, but we are Renew Missouri is a
5	standalone operation now, no longer under the
6	purview of Earth Island Institute.
7	And I'm happy to provide counsel
8	that. I guess it would probably take me a day to
9	track that down since I don't have access to a
10	printer here, but
11	MR. FISCHER: Judge, if I could just
12	do some more cross, I think we can probably go
13	there and see some of that.
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And you're preparing
15	to lay a foundation, I assume, for what you're
16	coming to?
17	MR. FISCHER: Yes.
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: I'll give you a
19	little leeway and overrule the objection.
20	BY MR. FISCHER:
21	Q. It goes on to say, as I think we've
22	already established, that Renew Missouri has a
23	mission to transform Missouri into a leading state
24	in renewable energy and efficiency by 2016.
25	So as I understand counsel's

1 statement, your client, Renew Missouri, is a 2 different legal entity than the Earth Island 3 Institute that intervened in the GMO solar case? 4 That's the assumption I would make as Α. 5 well based on the documents you've shown me. 6 And the application to intervene in 0. 7 that GMO solar case was signed by Mr. Andrew J. 8 Linhares; is that correct? 9 Α. It appears so, yes. 10 And he's also counsel in this case as 0. 11 a Staff attorney for your client in this case; is 12 that true? 13 I don't know what his current status Α. 14 is, but I do know his name also appears on the 15 Articles of Incorporation you showed me. But I 16 don't know his formal status with Renew Missouri. 17 Can you explain the relationship 0. 18 between your client in this case and the 19 organization that intervened in the GMO solar case? 20 Α. It appears that the -- it is a, you 21 might say a successor organization or a new 2.2 corporate form for a group of people with a 23 particular mission. 24 0. Well, is Renew Missouri Advocates, 25 your client in this case, are they funded by Earth

Island Institute or persons associated with Earth 1 Island Institute? 2 3 Α. I don't know anything about the 4 funding of -- I'm not -- I'm sorry. I shouldn't 5 say that. I don't know the answer to that question. I believe, based on conversations with 6 7 folks at Renew Missouri, they are recipients of 8 some funds from the Energy Foundation, which we 9 haven't mentioned or haven't talked about so far. That's the one thing I have in my mind about any 10 11 funding that Renew gets. 12 What's the Energy Foundation? 0. 13 It's a foundation that -- a Α. 14 charitable foundation that is headquartered in 15 San Francisco, California that has been funding 16 clean energy advocates around the country for 20 years now almost or maybe more. 17 18 0. Is that --19 No. I'm sorry. Almost 30 years, I Α. think. 20 21 Is that the same funding source which 0. 2.2 would fund Sierra Club, which is an intervenor and 23 represented by another group in this case? 24 Α. I do not know what Sierra Club's 25 funding is in this case or in any other case. Ι

1 will tell you, I work -- at Pace we're a recipient of Energy Foundation funds, too, but we have other 2 sources of funds. So I can't --3 4 So who funded the Energy Foundation? 0. Other funds. So, for example, the 5 Α. MacArthur Fund, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, 6 7 the -- other funds like that gathered together in 8 1990 to form the Energy Foundation to 9 collaboratively create an initial budget of 10 \$10 million to try to at some very modest level 11 meet the ratepayer-funded advocacy of electric utilities in the energy space. 12 13 0. Do you believe that's the funding 14 source for your client, Renew Missouri Advocates, 15 in this case? 16 Α. I do not know what their funding 17 source is in this case, but I do remember having 18 conversations that they -- I was just trying to be 19 complete in my answer. I remember talking with 20 Mr. Owen I think in some conversations that they 21 get Energy Foundation funds. I'm just telling you 2.2 the extent of my knowledge. 23 Mr. James Owen is the Executive 0. 24 Director of Renew Missouri Advocates; is that 25 right?

1 Α. Yes. 2 0. And he was the same James Owen that 3 was formerly the acting public counsel here in the 4 state of Missouri? 5 Α. I believe that was a position he held 6 before, yes. 7 I found a Tweet from Renew Missouri's 0. Twitter account which stated that our mission is to 8 9 transform Missouri into a top 20 state in renewable 10 energy and efficiency by 2020. Does that sound 11 consistent with what you understand their goals 12 are? 13 It's consistent with the -- it's Α. 14 consistent with the advocacy I understand that they 15 undertake. It's consistent with the kind of goals that you described in the previous two documents 16 17 that you showed me. Maybe they're aiming a little 18 low, but... 19 2020's not very far off, though, is Q. 20 it? 21 Α. Yeah. 2.2 Okay. Well, is your testimony in Q. 23 this proceeding intended to promote those goals that Renew Missouri Advocates have announced? 24 25 I testify in this proceeding as an Α.

expert witness offering my opinion based on the 1 evidence that I reviewed in the application, but 2 3 I --4 So it's not to support Renew 0. 5 Missouri's goals and purposes? 6 Α. I'm sorry? 7 So your testimony is not designed to 0. support Renew Missouri's goals and purposes? 8 9 I think I focused on those issues and Α. my -- I do share those goals, advancing clean 10 11 energy, wherever I work. And so I think there's an 12 alignment of interests between us. I'm just -- I'm 13 hesitating because I don't want to have this 14 colloguy sound like I'm agreeing that I was 15 directed in my examination, findings and 16 conclusions in this testimony. 17 Did Mr. Owen approve the filing of 0. 18 your testimony in this case? 19 Α. I believe he was a reviewer on it. 20 Mr. Opitz was the primary person I worked with. 21 So he would have been, as the 0. 2.2 executive director, the policy person, right, for 23 the Renew Missouri group? 24 The ultimate policy director for that Α. 25 group as the executive director.

1 Q. He would have approved your filing? MR. OPITZ: Judge, I'm going to renew 2 3 my relevance objection. 4 MR. FISCHER: I'm trying to 5 understand who this client is -- or who this man is 6 representing, what their goals are and who we're 7 talking to. 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Overruled. 9 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. Could you 10 repeat that last question? BY MR. FISCHER: 11 12 I think I just asked you whether 0. 13 Mr. Owen as the policymaker would have approved 14 your testimony? 15 I have to assume so. It would be Α. 16 reasonable to assume that he did approve it. 17 Okay. I'd like to show you another ο. 18 document that is just a LinkedIn document that 19 shows Mr. Owen's background a little bit. Make 20 sure we're talking about the same people. 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Are you marking 2.2 this? 23 MR. FISCHER: Yeah, that would be 24 fine, Judge. 25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: That would be 18.

1	(ארסד דמאזיייט העודסדייי 10 געס איאסידיייס
1	(APPLICANTS' EXHIBIT 18 WAS MARKED
2	FOR IDENTIFICATION BY THE REPORTER.)
3	BY MR. FISCHER:
4	Q. Does this appear to be a LinkedIn
5	profile of Mr. James Owen that indicates he's the
6	executive director of your client, Renew Missouri,
7	at the present time?
8	A. Yeah. It appears to be his face,
9	appears to be his name, his title, and a bunch of
10	other information that appears to be in one
11	continuous website posting as evidenced by the URLs
12	that appear on the bottom of the pages. I can't
13	obviously testify as to the veracity of any of the
14	information here, and neither should you. It's the
15	Internet.
16	Q. Can you testify he is executive
17	director
18	A. Yes.
19	Q of Renew Missouri now?
20	A. Yes.
21	Q. And it also indicates, doesn't it,
22	that Renew Missouri is committed to promoting
23	renewable energy and energy efficiency throughout
24	Missouri by engaging with businesses, cities, the
25	state government and other interested stakeholders.

1 I currently oversee attorneys, policy 2 professionals, administrative staff, interns, 3 clerks, all working toward making our state a top 4 20 state for renewable energy and energy 5 efficiency? 6 Α. Yes. It says that under the 7 experience heading for the position executive 8 director. 9 Yeah. And that indicates he's been ο. 10 the executive director from May 2017 to the 11 present, right? 12 That's what it says. Α. 13 0. And then also indicates that he was 14 the acting director of the Office of Public Counsel 15 from February 2016 to February 2017, right? 16 Α. That's on the second page. Yes. If 17 this is still him, looks like it is, it says acting director Office of the Public Counsel, yes. 18 19 Are you aware that GMO has been given 0. permission by the Commission to construct a utility 20 21 scale solar plant near Greenwood, Missouri? 2.2 Α. I have a general knowledge that that 23 sounds right, but I don't know the specifics. 24 Okay. Well, Mr. Opitz asked the Q. 25 Commission to take official notice or

administrative notice of the Report and Order in 1 2 that case earlier. I'd like to show you a 3 statement of position of Renew Missouri in that 4 case. 5 Α. All right. 6 MR. FISCHER: Judge, I don't think I 7 need to mark it as an exhibit. 8 BY MR. FISCHER: 9 On the first page of that Renew 0. 10 Missouri position statement it states, Renew 11 Missouri believes the evidence is sufficient to 12 establish that the project described in GMO's 13 application is necessary or convenient for the 14 public service within the meaning of Section, it 15 says 303.170. I believe it should be 393.170. In 16 addition, the substantial and growing demand for 17 solar energy in GMO's territory and the state of 18 Missouri demonstrates that GMO's project is an 19 attempt to meet the demands and preferences of the 20 utility customers. Do you see that? Is that true? 21 Yes, sir, I do see that language. Α. 2.2 Q. Based upon that statement, would you 23 conclude that Renew Missouri was supportive of 24 GMO's application to build a solar facility in 25 Missouri?

1	A. Just that's sort of just a factual
2	description. I'm going to see if there's a sort of
3	recommendation on the document that you gave me.
4	I would generally consider a
5	statement like this affirmative, but reading this
6	sort of very carefully, what it really just says is
7	that the application is sufficient to meet the
8	legal standard and that it comports with or it is
9	consist it appears to be an effort to meet the
10	demands and preferences for solar energy. So they
11	seem to be factual decisions as opposed to
12	conclusions on the application in general.
13	Q. It wouldn't surprise you, though,
14	would it, that Renew Missouri would support solar
15	facilities in Missouri?
16	A. It would not surprise me at all, no.
17	Q. I'd like to show you another
18	statement of position in that case.
19	A. Okay.
20	Q. This one is by the Office of the
21	Public Counsel. If you would take a look at page 1
22	under the first issue, it's framed as the issue
23	is framed as, does the evidence establish the solar
24	generation project in GMO's application in this
25	docket and for which GMO is seeking a certificate

1 of convenience and necessity is necessary or 2 convenient for the public service within the 3 meaning of Section 393.107? Do you see that? 4 Yes, sir. Α. 5 Now, if you read down below the 0. 6 answer, the Public Counsel answers no, and then at 7 the end of that he says, the evidence in this case will show that GMO's application does not meet the 8 9 criteria set forth in Section 393.170. Is that 10 right? 11 Α. That is what this document that you 12 gave me says. I want to reiterate that I really 13 don't know this case well, but that's what the 14 document you gave me says, and it appears to be a 15 document that's a statement of position that sort 16 of mirrors the one you showed me for Renew 17 Missouri. 18 0. Except it comes to a different 19 conclusion? 20 Yes. By a different party, right. Α. 21 It indicates that Public Counsel was 0. 22 opposed to that project; is that right? 23 Well, that's a -- again, this is a Α. conclusion. It says that Public Counsel -- at 24 25 least what I'm reading says that Public Counsel

1	comes to the conclusion that it doesn't meet the
2	criteria of the statute or the and it does not
3	meet the criteria established by the Commission in
4	a cited case they call Tartan, which I am not
5	familiar with.
б	Q. I believe during the hearings on
7	Monday Mr. Opitz indicated that he'd been involved
8	in the case and the subsequent appeal to the courts
9	and the Public Counsel was opposing the solar
10	facility in that case. Were you informed that
11	by Mr. Opitz or Mr. Owen that they had opposed
12	their solar facility here in Missouri?
13	A. I do not recall ever discussing that,
14	no.
15	Q. Okay. Well, that's understandable.
16	Renew Missouri was supportive of GMO's application,
17	but the Office of the Public Counsel under the
18	direction of Mr. Owen was opposed to it and
19	appealed it to courts. Is that what you
20	understood?
21	A. Again, you're using the conclusory
22	terms oppose, support. One group came to a
23	conclusion that it meets the criteria. One group
24	comes to the conclusion, one party comes to the
25	conclusion it does not meet the criteria. I don't

1 know the actual posture they took on what the Commission should do, but yes, that's --2 3 Were you informed that the appeal of 0. 4 that decision was unsuccessful and the courts 5 upheld this Commission's decision to build the 6 solar facility? 7 I am not familiar with the subsequent Α. 8 history of that application. 9 From the perspective of Renew 0. 10 Missouri, do you believe it's a positive 11 development that GMO is permitted to construct a 12 solar facility in Missouri? 13 Well, I'd start by wanting to believe Α. 14 it would be a positive, but I'd need a lot of facts 15 and circumstances to render a professional opinion 16 on it. 17 But Renew Missouri's mission is to 0. 18 encourage renewable energy development by -- in 19 Missouri by the year 2020, right? 20 Right. But I -- what I'm saying is Α. 21 that I think a conclusory statement of purpose 2.2 doesn't mean that all you have to do is put solar 23 on it and, you know, somebody's going to approve it. I at least would want to look at facts and 24 25 circumstances. I'm assuming Renew Missouri would,

1 too. 2 0. It's important to know the costs and 3 the benefits and who's paying for it and all those 4 kinds of things when you look at a solar project, 5 right? 6 Α. I would think so, yes. 7 And that's true for a wind project, 0. you need to know how much it's going to cost, how 8 9 it's going to benefit, do you have transmission 10 facilities. You can't just say building wind is a 11 good thing? 12 Like I said, my predilection is to Α. start with, it looks like a good thing. Let's see 13 14 if it really pencils out. But I think all those 15 factors are important to consider in every and any 16 individual proposal. 17 And that would be true of a value of ο. 18 solar study or a value of distributed energy study, 19 we need to know the costs and who's going to 20 benefit, who's going to pay for it, whether it's 21 going to be worth it in the end? 2.2 I think that's reasonable. Α. 23 0. Okay. I'd like to show you another 24 document. This is a Stipulation & Agreement in 25 Case No. EE-2017-0113, which is our previous case

1 associated with this merger transaction. I only 2 have a couple copies, but I'm not going to go too 3 far with it. 4 MR. FISCHER: Judge, I am showing the 5 witness a copy of the Stipulation & Agreement between GPE, KCP&L and GMO with the Missouri Office 6 7 of the Public Counsel in Case No. EE-2017-0113 8 dated October 26, 2016. And this is the case 9 involving GPE, KCP&L and GMO's request for a variance on the affiliate transaction rule related 10 to the initial transaction. I'd ask the Commission 11 to take official notice of that. 12 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: To that particular 14 document? 15 MR. FISCHER: Yeah. To the 16 stipulation. It was dated October 26th, and it 17 was the stipulation between the applicants and the Office of the Public Counsel. 18 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: October 26th of what 20 year? 21 MR. FISCHER: 2017. I'm sorry. 2.2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Are there any 23 objections to taking official notice of that 24 document? 25 (No response.)

1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Hearing none, official notice is taken. 2 BY MR. FISCHER: 3 4 Mr. Rabago, would you turn to page 2. 0. 5 Α. Yes, sir. 6 At the very top it says, the 0. 7 signatories hereto recommend that the Commission grant the requested variance subject to the 8 9 following conditions and subject to the Stipulation 10 & Agreement between the joint applicants and the 11 Staff of the Commission. 12 I see that. Α. 13 0. Okay. Down below there are several 14 conditions, including the second one there is 15 the -- there's a stipulation related to the 16 employment in the state of Missouri. Do you see 17 that? 18 Α. Yes, sir. 19 0. And then if you turn over to the 20 third page, there's another stipulation with the 21 Public Counsel involving independent third-party 2.2 management audits of the affiliate transactions and 23 corporate cost allocations. Do you see that? 24 Yes, sir. Α. 25 And then there's also one on page 4 0.

1 related to corporate social responsibility. Do you 2 see that? 3 Α. I see that. 4 And then if you flip over to the last **Q**. 5 one on page 6, relates to parent company 6 conditions? 7 Α. Yes, sir. 8 Q. Okay. And would you turn to the 9 signature page on page 9? 10 Α. All right. I'm there. 11 Q. Does that have a signature by Mr. Tim 12 Opitz on behalf of the Office of the Public 13 Counsel? 14 Yes, sir, it does. Α. 15 And this was dated October 26th. 0. 16 That would have been a time when Mr. Owen was 17 acting director of the Office of Public Counsel, 18 right? We already established that. 19 Α. Based on the LinkedIn data that you 20 showed me. And by the way, the date is on page 10. 21 Yes. 2.2 Is it your understanding that the Q. 23 Office of the Public Counsel has the responsibility 24 to represent the public in public utility merger 25 cases like this one?

1 Α. I don't have personal knowledge of their statutory or other obligations, but that kind 2 3 of obligation is consistent with my experiences for 4 offices of public counsel. 5 Let's just confirm that. I'll hand 0. 6 you a copy of Section 386.710 of our statutes here 7 in Missouri. Would you read the second 8 subparagraph there. 9 Assuming this is a -- well, this Α. 10 document says Chapter 386, Section 386.710, 11 subparagraph 2. 12 0. Yes. 13 Α. He may represent -- I'm assuming he 14 or she -- may represent and protect the interests 15 of the public in any proceeding before or appeal 16 from the Public Service Commission. 17 Does Renew Missouri have any ο. 18 statutory authority to represent the public in this 19 case? 20 I don't know, sir. I'm assuming that Α. whatever legal authority or -- I don't know if 21 2.2 there's statutory authority for public interest 23 participation in cases. 24 0. Mr. Opitz didn't tell you that there 25 was, correct?

I didn't -- no, I don't recall that 1 Α. anybody said that to me. 2 3 Does Renew Missouri have any 0. 4 statutory to represent any particular interest at 5 all? 6 MR. OPITZ: Objection. Calls for 7 legal conclusion. 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: What's your 9 response, calls for legal conclusion? MR. FISCHER: I think Mr. Rabago is a 10 11 lawyer, right? THE WITNESS: I am, but I'm not here 12 13 in my capacity as an attorney. I'm certainly not a 14 Missouri attorney. 15 MR. FISCHER: I can rephrase the 16 question, Judge. 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. 18 BY MR. FISCHER: 19 0. Were you provided any statutory 20 authority that Renew Missouri has for any purpose? 21 Α. No. I have not seen anything 22 statutory that states what their purposes are. 23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Mr. Fischer, we're 24 getting close to time to break. Is there an 25 appropriate --

1	MR. FISCHER: I'm about ready to be
2	finished soon, Judge. Just give me two more
3	minutes and I think I'll be done.
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Very good.
5	BY MR. FISCHER:
6	Q. If we turn back to the Articles of
7	Incorporation, just to remind us, the specific
8	purpose for which the corporation is organized is
9	to transform Missouri into a leading state in
10	renewable energy and energy efficiency, right?
11	That's what the purpose is?
12	A. Yes, sir.
13	Q. Does the stated purpose of Renew
14	Missouri include a purpose that it's to represent
15	the public?
16	A. This document does not state that's a
17	purpose, but it also says it's organized and
18	operated for charitable, educational, scientific
19	purposes, and that this is a the language about
20	renewable energy and energy efficiency is a
21	specific purpose.
22	So I don't know how it works in
23	Missouri, whether that allows for other purposes,
24	general supporting purposes to accomplish this
25	specific purpose or any other construction like

1 that. 2 0. And it doesn't state that the purpose 3 of Renew Missouri is to represent the public 4 interest; is that right? 5 Α. I would offer the same answer I gave 6 vou. I don't know --7 So the answer is no? 0. The language that you shared with me 8 Α. 9 is the answer is no. 10 Wouldn't you agree that the Q. 11 responsibility to represent the public in this 12 merger proceeding, according to that statute you 13 looked at, is assigned to the Office of the Public 14 Counsel? 15 I'd say it another way. The Office Α. of the Public Counsel is assigned the -- is granted 16 17 the power and duty, and I'm not sure which this is, 18 to represent and protect the interests of the 19 public in any proceeding. 20 So that's an affirmative? 0. 21 Α. It's not -- it's not an affirmative 2.2 to the question you asked me, the way you asked it. 23 I'm sorry. 24 0. Okay. Let me ask it to you again. 25 Wouldn't you agree that the responsibility in this

case is to represent the public, that's the 1 responsibility of the Office of the Public Counsel? 2 3 Α. I think the way I would phrase it is 4 that I would -- the Public Counsel has in this --5 as a -- as a participant in this proceeding, is 6 charged with taking positions, advancing a case, whatever it is, that represents and protects the 7 8 interests of the public. 9 0. Would you agree that the 10 responsibilities of the Office of the Public 11 Counsel, according to that statute, are different 12 from the specific purposes of Renew Missouri contained in the Articles of Incorporation? 13 14 Α. The language in the statute differs 15 from the language in the Articles of Incorporation, 16 yes, sir. 17 The interests of Renew Missouri are 0. 18 narrower than the statutory interests of the Office 19 of the Public Counsel; wouldn't you agree with 20 that? 21 Α. The language about the Public 2.2 Counsel's duties and responsibilities is broader in 23 nature than the specific purpose statement in the document that is the Articles of Incorporation. 2.4 25 And the Office of the Public Counsel 0.

1 is recommending approval of the merger between GPE 2 and Westar subject to the conditions contained in 3 the two stipulations filed earlier in this case; is 4 that your understanding? 5 That comports with my understanding. Α. 6 MR. FISCHER: That's all I have, 7 Judge. 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: At this point let's 9 break. We'll be in recess until 1:30. 10 MR. THOMPSON: Judge, Ms. Dietrich 11 has to go to the Capitol this afternoon. Can she 12 be excused? 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: She may. 14 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you. 15 (A BREAK WAS TAKEN.) JUDGE BUSHMANN: We can pick up where 16 we left off, and the next item would be questions 17 from the Commissioners. 18 19 QUESTIONS BY CHAIRMAN HALL: 20 Good afternoon. 0. 21 Α. Hi. How are you doing, Mr. Chairman? 2.2 I'm doing well. Thank you. Can you Q. 23 turn to page 17 --24 Α. Yes. 25 -- of your rebuttal? 0.

1 Α. Yes, sir. I'm here. 2 0. Okay. And on lines 8 through 19, you 3 list a number of examples of clean energy 4 development that could result from this merger; is 5 that true? Yes, sir. 6 Α. 7 So with a merger, these examples all 0. become more likely in your view? 8 9 Yes, sir. And the only sort of Α. 10 modification I'd make to my answer is that it also 11 has to be taken in context. There's a general 12 trend toward a lot of these things happening anyway. The combined entity should, if it's more 13 efficient and if it has more resources, should be 14 15 able to do more than the baseline trajectory of 16 what's going on in the industry by virtue of the asserted benefits of the combination. 17 18 0. So even without any of the conditions 19 that you're advocating for, you believe this merger 20 is a good thing? 21 Α. I think that if the assertions of the 2.2 enhanced capabilities bear fruit and those 23 capabilities turn into action, which is the second if, and if they're not waylaid by the challenges 24 25 and frustration and attention grabbing of the

1 integration process, then there's room for this to be positively beneficial to the state of Missouri, 2 3 to the customers of the merged entity. But I have 4 to put those conditions on. 5 None of those conditions are in here. 0. 6 You come right out and say that these are examples 7 of clean energy development that could result by this merger, as a result of this merger? 8 9 Yes, they should be able to -- my Α. 10 words are they should be able to accomplish the 11 following. A larger enterprise should be able to 12 do it, yes, sir. 13 **Q**. I mean, to me, that sure sounds like 14 you're saying this merger is a good thing, and 15 you'd like -- you on behalf of your client would 16 like to take advantage of this situation to lock in 17 some of these possibilities. But even without 18 having locked in these possibilities, the merger 19 does present the likelihood that all of these will 20 occur, making it good for Missouri. Am I missing 21 something? 2.2 I generally agree. I think I'd Α. 23 phrase it a little bit differently because of the merger standard in Missouri. So what I would say 24 25 is that we think it's necessary -- I come to the

1	conclusion it's necessary to lock these in with
2	firm commitments in order to ensure or not you
3	can't guarantee so to maximize the potential for
4	this merger to not be a detriment to the public
5	interest. So I'm just converting I think I'm
6	taking your words and I'm putting them in the
7	context of the no detriment standard.
8	Q. What reason do you have to believe
9	that post merger KCP&L and GMO would be less
10	focused on energy efficiency than they are now?
11	A. My experience is that merger
12	integration is difficult, it is consuming of
13	energy, of time, of resources, I mean electrical
14	energy, just personal organizational energy. And
15	if even if all that integration is managed, you
16	will unless the company, unless the merged
17	entity is committed to doing better, at best
18	they'll maintain the status quo. And there's a
19	significant risk that they'll backslide because
20	just all the stuff that has to be done and all the
21	changes and all the learnings and the hiccups that
22	goes with realizing the benefits of these changed
23	procurement approaches and all these other things
24	gets in the way or at least becomes the priority.
25	And that's why I recommended

1 commitments on energy efficiency to make sure it had a priority that was just important to 2 management. 3 4 0. Are you familiar with the MEEIA 5 statutes in Missouri? 6 Α. I'm generally familiar with it, yes, sir. 7 8 Q. And you're aware that they are 9 voluntary? Yes, sir. 10 Α. 11 Q. And you are aware that there is a financial incentive built into that program to 12 13 incentivize utilities to take advantage of them? 14 Α. Yes, sir. 15 You don't think that KCPL and GMO are 0. 16 doing MEEIA just out of the goodness of their heart, do you? 17 18 Α. No, sir. I don't think they --19 Or just because they believe in a --Q. 20 because they believe in renewable energy or energy 21 efficiency, I should say. They're doing it at 2.2 least in part because they are financially 23 incentivized to do so? 24 Yes, sir. Α. 25 And those financial incentives will 0.

1 continue post merger, correct? 2 Yes, sir. Α. 3 0. Would you agree that the main reason 4 why utilities are -- the resource mix for utilities 5 nationwide but certainly with regard to GMO, KCP&L 6 and Westar, one of the main reasons why they're 7 moving towards wind is because of new technology, 8 reducing the prices, tax incentives, and also 9 demand from customers? 10 Α. Yes, I agree those are all 11 significant driving factors. 12 Would you say those are the main 0. significant driving factors? 13 14 Yes. We can probably quibble about Α. 15 the order, but I think those are the top of the 16 list. 17 And that's fine. And all of those 0. 18 factors will be in place post merger, is that not 19 true? 20 Α. I expect those drivers to continue, 21 yes, sir. 2.2 CHAIRMAN HALL: I have no further 23 questions. Thank you. 24 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 25 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: No questions.

1 Thank you. QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER RUPP: 2 3 0. Good afternoon. 4 Hi. How are you doing, Commissioner? Α. 5 I'm good. How was your lunch? 0. 6 Α. It was good. We had Madison's, but 7 they're always reliable. 8 I asked three questions to the 0. 9 Division of Energy. I'm going to pose the same 10 three to you. In your view, what are the benefits 11 to an energy storage demonstration program for 12 Missouri? 13 Yes, sir. First is technical. Α. There 14 are technical configurations of electric systems 15 that need to be physically sort of verified with storage operating in them. So there's just a bunch 16 17 of technical things you've got to work out. 18 Second, it seems like every utility 19 is from a show-me state. It's not real to them 20 until their staff puts their hands on it, till 21 management has seen how it works and what it yields 2.2 and they can start incorporating it. So there's 23 just sort of an experience factor with it. 24 Then there's just the system-wide 25 benefits that you get. You get -- it's supportive

1 of, I would say, a perhaps even accelerating shift towards more distributed resources. 2 So storage can 3 facilitate the more rapid and deeper deployment of 4 intermittent distributed renewables as well as 5 large renewables. 6 When I was at AES Corporation, we 7 were putting big storage right at the busbar of 8 large coal plants in like Chile and found out that 9 the economics of central station plants can 10 dramatically be improved by collocating storage at 11 the busbar. 12 There are huge potential economic 13 development benefits for anybody who gets to be 14 first in line for manufacturing. And like most 15 relatively distributed energy resources, they're 16 capital intensive, so you get collateral economic development and job creation benefits as well. 17 That's off the top of my head. 18 19 Q. And then the company, when I 20 discussed this earlier, they stated that they 21 didn't think that this is the appropriate forum for 22 us to condition approval on something. What is 23 your comments on that? 24 So the first gets to the points that Α. 25 I was sharing with the Chair, and that is that I do

1	believe that there's a trajectory towards more
2	storage use as the economies are improving and the
3	industry in general gains experience. I think that
4	if nothing happened, if there was no merger, you
5	would expect to see more storage showing up in what
6	the company was doing. It would show up as cost
7	effective in IRPs. It would there's a level of
8	growth as more of these states undertake to
9	understand it, your grid modernization proceedings
10	bear fruit, utility of the future type inquiries.
11	So you're going to get more storage anyway.
12	What we recommend in the way I viewed
13	it in my testimony is that, to make sure that you
14	don't lose ground against this tide that's out
15	there, it is appropriate to commit to doing it in a
16	merger and to lock in the benefits, to make this
17	theoretically sort of arguably more efficient
18	merged entity take advantage of its efficiencies
19	and its strength, you should get more storage than
20	you would have gotten under a baseline assumption.
21	You can promise it in a rate case or
22	an IRP, but we don't this merger doesn't
23	produce doesn't include any commitments or
24	obligations of sort of, you know, litigation
25	posture. So it's a little bit of a pig in a poke
1	

1 to say it's going somewhere else. 2 And finally, I guess I just tie it 3 all up by saying, in my view of the merger 4 standard, to make sure you don't go backwards, and it's appropriate for the Commission to take a wide 5 6 look at what this merged entity can do in a wide range of areas. And, you know, if you can talk 7 8 about closing a power plant, you can talk about 9 adding a battery. I don't see a conceptual 10 difference that says that in some way a storage 11 program is not germane to a merger. That would be 12 my argument. 13 0. Thank you on that. What would the 14 detriment be to the state or the people if you 15 include that condition in a merger case? 16 Α. That's an interesting question. Ιf 17 we're -- if you assume that sort of the costs of the merger, including dedication to particular 18 19 technologies, all amounts to a zero-sum game, then 20 anything they promise to do means something else 21 they can't afford to promise to do. 2.2 So there's -- if you assume that's 23 the case, that it is a zero-sum game, then making a commitment to do more storage or the other things 24 25 that I recommended would arguably cut into some

1	other benefit.
2	I'm not sure I accept that
3	proposition. The company asserts it's able to do a
4	whole lot more things once it merges, the basic
5	bigger is better argument. So I don't think it's a
6	zero-sum game, but if you have a zero-sum game sort
7	of approach to it, then you'd have to be practical
8	about the tradeoffs.
9	Q. And then similar questions on the
10	benefits and the forum and everything on the value
11	of solar. What would be derived out of that?
12	A. I think that this also without
13	fully repeating myself, it would put the companies
14	and the Commission and the broader, you know,
15	community at large in a position to appropriately
16	appreciate and take advantage of the revolution in
17	scale that is the growth of distributed energy
18	resources, technologies, markets and options.
19	It would also significantly buttress
20	the implied picking and choosing that's already in
21	the merger commitments. As I said, the company's
22	committing to closing some power plants. We don't
23	technically have an analysis that tells us those
24	wouldn't close anyway. So I'm a little concerned
25	about that.

1	But we also don't know whether those
2	are the best plants to close, whether other plants
3	could close, or whether similar benefits could be
4	obtained by pursuing distributed energy resources.
5	So taking advantage of the merger to
6	say let's all get smarter about valuing distributed
7	energy resources, and I'll accept sort of the
8	friendly amendment that you could even go from
9	value of solar to value of DER, puts you in a
10	position to take full advantage of the combined
11	merger entity, would be a relatively modest price,
12	and would get a commitment that otherwise you'll
13	have to wait and see if you could get through some
14	other litigated process some way down the road.
15	Q. And then the third one was the
16	commitment to no tariff on rate designs adversely
17	applying to distributed energy resources. I assume
18	your previous answers apply to that?
19	A. All that and I'll add in the fact
20	that there's a whole lot of rate impacting
21	commitments, you know, in this proposed in the
22	application and the stipulation. So I
23	categorically reject the concept that doing
24	something like freezing rates, freezing rate
25	changes that would be adverse to DER, it should be

1	off the table. I think it's just as relevant as
2	those other rate-related changes or non-changes
3	that are contained in the application and, as I
4	understand it, the proposal for a settlement.
5	I think it's also really important,
6	going back to all of the comments I've said about
7	the fact that everything else that's going on I
8	did specifically point to this in my testimony as
9	well. These entities are in the perfect posture
10	that we've seen around the country for companies
11	that would try to do things like increase fixed
12	charges, fixed customer charges, increase
13	distributed energy resource access charges, propose
14	residential demand charges, those kinds of things
15	that I'm concerned with.
16	They're in the perfect posture
17	because their sales have been flat and they're
18	they share the common utility concern about revenue
19	certainty, cash flow. So just call it preventive
20	medicine as well. While you're working through the
21	merger, don't go throwing out these kinds of rates
22	until we see what this well-oiled, integrated
23	machine can do.
24	Q. So can I basically sum up your
25	conversation with me is that all three of those

1	proposals are in this merger in different forms or
2	different types some way, shape or form? So these
3	are not concepts or things that are completely out
4	of left field that are within other forms or areas
5	of this merger?
6	A. I think there's a logical touch point
7	for all of these from things that are already in
8	the application and the proposed settlement. So
9	yeah, I don't think they're left field.
10	Q. I'm going to change tracks here. I
11	appreciate your comments. You may not have answers
12	for my next series of questions.
13	A. Okay.
14	Q. If you don't, totally get it because
15	I don't either. What did we witness before lunch,
16	the interaction with you and the company? What was
17	it?
18	A. It was me and my counsel had a
19	whole lunchtime conversation about it. There's
20	probably some sort of rule about what I can
21	discuss. Let me just take a fresh look at it.
22	This thing that we're in, even sort
23	of even before I sat on the commission from
24	around 1992, '93, '94, this used to be a really
25	closed community. You had to be, you know, a

1	regulatory nerd. You had to be, you know, in an
2	endearing way crazy enough to be a commissioner.
3	You had to be a regulated utility company, you
4	know. And by sort of by the nature of the
5	sophistication, the complexity, the oddness of what
6	we do in this space, it was a very closed
7	community.
8	There's even a movement now things
9	are changing. There's even a movement now, people
10	talking about, you know, they call it utility
11	democratization. Right. It's actually pretty
12	similar to least cost planning push and when we
13	push for public participation in integrated
14	resource plans.
15	There are historical antecedents to
16	it, but the closed community is opening to a lot of
17	voices, and some of them have pretty narrow
18	agendas. Some of them have statutorily imposed
19	broad agendas. The conversation is getting messier
20	and noisier. It's more of a town hall meeting than
21	a smoke-filled room, if you will, to just use the
22	extremes.
23	And I think some of the established
24	old players are still working through that and
25	figuring out how how these processes should

1 proceed with these different voices and maybe want -- maybe want to offer you their thoughts on 2 3 how those voices should be evaluated. I trust you. 4 I think you guys can work it out. 5 That's an interesting take. I guess 0. 6 it was three years ago, I was pretty new on the 7 Commission. I butted heads with this company a 8 little bit over some customer service issues. And 9 in my subsequent dealings with them, it was kind of 10 that conversation of the changing the culture from 11 an old school, you know, very engineering focus 12 type of we're fixing this problem, we got it, to an 13 open community customer service type of mindset and 14 this difficulty of changing that culture over time, 15 especially as much more technology is coming in. 16 And I've seen huge strides in this 17 company from my perspective on customer service. 18 I've seen that, and their conversations with me 19 were poignant and they were -- I've seen a lot of 20 progress. What your take is on that, then we took 21 a big step backward earlier today. I don't know 22 what we witnessed, but I don't know if it was a character attack on Renew Missouri, if was a 23 24 character attack on Jim Owen, but that's kind of 25 how it came across.

1	I mean, I look at Jim Owen's LinkedIn
2	profile, and what was read in was the paragraph
3	under his experience which was, Renew Missouri is
4	committed to promoting renewable energy and energy
5	efficiency throughout Missouri by engaging with
6	businesses, cities, state governments and other
7	interested stakeholders.
8	I argue that if you take out Renew
9	Missouri and you put in the company's name and say,
10	the company is committed to promoting renewable
11	energy and energy efficiency throughout Missouri by
12	engaging with businesses, cities, the state
13	government and other interested stakeholders, that
14	statement is completely true.
15	We had the new CEO, both the CEOs
16	that were touting we're going to be fifth in the
17	country in wind and renewable energy and we're
18	going in this trajectory. But the conversation
19	that was happening in front of me was, you know,
20	kind of like yesterday we were all pro but now it's
21	a bunch of California Berkeley hippies that are
22	coming in with tree-hugging, dirt-munching druids
23	and you don't want to trust them. It was like,
24	whoa. I could not understand the path that was
25	being taken in front of us.

1	I'm going to make the assumption
2	that's not how they were attempting to portray it,
3	but to me it was a cheap shot. Don't have an
4	argument. I'm going to go after this organization
5	with veiled character attacks. I mean, we see this
6	in politics now with the argument isn't the
7	substantive nature; it's the demonization of the
8	opposing party.
9	And I had not witnessed that to this
10	level in this hearing room in my four years here.
11	So hopefully it was just an aberration, or maybe it
12	was presented in a different way than what it was
13	intended, but that's how it came across to me. And
14	I still don't understand the relevance of that
14 15	I still don't understand the relevance of that hour-long testimony that was there. But I
15	hour-long testimony that was there. But I
15 16	hour-long testimony that was there. But I appreciate you opining on your opinion.
15 16 17	hour-long testimony that was there. But I appreciate you opining on your opinion. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Recross based on
15 16 17 18	hour-long testimony that was there. But I appreciate you opining on your opinion. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Recross based on bench questions, Public Counsel?
15 16 17 18 19	<pre>hour-long testimony that was there. But I appreciate you opining on your opinion. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Recross based on bench questions, Public Counsel? MS. SHEMWELL: No questions. Thank</pre>
15 16 17 18 19 20	<pre>hour-long testimony that was there. But I appreciate you opining on your opinion. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Recross based on bench questions, Public Counsel? MS. SHEMWELL: No questions. Thank you.</pre>
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15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	<pre>hour-long testimony that was there. But I appreciate you opining on your opinion.</pre>
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	<pre>hour-long testimony that was there. But I appreciate you opining on your opinion.</pre>

1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: MJMEUC?
2	MS. WHIPPLE: None. Thank you.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Commission Staff?
4	MR. THOMPSON: No questions. Thank
5	you, Judge.
6	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Applicants?
7	MR. FISCHER: Yes, your Honor.
8	RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. FISCHER:
9	Q. I appreciate the opportunity to visit
10	with you, Mr. Rabago. I want to go to the last
11	question, because counsel for the company obviously
12	did a lousy job about trying to explain where he
13	was going, and I'd like to ask you a couple
14	questions because you had it right, I have a lot of
15	respect for Mr. Opitz and Mr. Owen and their
16	various roles.
17	But as roles change in this, wouldn't
18	you agree that if you're the Public Counsel, your
19	role is different than if you are a head of an
20	environmental group?
21	A. Yes. Each brings and I think sort
22	of by rules of intervention here in Missouri, each
23	brings a different perspective to the proceeding.
24	Q. At it's not a cheap shot, would you
25	agree, to point out that whenever I was the Public

1 Counsel, my role was different than whenever I was 2 counsel for a company? 3 Α. Yeah. I don't -- your role in each 4 of those different positions would be different, 5 yes. 6 And when you happen to be the Public ο. 7 Counsel and endorse a merger with certain conditions that did not include any energy 8 9 efficiency or renewable energy, that's not anything 10 bad, it's just a different role; wouldn't you 11 agree? 12 A different perspective, yes, sir. Α. And I believe you did indicate that 13 0. 14 the role of Renew Missouri is much narrower than 15 the Office of the Public Counsel; isn't that right? 16 Α. The way -- we were talking about sort 17 of the words you put in front of me. Let me sort 18 of -- I was trying to address your question 19 specifically. One talked about the specific purpose and one talked about a broad statutory 20 21 obligation. 2.2 I will tell you that I've been 23 working on trying to advance energy efficiency and renewable energy a lot in -- over the past many 24 25 years. And just like this merger proceeding, you

1 can find yourself having to look at the much bigger picture in order to understand where and how you 2 3 can best advance the interests of clean energy. 4 So, you know, I wouldn't say that a 5 clean energy focused organization necessarily looks 6 at any smaller part of the pie, but those two 7 specific charter languages that we were looking at from the documents you shared with me, those are 8 9 different. One is narrower. One is broader. 10 And that's a legitimate point to 0. make, wouldn't you agree? 11 12 It's a point. I wouldn't personally Α. give it much weight, but it is a point to make, 13 14 yes, sir. 15 I apologize to the Commission for 0. 16 taking an hour to get to that point, and I 17 apologize to Commissioner Rupp if you thought I was 18 taking a cheap shot. 19 I would like to ask you about a 20 couple of the substantive discussions that you had 21 with the Commissioners today. 2.2 Yes, sir. Α. 23 Particularly I believe you talked 0. 24 with the Chairman about the MEEIA statute. 25 Yes, we -- yes, I remember that. Α.

1 0. From Renew Missouri's perspective, 2 was the adoption of the Missouri Energy Efficiency 3 Investment Act a positive development for the 4 promotion of energy efficiency programs? 5 I'm sorry. I can't speak to that. Α. Ι 6 don't know what their position is on it. I would 7 assume that they favor moving forward on energy 8 efficiency, and to the extent that that statute 9 does it, I would imagine they'd be supportive. Ιt would be consistent. 10 11 Q. Do you believe from your professional 12 perspective that the adoption of legislation that 13 encourages the development of energy efficiency 14 programs and aligns the interests of public utilities with their customer interests in energy 15 16 efficiency, that that's reasonable and appropriate public policy? 17 18 Α. I think it's a good start. I've 19 actually been at a utility that managed much more 20 aggressive energy efficiency programs and went much 21 further in embracing the resource, but I can't -- I 2.2 can't reasonably disagree with all those attributes 23 of the program here in Missouri that are good. I think you could go further. 24 25 When you filed your testimony, were 0.

1 you aware that KCP&L and GMO were among the primary 2 opponents of that legislation, that type of 3 legislation? 4 No, I didn't. Α. 5 0. Proponents. 6 Α. Proponents. Okay. You got me for a 7 minute. I would not be surprised. I think it was the Chairman mentioned that -- or I think it was 8 9 the Chairman mentioned that there were several 10 reasons why these things are starting to happen, 11 customer demand, cost effectiveness, you know, 12 benefits to the system. 13 So to actually get an incentive 14 payment to do something that's so good for the 15 company, if I was a utility, I'd jump at it, and 16 I've been at utilities that jumped at it even 17 harder. 18 0. And did you read Mr. Crawford's 19 testimony in the case? I believe I did. I'd say almost 20 Α. 21 certainly because I read every bit of testimony, 2.2 but if you have a specific question, you can --23 Did you see anywhere in his testimony 0. 24 that the proposed merger would result in the 25 cancellation or reduction of any of KCP&L or GMO or

1	Westar's energy efficiency programs?
2	A. No. My testimony was I did not
3	see that. My testimony was that I would have liked
4	to have seen a commitment to do better and more.
5	Q. And as I understand your testimony,
6	Renew Missouri would like to see an expansion of
7	the energy efficiency efforts, not just stay in the
8	status quo?
9	A. Yes. And not just the current
10	trajectory, which is generally upward.
11	Q. Even though there's no evidence in
12	the record that there's going to be a reduction in
13	any energy efficiency programs of the Applicants,
14	correct?
15	A. Right. I would like to see a
16	backstop against backsliding.
17	Q. And I believe there was also some
18	discussions about the closing of coal-fired or gas
19	generation plants
20	A. Yes.
21	Q on an accelerated basis. And I
22	believe that you pointed out in your testimony that
23	the companies have suggested the merger will enable
24	Westar to accelerate the closing of a number of
25	fossil fuel generation units by five to ten

1 years --2 Α. Right. 3 -- is that right? 0. 4 From the perspective of Renew 5 Missouri or as a professional in the environmental 6 area, would it be a positive development if Westar 7 was able to accelerate the closing of a number of 8 fossil fuel generation units by five or ten years? 9 I think I can say on behalf of Renew Α. 10 and certainly in my opinion it would be good if 11 that happened. My testimony was that that 12 trajectory should be backed up by a firm 13 commitment. 14 So that would be a public benefit of 0. the merger if that kind of acceleration could 15 16 occur? 17 It's actually critical to -- I think Α. 18 it's critical the way that Applicants have postured 19 the application because so many of the merger 20 savings are associated with savings that are 21 generated from those -- that would -- wrong word --2.2 that would result from the closing of those 23 generation units. 24 Q. Is there anything that you saw in the 25 Applicants' application or their testimony that

1 suggested that they were going to delay the closing 2 of those fossil fuel plants for Westar because of 3 this merger? 4 I did not see evidence of the Α. 5 negative. I was looking for evidence affirming the 6 positive. 7 You also had a discussion about the 0. 8 grid connected energy storage? 9 Yes, sir. Α. 10 Mr. Crawford discussed in his 0. 11 testimony the past KCPL energy storage initiatives 12 that were looked at beginning in year 2012. Do you recall reading that? 13 14 Α. I think there was a stimulus act 15 demonstration project that was --16 0. I think it was called smart grid 17 demonstration. Do you remember that? 18 Α. Yes, sir. 19 And I believe he indicated that while 0. 20 these -- while those particular storage facilities 21 were still in place, they had reviewed it, and 22 these systems are still in place and KCP&L 23 continues to track the development and cost of 24 storage technologies for future resource and demand 25 side program planning.

1 Α. I do recall that that was what they said, that they're continuing to track the 2 3 technology. 4 Did you find anywhere in the 0. 5 company's testimony where they stated the proposed 6 merger would result in a reduction or a 7 cancellation of those particular grid connected 8 storage units? 9 No, but in honesty, in this day and Α. age, utilities of this size that don't have at 10 11 least one staff person tracking market developments 12 would be so ridiculous as to be unbelievable, and 13 that's all they really said they're doing is 14 tracking developments going forward. 15 I believe you've been a participant, 0. 16 haven't you, in the Commission's emerging issues 17 workshop? 18 Α. Yes, on two occasions, one on PURPA 19 and more recently on some distributed energy 20 resource issues. 21 And do you recall that some of the 0. 2.2 parties have discussed the value of solar studies 23 or the value of distributed energy resources in 2.4 those dockets? 25 Yes, and I was a part of some of Α.

those discussions. 1 2 0. Do you recall that some of the 3 parties raised concerns about mandating a value of 4 solar study, particularly having to pay for one? 5 I do recall that, yes. Α. 6 0. Particularly industrial 7 representatives, do you recall that? 8 Α. Yes. I do recall that they took that 9 position. 10 Would it be appropriate to discuss Q. 11 that kind of study in a broader context than in 12 a -- just in a merger proceeding where not 13 everyone's participating? 14 I'm sorry. I might have been unclear Α. 15 in my testimony. I did not recommend that the 16 parties to the merger sort of adjourn this case and 17 then move into a stakeholder group or something like that. 18 What I would envision, that this be a 19 20 commitment to form a broad stakeholder engagement 21 effort to analyze the benefits of solar distributed 2.2 energy resources and to develop frameworks for 23 evaluating those resources, assessing all the costs 24 and benefits. 25 So I didn't want to just limit it to

1 those parties. What I was seeking was the commitment in this proceeding, but not that it just 2 3 be merger parties that would do it. 4 And isn't that what is somewhat going 0. 5 on in that working docket where we're talking about 6 those studies? 7 I can't -- I didn't -- I don't see a Α. 8 commitment coming out of it. I heard some people 9 opposing it, and I didn't see the companies embracing it. So for the reasons that I stated to 10 11 the Commissioner, I think it's appropriate to put 12 that kind of commitment in this proceeding. 13 MR. FISCHER: Okay. That's all the 14 questions I have for Mr. Rabago, but I would be 15 happy to answer any questions from the bench about 16 what you saw this morning. 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Redirect by Renew 18 Missouri? 19 MR. OPITZ: No, thank you, Judge. 20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, 21 Mr. Rabaqo. You may step down. You're excused. 2.2 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: That's all of our witnesses that are scheduled. Do any parties have 2.4 25 any other matters that need to be discussed right

1 now? Don't hear any. Expedited transcript should be 2 3 available two business days after each hearing 4 date. We do have a briefing schedule. Initial 5 briefs are due on March 30th. Reply briefs are due on April 13th. I believe the Chairman had a 6 7 request about briefs. 8 CHAIRMAN HALL: I'll be interested in 9 the parties' thoughts on a slight modification to the affiliate transaction variance, and there's two 10 11 components to that. One, simply saying the 12 variance only applies to transactions between 13 affiliates that provide retail electricity service 14 regulated by the Missouri Public Service Commission 15 or the Kansas Corporation Commission. 16 My sense is that that's what is 17 intended by the waiver, but I'm -- but at least for 18 me, this clears it up. For example, in the 19 language in the variance proposal there's a 20 reference to Westar. It's unclear to me if that's 21 intended to include the transmission company or 2.2 not. 23 The other thing, and this is probably -- I will say right here is probably not 24 25 necessary, but I'll be interested in the parties'

1	thoughts. Something along the lines of expressly
2	saying that this waiver does not in any way limit
3	any party from asserting that a particular
4	transaction is imprudent or limit the Commission's
5	capacity to make such a finding. Again, I think
6	that is consistent with the parties' intent, but I
7	might support making that express.
8	And if there was anyone had a
9	question, I'd be available to answer it.
10	MR. ZOBRIST: I think that's pretty
11	clear, and we'll be glad to address it.
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Anything further
13	from the parties?
14	MR. SCHULTE: One point of
15	clarification on the transcripts. Will they be
16	available on a publicly posted website?
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Yes, they will.
18	MR. SCHULTE: Thank you.
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Anything further?
20	MR. OPITZ: Judge, can I confirm that
21	Mr. Rabago's testimony was admitted into evidence?
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Yes, it was. In
23	fact, the only the only exhibit that was marked
24	that was not admitted was Exhibit 18, which was the
25	LinkedIn profile, because it was not offered.

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Mr. Fischer, did you intend to offer that?
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                  MR. FISCHER: I did not, no.
 3
                  JUDGE BUSHMANN: In that case,
 4
     everything else that was marked has been admitted
     into the record.
 5
 б
                  MR. OPITZ: Thank you, Judge.
 7
                  JUDGE BUSHMANN: All right. Hearing
 8
     nothing, then we are adjourned. Go off the record.
 9
                  (WHEREUPON, the evidentiary hearing
     concluded at 2:15 p.m.)
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19
20
21
2.2
23
24
25
```

1	INDEX	
2	STAFF'S EVIDENCE:	
3	NATELLE DIETRICH	
_	Direct Examination by Mr. Thompson	265
4	Cross-Examination by Ms. Shemwell	267
	Cross-Examination by Mr. Opitz	268
5	Questions by Chairman Hall	273
	Questions by Judge Bushmann	286
6	Recross-Examination by Mr. Zobrist	291
	Recross-Examination by Ms. Shemwell	301
7	Recross-Examination by Mr. Opitz	303
8	OPC'S EVIDENCE:	
9	GEOFF MARKE	
	Direct Examination by Ms. Shemwell	310
10	Cross-Examination by Mr. Opitz	313
	Cross-Examination by Mr. Schulte	314
11	Questions by Chairman Hall	314
	Recross-Examination by Mr. Zobrist	318
12	Redirect Examination by Ms. Shemwell	320
13	DIVISION OF ENERGY'S EVIDENCE:	
14	MARTIN HYMAN	
	Direct Examination by Mr. Poston	322
15	Cross-Examination by Mr. Opitz	323
	Questions by Chairman Hall	328
16	Questions by Commissioner Rupp	332
	Questions by Judge Bushmann	337
17	Recross-Examination by Ms. Shemwell	338
	Recross-Examination by Mr. Opitz	341
18	Recross-Examination by Mr. Thompson	344
	Recross-Examination by Mr. Bregman	346
19		
	RENEW MISSOURI'S EVIDENCE:	
20		
	KARL R. RABAGO	
21	Direct Examination by Mr. Opitz	350
	Cross-Examination by Ms. Shemwell	352
22	Cross-Examination by Mr. Fischer	353
	Questions by Chairman Hall	384
23	Questions by Commissioner Rupp	390
	Recross-Examination by Mr. Fischer	402
24		
25		

1			
⊥ 2	EXHIBITS INDEX APPLICANT'S EXHIBITS		
2		RKED	REC ' D
3			
4	EXHIBIT 16 PowerPoint, Merger Approval		
5	Update March 12, 2018	293	301
-	EXHIBIT 17		
б	Articles of Incorporation of a Nonprofit Corporation	354	357
7			
8	EXHIBIT 18 LinkedIn Pages, James Owen	368	
9	STAFF'S EXHIBITS		
10	EXHIBIT 200		
11	Rebuttal Testimony of Natelle Dietrich	266	266
12	EXHIBIT 201	200	200
1 0	Surrebuttal Testimony of Natelle	266	266
13	Dietrich	266	266
14	DIVISION OF ENERGY'S EXHIBITS		
15	EXHIBIT 300 Rebuttal Testimony of Martin Hyman	323	323
16		525	515
17	EXHIBIT 301 Surrebuttal Testimony of Martin R.		
	Hyman	323	323
18	OPC'S EXHIBITS		
19			
	EXHIBIT 350		
20	Rebuttal Testimony of Geoff Marke	312	312
21	RENEW MISSOURI'S EXHIBITS		
22	EXHIBIT 450 Debuttel Westimener of Kerrl D		
23	Rebuttal Testimony of Karl R. Rabago	352	352
24	-		
25			

CERTIFICATE 1 2 STATE OF MISSOURI)) ss. 3 COUNTY OF COLE 4 5 I, Kellene K. Feddersen, Certified Shorthand Reporter with the firm of Midwest 6 Litigation Services, do hereby certify that I was 7 personally present at the proceedings had in the 8 above-entitled cause at the time and place set 9 forth in the caption sheet thereof; that I then and 10 11 there took down in Stenotype the proceedings had; and that the foregoing is a full, true and correct 12 13 transcript of such Stenotype notes so made at such time and place. 14 Given at my office in the City of 15 Jefferson, County of Cole, State of Missouri. 16 17 18 Kellene K. Feddersen, RPR, CSR, CCR 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

Page 418

A	acid 340:21	415:8	355:3 356:10	306:24 307:4
a.m 265:3	341:1	adjusted	357:22	307:19 308:6
abandoned	acquisition	296:19,20	362:24	308:17 310:2
338:20,22	280:25 317:4	adjustment	363:16 364:14	319:13,24
ABC 289:2	act 271:17	276:13 299:1	364:24	321:12 324:6
	326:24	299:2,4,6	365:24	324:25
aberration	335:20,23	adjustments	advocating	326:16 331:17
401:11	405:3 409:14	276:20 277:7	330:9 385:19	332:19 334:16
ability 297:25	acting 365:3	297:10	AES 391:6	337:1 338:21
321:15	369:14,17	administrative	affect 271:5	341:23 342:2
able 278:23	378:17	369:2 370:1	276:23	342:5,15,20
304:23 316:11	action 329:7	admission	285:17 289:15	343:6 344:17
330:19 331:3	385:23	356:23	347:8	346:21 382:10
349:24	actions 326:8	admitted	affiliate 278:14	382:25 383:9
385:15 386:9	actual 316:14	266:18 301:7	278:16,25	383:19
386:10,11	374:1	323:13 352:10	292:3,5	386:22 389:3
394:3 408:7		357:8 414:21	292:3,5 293:9 376:10	389:10 402:18
above-entitled	adapting			
418:9	325:14	414:24 415:4	377:22 413:10	402:25 403:11
Absolutely	add 283:5	adopt 290:10	affiliates 279:14	404:11
347:23	335:1 395:19	340:3	279:20,24	agreed 289:17
abundance	adding 393:9	adopted	293:2 413:13	296:21 311:23
314:9 321:10	addition 283:5	272:23	affirmative	320:20 326:5
accelerate	332:15 370:16	adoption 405:2	371:5 382:20	330:18,24
407:24 408:7	additional	405:12	382:21	343:18
accelerated	272:12 276:6	advance 357:14	affirming 409:5	agreeing 275:9
407:21	276:8 289:22	403:23 404:3	afford 393:21	289:12 366:14
accelerating	296:21 319:3	advancing	Afraid 329:10	agreement
391:1	321:18 325:8	366:10 383:6	afternoon	267:15 268:16
acceleration	326:4 333:3	advantage	384:11,20	268:24 269:6
408:15	336:23	274:4 284:2	390:3	272:5,18
accept 394:2	344:18	386:16 388:13	age 410:10	276:5,15
395:7	Additions 312:8	392:18 394:16	agencies 286:2	277:17 280:19
access 287:19	address 269:14	395:5,10	286:9	282:6 288:1,9
287:22	287:5 336:2	advantageous	agency 324:15	292:14 294:4
304:24 361:9	359:20	277:13 278:12	agenda 350:11	294:11,15,19
396:13	403:18 414:11	279:9	agendas 398:18	294:24
accomplish	addressed	advantages	398:19	295:19 297:19
381:24 386:10	302:14	278:7	agent 357:1,2,3	297:25 300:6
account 365:8	345:24	adverse 335:12	aggressive	300:6 309:22
accurate	addresses	395:25	330:3 405:20	311:24 312:4
268:22	302:9	adversely 347:8	ago 291:1 327:3	313:15 314:25
284:22 295:9	addressing	395:16	360:23 399:6	319:11 320:23
352:3	283:3	advocacy	agree 269:2	375:24 376:5
achieve 344:18	adequate	325:6 359:2	275:3,4,23,24	377:10
achieving	304:9	364:11 365:14	277:4,25	agreements
305:23	adjourn 411:16	advocates	282:18 300:15	267:11 293:14
	adjourned	354:11,24	304:7 305:4	294:19 300:5
	1	I	I	

300:20 319:14	342:18	appear 285:15	324:16	278:5 280:9
324:3	analyze 411:21	355:1 368:4	applies 413:12	283:15
agrees 288:19	analyzed 291:18	368:12	apply 278:21	292:23
ahead 305:10	and/or 278:24	APPEARANC	395:18	299:22
321:23 380:17	Andrew 264:5	263:1	applying 335:13	300:18
aiming 365:17	362:7	appearing	395:17	324:24
akin 269:24	announced	354:10	appreciate	349:18 367:1
281:14	365:24	appears 281:17	394:16 397:11	367:13
ALARIS 262:24	announcement	293:16 355:6	401:16 402:9	approves
alignment	286:2,7	356:20 360:2	approach	269:19,20
366:12	annual 299:1	362:9,14,20	283:16 303:6	approving
aligns 405:14	331:19	368:8,9,10	342:15 394:7	331:8
alleviate 270:3	answer 328:21	371:9 372:14	approaches	approximately
alleviates	329:9 335:9	APPLICANT'S	387:23	296:25
272:16,21	335:10 363:5	357:9 417:2	appropriate	April 413:6
allocation	364:19 372:6	applicants	298:2 305:12	area 408:6
290:5,16 319:1	382:5,7,9	266:24 268:6	310:4 317:25	areas 393:7
allocations	385:10 412:15	268:12 291:22	326:10	397:4
290:10	414:9	292:4,13	332:20	arguably 392:17
377:23	answers 266:7	302:17 303:11	333:14 335:8	393:25
allow 279:6,10	266:9 323:3	309:14 314:18	336:9 342:3	argue 400:8
348:3,12	351:24 372:6	316:20 318:21	343:8 344:17	argument
allowed 331:16	395:18 397:11	328:1,2 338:9	345:7 380:25	393:12 394:5
331:16	antecedents	346:6,16,23	391:21 392:15	401:4,6
allows 298:9	398:15	353:2,20,24	393:5 405:16	Articles 354:23
320:2 381:23	anticipated	376:17 377:10	411:10 412:11	355:1,5 356:8
Alston 359:14	288:22 289:9	402:6 407:13	appropriately	362:15 381:6
amendment	290:2 295:3	408:18	394:15	383:13,15,24
395:8	296:7	Applicants'	approval	417:6
amount 288:12	anticipates	292:18 293:21	262:13 271:8	aschulte@pol
288:15 297:7	278:22	301:8 303:6	272:2 291:17	264:8
297:9	anticipating	303:17 354:19	312:3 315:15	asked 274:20
amounts	271:17	368:1 408:25	317:11 320:22	292:2 297:11
295:12 316:7	anybody 380:2	application	328:14,18	309:17 323:1
316:15,21 319:1	391:13	292:4,20	329:1,17	342:10 358:5
393:19	anyway 287:23	304:5 309:9	334:14 336:17	367:12
analyses 327:14	385:13 392:11	358:11,18	346:24 359:3	369:24
analysis 276:12	394:24	362:6 366:2	384:1 391:22	382:22,22
285:4 304:13	apart 329:17	370:13,24	417:4	390:8
304:22	apologize 311:11	371:7,12,24	approvals	asking 268:9
305:12,13	404:15,17	372:8 373:16	295:2	303:5 318:25
306:22	apparent	374:8 395:22	approve 269:6	328:24,25
307:17,17,20	287:24	396:3 397:8	279:10 321:13	336:22
308:10,22	appeal 373:8	408:19,25	347:2 366:17	343:22
309:3,6,7,10	374:3 379:15	applications	367:16 374:23	349:12,15
394:23	appealed	341:4	approved	aspects 269:13
analyst 322:12	373:19	applied 272:13	273:25 274:7	347:24

aspirational	attributes	284:5,12	289:22 291:2	334:25
356:13	405:22	290:14 291:22	292:21 293:12	335:14 337:18
asserted 385:17	audits 377:22	292:23	300:7,11	342:21 348:18
asserting 414:3	August 268:7	295:17	303:5 305:9	375:9,20
assertions	authority	297:25 300:4	314:6 315:14	394:1 408:14
385:21	288:20	303:9,18	316:2,4,14	benefits 274:23
asserts 394:3	379:18,21,22	315:13 318:7	317:7 324:9	284:1 286:23
assessing	380:20	333:1 338:15	328:12,25	287:12 295:21
411:23	available 305:2	339:14 348:1	330:2 331:5	295:22 302:6
assigned	315:9 331:15	362:5 363:6	331:12,23	302:9 306:19
382:13,16	413:3 414:9,16	366:1 370:22	332:8,15	306:25 307:5
associated	aware 272:4	378:19 401:17	333:23,25	307:13,20
276:3 360:18	287:3 303:9	baseline 385:15	334:12,24	308:8,15,18
363:1 376:1	304:6 320:7	392:20	335:14 340:12	333:2 342:11
408:20	338:18,23,25	basic 394:4	342:18 343:21	342:16 347:15
assume 279:18	340:23	basically 279:11	343:25	348:4 375:3
355:9 361:15	342:14 345:17	306:12	348:12 357:16	385:17 387:22
367:15,16	369:19 388:8	396:24	363:6 364:13	390:10,25
393:17,22	388:11 406:1	basis 277:5	365:5 366:19	391:13,17
395:17 405:7		349:25	370:15 373:6	392:16 394:10
assuming	B	407:21	374:10,13	395:3 406:12
289:17 301:17	back 308:13	Bassham	385:19 387:8	411:21,24
374:25 379:9	317:17 337:25	280:23	388:19,20	Berkeley
379:13,20	338:25 347:9	batteries 334:8	392:1 403:13	359:14 400:21
assumption	350:9,14	339:1 340:21	404:23 405:11	best 266:10
362:4 392:20	381:6 396:6	341:1,7	406:20	290:22,24
401:1	backed 408:12	battery 334:4,9	407:17,22	309:14 312:11
assure 348:15	background	338:19,24	409:19 410:15	315:8 321:19
attached 313:10	367:19	340:11 393:9	413:6	323:5 352:3
316:7	backslide	bear 385:22	believes 306:2	387:17 395:2
attack 399:23	387:19	392:10	342:6 349:9	404:3
399:24	backsliding	began 265:3	349:16 370:11	better 330:19
attacks 401:5	407:16	beginning	bench 291:22	345:9 387:17
attain 306:4	backstop	280:21 409:12	314:20 318:8	394:5 407:4
attempt 302:19	325:12 407:16	behalf 351:10,19	338:15 401:18	beyond 305:13
347:21 370:19	backward	354:10 378:12	412:15	327:13 337:24
attempting	399:21	386:15 408:9	beneficial	bid 279:11
401:2	backwards	belief 266:10	304:19 332:17	big 391:7
attention 294:5	393:4	312:11 323:6	333:24 334:5	399:21
385:25	bad 329:20	352:3	336:4 337:20	bigger 394:5
attorney 263:2	403:10	believe 270:20	340:6 342:1	404:1
263:5,9,15,20	balance 333:2	272:13 273:16	347:17 386:2	bill 276:6,8,11,17
264:5 269:16	balancing	273:23 274:8	benefit 275:18	276:24
362:11 380:13	342:15 343:1	274:25	275:20	289:19,20,23
380:14	band 316:10	279:13,16	282:13 288:9	296:4,6,10
attorneys 369:1	based 273:14 276:19 280:8	280:16 281:14	309:2 317:20	301:24,25
attractive 285:1		282:7 283:14	332:9,23,23	302:2 317:15

217.10 210.1 /	hunch 269.0	414:22 415:3,7	carries 317:3	282:15 283:4
317:19 319:1,4	bunch 368:9			282:15 283:4 288:13 291:18
331:19	390:16 400:21	416:5,16	case 267:12,16	
bills 288:25	burner 317:17	business 289:2	268:7,17,20	302:16 320:5
bit 286:21	busbar 391:7,11	358:20	271:25 272:14	324:24 333:8
327:3 332:21	Bushmann	359:14,19	273:24 274:6	333:8,9
341:9 367:19	262:17 265:4	361:2 413:3	276:12 277:11	336:14
386:23	265:12 266:14	businesses	278:19 280:16	339:20
392:25 399:8	266:17,23	326:3 368:24	281:5 282:19	345:18,21,24
406:21	267:1,4,24	400:6,12	282:21 283:1	346:2 378:25
blank 308:3	268:2 273:4,8	butted 399:7	286:4 298:11	379:23
bottom 294:23	286:14 291:21	buttress 394:19	299:9 302:6	cash 396:19
297:21 301:23	293:20		302:15 303:10	categorically
356:2 368:12	300:24 301:3	C	303:13,22	395:23
Box 264:11,16	301:6,10,12	C 265:1 418:1,1	305:24 311:9	cause 300:13
break 350:6,8	302:24 303:1	CAIDI 281:25	316:8 317:21	418:9
350:13	309:17 310:10	CAIFI 281:25	317:22 320:11	caused 265:23
380:24 384:9	310:13,16,19	calculations	324:3,8	315:20 316:3
384:15	311:13 312:15	290:7,11,13	325:11,16	322:14 351:18
Bregman	312:18,21,25	California	328:15 331:18	caution 314:9
263:15,16	313:4,25	359:11,15	333:10 336:7	321:11
328:3 346:7,9	314:13,15,18	363:15 400:21	339:15,24	caveat 335:1,16
350:1 416:18	314:20 318:7	call 265:10	340:1 344:20	CCR 262:24
brief 350:10	318:10,12,15,18	281:13 287:9	344:22 345:8	418:18
briefing 413:4	318:21 319:24	294:18 373:4	345:13	center 281:13
briefly 288:8	320:17 321:21	396:19 398:10	346:25 351:9	351:6
briefs 413:5,5,7	321:23 322:3	called 271:1	351:19 353:25	centers 287:9
bring 291:19	323:10,12,18	343:21	358:10,12,19	central 391:9
brings 402:21	323:22	354:24	358:22 362:3	CEO 400:15
402:23	327:18,21,23	358:19 409:16	362:7,10,11,18	CEOs 400:15
broad 398:19	328:1,4 337:12	calling 340:9	362:19,25	certain 299:15
403:20 411:20	338:14 341:13	calls 321:25	363:23,25,25	303:18 309:1
broader 383:22	344:4,8,11	350:19 380:6	364:15,17	309:24 340:3
394:14 404:9	346:5 350:3,5	380:9	366:18 370:2	342:11 403:7
411:11	350:9 352:7,9	cancellation	370:4 371:18	certainly 329:6
Broadway	352:15 353:9	406:25 410:7	372:7,13	333:7,10
354:2	353:11,14,16,19	capabilities	373:4,8,10	334:21 335:5
Brothers 364:6	354:17 357:7	385:22,23	375:25,25	336:3 337:7
brought 290:3	361:14,18	capacity 322:9	376:7,8	338:4,5,12
347:5	367:8,21,25	351:4 380:13	379:19 383:1	340:5,16
Brower 360:7	376:13,19,22	414:5	383:6 384:3	343:11 345:15
		capital 277:25	392:21 393:15	
360:12	377:1 380:8,17	278:4 391:16		345:25 349:3
budget 364:9	380:23 381:4	Capitol 384:11	393:23	380:13 389:5
build 358:7	384:8,13,16	caption 418:10	406:19 411:16	406:21 408:10
370:24 374:5	401:17,21,23	care 290:9	415:3	certainty 316:11
building 263:21	402:1,3,6	carefully 338:13	cases 272:1	320:3 396:19
375:10	412:17,20,23	371:6	274:11 277:16	certificate
built 388:12	414:12,17,19	571.0	281:20,21	371:25
1	8	•		•

Certified 418:5	282:17	clarification	code 355:19	269:12,18
certify 418:7	characterize	414:15	356:9	271:5,8,12,17
cetera 331:19	285:20 286:3	clarifies 317:2	codifies 287:23	271:21 272:14
Chair 391:25	characterized	clarify 270:23	Cole 418:4,16	272:18 273:17
Chairman	271:11	339:25	COLEMAN	273:18 278:3
262:18	characterizing	clarity 288:24	262:20 318:6	278:11 281:20
270:20 273:11	300:15	class 347:3	collaboratively	281:21 287:3
286:12 287:1	charge 276:13	classes 289:25	364:9	287:18,21
288:19 292:2	298:17 299:6	290:6,6,17,18	collateral 391:16	288:20 290:3
297:11 303:4	335:21,25	319:2,2	collectively	290:9 291:19
314:21 318:3	336:1	clean 284:21	317:18	292:24
318:25 328:6	charged 383:6	285:8 356:10		302:15
	-		collocating	
331:25 384:19	charges 298:18	363:16 366:10	391:10	303:25 314:6
384:21	320:9 396:12	385:3 386:7	colloquy 366:14	314:11,15 317:11
389:22	396:12,13,14	404:3,5	Columbia	318:18 320:22
404:24 406:8	charitable	clear 280:23	263:22	321:3,10,16
406:9 413:6,8	363:14 381:18	289:4 308:23	359:20	328:12 329:1
416:5,11,15,22	charter 404:7	344:21 414:11	combination	329:7,16
Chairman's	cheap 401:3	clears 413:18	281:4 285:5	330:15 331:7
296:3 319:7	402:24	clerks 369:3	315:22 385:17	333:17 334:22
332:6	404:18	client 355:22	combined	336:16 339:3
challenges	check 293:18	358:22 362:1	303:12,15,19	339:9,14,16
385:24	355:9	362:11,18,25	303:21 304:4	339:24 340:1
chance 272:8	checking	364:14 367:5	304:8,11,14,16	340:2 342:3,6
301:21 313:14	296:14	368:6 386:15	304:19 305:3	344:1,18
347:14	Chief 264:15	Climate 351:6	305:16 306:6	346:21,24
change 284:4,7	311:7	close 329:8	385:13 395:10	347:25
284:17,18	Chile 391:8	380:24	come 288:20	348:16 349:18
285:8 286:2	choices 304:18	394:24 395:2	317:10 347:3	350:11 353:3
397:10 402:17	choosing	395:3	350:14 386:6	353:16 356:11
changed	394:20	closed 299:22	386:25	358:5 369:20
296:13	chose 309:14	397:25 398:6	comes 372:18	369:25 373:3
387:22	Circle 263:16	398:16	373:1,24,24	374:2 376:11
changes	circumstances	closer 349:24	comfort 316:13	377:7,11
288:23 311:18	325:14 327:4	closing 296:10	comfortable	379:16 393:5
312:6 336:23	374:15,25	393:8 394:22	275:9 278:10	394:14 397:23
337:23 351:14	cited 373:4	407:18,24	coming 286:1	399:7 402:3
351:16 387:21	cities 368:24	408:7,22	337:23 359:6	404:15 413:14
395:25 396:2	400:6,12	409:1	361:16 399:15	413:15
changing 298:6	city 262:9	closure 308:25	400:22 412:8	Commission's
325:14 398:9	263:2,3,7,10	Club 351:20	comments	281:6 291:13
399:10,14	263:13 264:2	360:8 363:22	391:23 396:6	321:15 328:17
Chapter 379:10	264:7,12,17	Club's 363:24	397:11	333:13 374:5
character	287:11 292:7	coal 391:8	commission	410:16 414:4
399:23,24	299:25 300:2	coal-fired	262:2 264:15	commissioner
401:5	338:18 341:5	407:18	264:19 265:21	318:5,6 332:2
characterizati	359:4 418:15	coast 354:5	267:17 269:6	332:3 337:10
	000.7 710.10		207.17 203.0	002.0 007.10

337:25 341:17	331:3 394:13	complexity	conclusory	Connection
342:10 343:17	396:10	398:5	373:21 374:21	335:20
346:11 389:25	407:23 412:9	components	concrete 330:6	consider
390:2,4	company 263:2	413:11	condition 271:8	295:24 302:5
398:2 404:17	263:13,14	comports	289:18 291:9	306:7 326:2,6
412:11 416:16	265:7 267:11	356:15 371:8	291:10 315:15	333:3 335:4
416:23	277:22 278:1	384:5	325:1,16	340:20 343:8
Commissioners	289:2 292:7	comprehensive	326:25 329:1	344:1 371:4
262:20	292:8 293:7	305:4 306:18	329:12 330:1	375:15
273:10 328:5	293:12 295:15	306:25 307:4	330:8 334:13	consideration
384:18 404:21	299:23,24	307:13 308:8	336:16 342:21	327:9 343:18
commit 392:15	305:3,16	conceivably	342:25 344:1	348:4
commitment	306:22	336:2	346:19 391:22	considerations
287:21 302:18	307:12 308:6	concept 271:9	393:15	310:3,7
335:11 338:6	309:6.7	395:23	conditioned	considered
393:24	334:11,20	concepts	349:7,10	271:24 331:1
395:12,16	335:7 336:1,9	299:15 397:3	conditions	334:22 336:6
407:4 408:13	336:25 378:5	conceptual	269:14,19	343:11,12
411:20 412:2,8	387:16 391:19	393:9	270:2,5,12	considering
412:12	392:6 394:3	concern 285:21	272:12 285:14	306:10
commitments	397:16 398:3	286:3 287:20	289:15 313:9	consist 371:9
281:20 285:13	399:7,17	289:17 311:22	313:19 321:15	consistent
287:11,13	400:10 402:11	320:4 396:18	321:18 324:15	300:19 365:11
309:24 310:6	403:2 406:15	concerned	324:19 325:8	365:13,14,15
345:1 387:2	413:21	285:16 295:10	326:21 328:13	379:3 405:10
388:1 392:23	company's	347:7 394:24	328:19 329:3	414:6
394:21 395:21	304:24 307:1	396:15	333:21 336:10	consolidation
committed	394:21 400:9	concerning	338:1,2 341:18	281:3
283:22	410:5	280:18 329:11	341:20 342:3	construct
303:14 338:10	comparable	330:1,8	342:6,11	369:20 374:11
368:22 387:17	281:22 302:4	concerns 271:1	343:4,6	construction
400:4,10	compare 295:6	271:4 272:16	346:12,15	381:25
committing	compared	272:21 289:14	348:11,14	constructs
394:22	295:22	313:9 411:3	377:9,14	274:10
common	compares	conclude	378:6 384:2	consultant
396:18	294:23	370:23	385:18 386:4	353:4
community	299:19	concluded	386:5 403:8	consumer
326:11 343:15	comparison	415:10	conducted	270:9 287:9
359:4,5	295:12	conclusion	353:3	consumers
394:15	complaint	297:8 330:7	confidence	284:2
397:25 398:7	291:19	372:19,24	316:18	consuming
398:16 399:13	complete	373:1,23,24	configurations	387:12
companies	290:8 364:19	373:25 380:7	390:14	contained
277:15 280:11	completed	380:9 387:1	confirm 379:5	269:19 313:19
280:15 285:1	265:7	conclusions	414:20	383:13 384:2
287:5 289:8	completely	328:9 332:7	connected	396:3
293:4 329:23	397:3 400:14	366:16 371:12	409:8 410:7	contains
200.1020.20	557.5 400.14	000.10 071.12	100.0 110.7	

204.22	26746 27247	200 2 222 40	202.22	
294:22	267:16 272:17	266:3 322:18	383:22	312:25 314:13
contested 317:5	273:18 330:14	351:13,15	country 363:16	323:17,18
context 330:10	355:15 359:10	cost 279:11	396:10 400:17	352:15 361:12
336:6 339:19	381:8 391:6	282:12,17	County 418:4,16	cross-examin
340:18,19	413:15 417:6	299:1,1 315:24	couple 267:5	266:22 267:7
345:10,24	correct 266:11	316:11 320:8	283:9 291:23	268:4 313:5
346:1 347:10	267:13,21	326:22 327:11	301:13 318:22	314:2 323:23
385:11 387:7	268:13,18,21	334:1 337:23	338:17 376:2	352:14,18
411:11	269:4 270:1	347:3 348:1	402:13	353:22 416:4
continue 298:2	270:15,21	375:8 377:23	404:20	416:4,10,10,15
326:22 389:1	272:6 273:1	392:6 398:12	course 287:20	416:21,22
389:20	273:20,21	406:11 409:23	330:12 334:9	CSR 262:24
continues	274:2 275:15	cost/benefit	341:11 351:1	418:18
409:23	279:16,21	306:21	court 310:25	culture 399:10
continuing	280:21 282:8	costs 279:13	courts 373:8,19	399:14
326:6 339:4	282:14,16	288:11,14,16	374:4	CURB 272:20
410:2	284:10,15,19	298:2 306:18	cover 282:3	current 306:13
continuous	285:19 288:2	306:25 307:5	covers 280:10	324:23 325:4
368:11	291:6 292:3	307:13,20	280:13	345:2,14
contract 326:7	292:10,16,25	308:8,15,18	Crawford	362:13 407:9
convenience	293:4,5,10	316:15,21	409:10	currently 327:4
372:1	294:15,16,20	333:2 347:15	Crawford's	369:1
convenient	294:21,24,25	375:2,19	406:18	customer
370:13 372:2	295:3,4,15	393:17 411:23		288:24 289:1
		counsel 264:10	crazy 398:2 create 364:9	289:6,25
conversation 396:25	296:5,18,21			
397:19 398:19	296:22,23	264:10,13,15 267:4 273:15	creation 326:2 391:17	335:21,25 396:12 399:8
399:10 400:18	297:3,4,24	301:12 311:5		
	298:4,11,12,19		credit 285:18	399:13,17
conversations	298:20	323:19 338:15	286:1,6,6 287:2 319:1	405:15 406:11
363:6 364:18	299:17,21	352:16 358:16		customer-
364:20	300:21 302:12	360:20 361:7	credited 296:5	326:10
399:18	304:2 308:16	362:10 365:3	296:11	customer-ow
converting	312:5,11 313:12	369:14,18	credits 276:6,9	307:22
387:5	313:13 315:17	371:21 372:6	276:11,17,24	customers
copies 376:2	317:23 319:4,5	372:21,24,25	289:19,21,23	276:10 296:6
copy 288:4	319:11 320:12	373:9,17	296:4,6,10	296:25 302:2
293:24 294:6	320:23,24	376:7,18	297:10 301:24	308:20
297:15	324:3,17	377:21 378:13	301:25 302:2	324:21 330:17
354:23 355:9	325:20	378:17,23	317:15,19	335:23
358:11 376:5	329:18 334:13	379:4 382:14	319:4 331:19	339:10,11
379:6	341:22 348:8	382:16 383:2	criteria 372:9	370:20 386:3
corner 356:17	354:12 362:8	383:4,11,19,25	373:2,3,23,25	389:9
corporate	379:25 389:1	397:18 401:18	critical 408:17	cut 331:11
293:15	407:14 418:12	402:11,18	408:18	393:25
362:22	correction	403:1,2,7,15	cross 266:23	
377:23 378:1	323:1	counsel's	267:24 310:10	D
corporation	corrections	270:17 361:25	310:12 312:14	D 265:1 416:1
	l	l	I	I

D-i-e-t-r-i-c-h	370:19 371:10	337:8	differ 316:9,10	360:8 364:24
265:19	democratizati	detriment	difference	366:22,24,25
DANIEL 262:18	398:11	269:23	275:5 277:19	368:6,17
data 347:9	demonization	270:10,13	281:11 340:17	369:8,10,14,18
378:19	401:7	271:9 272:24	357:21 393:10	378:17
date 317:21	demonstrate	273:25 274:17	differences	dirt-munching
356:20	307:17	274:19 275:1	274:9 275:4,6	400:22
378:20 413:4	demonstrated	309:3 328:20	275:11 276:22	disagree
dated 376:8,16	283:22 284:6	332:25 334:17	278:8 282:4	325:21
378:15	demonstrates	334:18,21	295:25	405:22
dates 306:13	370:18	341:25 345:11	different 271:18	disappointed
358:24	demonstration	348:7 349:11	271:19 274:10	349:4
David 360:7,12	333:22 334:3	349:14,25	274:11 275:10	disclosure
day 265:5,6	390:11 409:15	387:4,7	276:19 277:8	351:17
272:2 361:8	409:17	393:14	277:16,20,21	discuss 325:23
410:9	Dentons 263:9	detrimental	281:17 283:16	334:19 343:14
days 296:10	Department	269:9 275:22	285:12	397:21 411:10
413:3	322:11	300:8,14	289:25	discussed
deal 330:19	Depending	307:9,11,16	320:13 331:14	286:9 288:14
dealings 292:8	342:25	310:5 313:11	333:5 335:9	391:20 409:10
399:9	depends 276:2	342:23 343:9	335:17 336:12	410:22 412:25
deals 295:1	deployment	348:16	339:1 343:23	discussing
decide 319:19	391:3	detriments	362:2 372:18	337:7 339:2
decided 339:16	DER 395:9,25	269:3 270:1,3	372:20 383:11	346:20 373:13
decision 271:13	derived 394:11	270:5,8	397:1,2 399:1	discussion
271:14 284:11	describe 288:8	307:18 341:21	401:12 402:19	270:22 281:14
314:7 327:7	294:3	342:16	402:23 403:1	287:1 288:18
358:6 374:4,5	described	develop	403:4,4,10,12	293:1 297:14
decisions	365:16 370:12	324:20 411:22	404:9	303:17 327:2
347:24 371:11	description	development	differently	337:25 341:16
dedicated	371:2	322:11 340:20	335:23	346:10 409:7
304:1	design 335:12	374:11,18	386:23	discussions
dedication	347:2	385:4 386:7	differs 383:14	277:15
393:18	designed 270:5	391:13,17	difficult 332:21	404:20
deeper 391:3	282:11 341:20	405:3,13	387:12	407:18 411:1
defined 335:22	366:7	408:6 409:23	difficulty 399:14	distinction
degree 320:3	designs 395:16	developments	direct 265:14	292:12
321:7	details 277:18	410:11,14	268:6 310:21	distributed
delay 409:1	294:14	Dietrich 265:10	322:5,23	335:2,4,6,13
delivery 298:17	determination	265:13,16,22	325:24	335:18,22
demand 284:1	273:19,19	267:8 268:5	350:22 416:3	343:19,24
326:23	347:1	286:15 292:1	416:9,14,21	346:18,23
327:12 330:3	determinations	293:25 294:2	directed	347:8,13
370:16 389:9	333:15 339:19	301:16 302:23	290:22,24	375:18 391:2
396:14 406:11	determine	303:4 310:17	366:15	391:4,15
409:24	339:9,14	327:3 384:10	direction 373:18	394:17 395:4
demands	determining	416:3 417:11,13	director 265:21	395:6,17
	I J		l	l

2000 42 440 40	204 24 22	2545		
396:13 410:19	384:21,22	354:5	effort 371:9	337:24 377:16
410:23 411:21	387:17 388:16	Easy 335:19	411:21	employment-r
distribution	388:21 390:4	EC-2017-0107	efforts 407:7	331:3 349:22
336:14	392:6,15	281:6	either 267:20	enable 326:8
divide 290:12	395:23 410:13	economic	267:20	407:23
dividing 290:12	dollar 288:12,15	322:11 327:13	303:10 324:2	encourage
division 267:24	295:12 316:7	340:20 391:12	331:7,21	374:18
290:2 302:24	316:15	391:16	397:15	encourages
313:1 318:8	domestic 334:7	economics	elaborate	405:13
321:24,25	Dority 263:6	339:1 391:9	286:21	endearing
322:11 323:14	double 296:14	economies	electric 264:9	398:2
324:1,7	downgrade	392:2	273:4 296:25	endorse 403:7
329:22	285:24 287:4	Economist 311:7	310:11 313:25	energy 262:12
336:17 348:5	Dr 271:1 310:24	educational	318:12 327:18	262:14 263:12
348:21 349:9	313:6 314:5	381:18	344:4 353:11	263:19
349:16 353:9	314:22 318:24	EE-2017-0113	364:11 390:14	267:25
390:9 401:21	320:20	375:25 376:7	401:23	279:25 280:3
416:13 417:14	dramatically	effective 317:21	electrical	283:17,22
Division's	391:10	326:23	387:13	284:21,22
326:20	drawing 308:3	327:12 392:7	electricity	285:6,6,8
divvied 289:24	Drive 263:21		413:13	290:13 292:9
		effectively		
docket 329:25	drivers 389:20	338:2	elements	292:24 293:2
345:16 371:25	driving 389:11	effectiveness	294:23	293:14 299:1
412:5	389:13	406:11	298:25 300:11	299:2,4,12,19
dockets 329:17	drop 334:1	effects 306:7,10	320:10	302:24 313:1
410:24	druids 400:22	efficiencies	Elisabeth 351:6	318:8 321:24
document	due 275:5	392:18	EM-2001-464	321:25 322:12
272:23	413:5,5	efficiency	281:5	322:12 323:14
351:24 355:10	duties 383:22	283:17,23	EM-2018-0012	324:1,7
356:25	duty 382:17	285:6 299:2	262:13 265:6	325:10 326:4
357:23 367:18		299:12,19	embracing	326:7,14,14,24
367:18 371:3		326:7,14,24	405:21 412:10	329:23
372:11,14,15	E 265:1,1 416:1	343:16 355:17	emerging	333:22 335:3
375:24 376:14	418:1,1	356:15 357:15	410:16	335:13,18
376:24 379:10	EA-2015-0256	359:25	employ 326:6	336:18 343:15
381:16 383:24	358:10	361:24 365:10	employed	343:24 347:13
documentation	earlier 327:2	368:23 369:5	265:20 322:8	348:6,21
361:3	349:21 370:2	381:10,20	322:10 351:3	349:9,16
documents	384:3 391:20	387:10 388:1	351:5	351:5 353:9
362:5 365:16	399:21	388:21 400:5	employee	355:17,17
404:8	earnings 277:7	400:11 403:9	287:10	356:11,14,14
doing 279:1	Earth 358:19	403:23 405:2	309:24 338:7	357:15,15
289:2 291:13	359:9,16	405:4,8,13,16	employees	359:25
305:4 308:6	360:3,6,18	405:20 407:1	326:9	361:24 363:8
326:17 340:17	361:1,6 362:2	407:7,13	employment	363:12,16
340:18 341:6	362:25 363:1	efficient 385:14	310:3,6 331:2	364:2,4,8,12
358:20 361:2	east 264:2	392:17	336:22,24	364:21 365:10
	l	l	Í	

366:11 368:23	279:17 292:6	398:23	349:2 364:5	413:2
368:23 369:4	396:9	et 331:19	413:18	experience
369:4 370:17	entity 288:25	evaluate 308:14	examples	369:7 387:11
371:10 374:18	289:4 292:9	308:18	385:3,7 386:6	390:23 392:3
375:18 381:10	358:19,22	evaluated	exceed 316:15	400:3
381:10,20,20	362:2 385:13	303:18 399:3	exceeded	experiences
385:3 386:7	386:3 387:17	evaluating	316:21	379:3
387:10,13,14	392:18 393:6	310:2,4	excepted	experiencing
387:14 388:1	395:11	342:16 411:23	292:21	354:4
388:20,20	environment	evaluation	exceptions	experimental
390:9,11	320:14 331:14	306:1,18,25	339:22	338:19,24
391:15 394:17	335:17	307:5,13	excused 384:12	339:7
395:4,7,17	environmental	308:8 342:23	412:21	expert 355:4
396:13 400:4	402:20 408:5	event 269:10	executive	366:1
400:4,11,11,17	envision 411:19	324:22 338:7	360:8 364:23	expertise 356:7
401:21 403:8	equal 271:2	354:8	366:22,25	experts 304:1
403:9,23,24	289:13 315:5	everyone's	368:6,16	explain 278:13
404:3,5	318:1 319:8	411:13	369:7,10	288:9 315:4
405:2,4,7,13	320:21	evidence	exhibit 265:24	360:21 362:17
405:15,20	330:24 331:4	266:20 301:2	266:1 285:15	402:12
407:1,7,13	equally 284:1	301:9 312:16	293:19,21	explained 315:6
409:8,11	290:12	312:24 323:15	294:5 301:2,8	explicit 282:1
410:19,23	equals 285:25	330:6 347:4	312:19,23	explicitly 327:10
411:22	equates 349:13	352:6,12	351:11 352:6,11	express 414:7
ENERGY'S	equitable	357:10 366:2	354:15,19	expressed 271:1
416:13 417:14	319:16	370:11 371:23	357:8,9	271:3
engagement	equity 331:18	372:7 407:11	358:16 368:1	expressly 414:1
411:20	equivalent	409:4,5	370:7 414:23	extent 333:3
engaging	295:21 297:6	414:21 416:2,8	414:24 417:3,5	334:20
368:24 400:5	297:9 299:5	416:13,19	417:7,10,12,15	336:14 345:11
400:12	299:15 302:1	evidenced	417:16,19,22	364:22 405:8
engineering	302:7 311:25	368:11	Exhibits 266:13	external 279:8
327:13 399:11	319:15	evidentiary	266:19 322:16	externalities
enhanced	eroding 347:18	262:7 265:2	323:9,14 417:1	347:21
385:22	error 316:9	415:9	417:2,9,14,18	extreme 272:3
ensure 269:8	especially	evidently 331:16	417:21	extremes
270:13 282:11	285:24	exact 270:21	exist 274:23	398:22
300:7 315:11	399:15	299:16,18	existing 326:13	
328:20 387:2	essence 297:5	examination	345:7	F
ensuring 342:1	essentially	265:14 310:21	expanded	F 418:1
entered 267:14	282:23 302:1	320:19 322:5	326:10	FAC 339:22
320:25	establish 277:17	350:22	expansion	face 368:8
enterprise	329:16 370:12	366:15 416:3	407:6	facilitate 391:3
386:11	371:23	416:9,12,14,21	expect 285:7	facilities 329:15
entirely 340:12	established	example 275:12	355:7 389:20	371:15 375:10
entities 278:19	361:22 373:3	277:18 325:9	392:5	409:20
278:20,23	378:18	335:6 341:5	Expedited	facility 370:24
-, -	I			

272.40.42	6	274 22 200 42	257 4 262 22	(
373:10,12	figuring 398:25	371:22 390:13	357:4 362:22	frankly 329:23
374:6,12	file 262:13	391:14,24	364:8 397:2	freedom 321:17
fact 275:19	268:20	Fischer 263:5,6	411:20	freezing
286:5 330:18	324:20	353:21,22,24	formal 362:16	395:24,24
395:19 396:7	filed 268:6,12	354:14,21	formalized	fresh 397:21
414:23	268:16,17,23	355:23,25	290:14	friendly 395:8
factor 342:22	272:5,9	356:4,22	formed 357:22	front 276:11,17
390:23	273:24 274:6	357:11 360:15	360:7	297:16 302:4
factors 284:12	313:15 322:14	360:20 361:11	formerly 365:3	356:17 357:2
284:13 331:1	324:3,7 330:11	361:17,20	forms 397:1,4	400:19,25
375:15 389:11	330:22	367:4,11,23	forth 303:15	403:17
389:13,18	345:18 351:17	368:3 370:6,8	329:3 372:9	fruit 385:22
facts 374:14,24	351:18 356:18	376:4,15,21	418:10	392:10
factual 371:1,11	384:3 405:25	377:3 380:10	Fortune 299:23	frustration
fair 290:17	filing 330:13	380:15,18,23	300:2	385:25
297:8 317:18	346:17 357:22	381:1,5 384:6	forum 302:15	fuel 276:13
319:16,20,21	366:17 367:1	402:7,8	332:20 335:8	299:5 407:25
319:21	final 295:1	412:13 415:1,2	336:9 391:21	408:8 409:2
faith 304:25	350:13,16	416:22,23	394:10	full 316:18
fall 325:11	finalized 290:3	five 275:13,25	forward 279:7	325:5 395:10
familiar 283:11	finally 290:20	298:3 336:23	303:12 306:15	418:12
286:8 299:11	299:2 393:2	407:25 408:8	320:3 334:6	full-blown
373:5 374:7	financial 284:9	fixed 336:1	337:9 341:18	304:22
388:4,6	284:23	396:11,12	405:7 410:14	fully 338:5
far 295:9	388:12,25	fixing 399:12	forward-looki	394:13
306:13 317:15	financially	flat 396:17	294:8	fund 363:22
321:9 363:9	388:22	flip 378:4	fossil 407:25	364:6,6
365:19 376:3	find 327:11	Floor 263:3	408:8 409:2	funded 353:2
favor 405:7	404:1 410:4	flow 396:19	found 365:7	362:25 364:4
favorable 315:11	finding 414:5	flowed 298:10	391:8	funding 363:4
favored 270:22	findings 366:15	298:18	foundation	363:11,15,21
315:16	fine 367:24	focus 284:21	361:15 363:8	363:25
February	389:17	336:13 399:11	363:12,13,14	364:13,16
369:15,15	finish 350:15	focused 366:9	364:2,4,8,21	funds 363:8
Feddersen	finished 350:12	387:10 404:5	foundations	364:2,3,5,7,21
262:24 418:5	381:2	folks 363:7	359:5	further 286:12
418:18	firm 387:2	follow 292:1	founded	288:16 290:7
Federal 292:23	408:12 418:6	358:17	357:20	314:12 318:3
feel 321:18	first 266:23	follow-up 336:8	four 328:13	331:25 346:3
felt 278:10	268:11 282:6	following 332:6	329:3 332:13	350:2 389:22
317:18	283:7,21	377:9 386:11	401:10	405:21,24
FERC 280:9	289:20,25	follows 265:13	framed 371:22	414:12,19
fiat 345:8	301:17 311:13	310:20 322:4	371:23	future 271:25
fictitious 359:16	312:25 315:23	350:20 322.4	frameworks	280:18 282:15
field 397:4,9	323:18 324:4	foregoing	411:22	288:18,21
fifth 400:16	349:2 352:15	418:12	Francisco	290:8 291:18
figure 296:17	360:8 370:9	form 294:3	363:15	302:5 315:25
	000.0070.0		000.10	002.0 010.20

	1	1	1	
316:8 317:1,6	311:1 416:9	402:10	386:14,20	362:22
317:8 320:5	417:20	405:24 415:8	390:3,5,6	363:23
335:5 392:10	germane 393:11	goal 356:13	405:18,23	366:23,25
409:24	getting 277:18	goals 365:11,15	406:14 408:10	373:22,23
403.24	351:20	365:23 366:5	goodness	402:20 411:17
G	380:24		388:16	
G 265:1		366:8,10		growing 370:16
G-e-o-f-f 311:1	398:19	367:6	gotten 278:6,9	growth 392:8
	give 348:15	goes 286:25	349:23	394:17
gain 299:23	358:16 360:16	327:12	392:20	guarantee
341:9	361:18 381:2	359:22 361:21	government	387:3
gains 392:3	404:13	387:22	368:25	guaranteed
game 393:19	given 319:14	going 274:5	400:13	277:10
393:23 394:6	328:16	279:4 285:15	governments	guard 270:6
394:6	329:20	291:13 306:15	400:6	guess 270:22
gas 407:18	334:17 338:10	329:8 358:24	GPE 376:6,9	272:16 276:3
gathered 364:7	340:9 343:18	360:13,15	384:1	281:5 303:9
general 298:11	358:23	367:2 371:2	grabbing	307:7 334:16
306:24 320:11	369:19 418:15	374:23 375:8	385:25	344:21 355:19
329:2 343:5	gives 316:12,13	375:9,19,20	granddaughter	361:8 393:2
369:22 371:12	glad 347:5	375:21 376:2	354:3	399:5
381:24 385:11	414:11	385:16 390:9		
392:3			grant 377:8	guys 399:4
generally	GMO 280:11	392:11 393:1	granted 382:16	Н
	283:16 284:11	396:6,7	graph 294:22	
283:12,13	285:18	397:10 400:16	Great 262:12	H-y-m-a-n
286:22	288:24 289:2	400:18 401:1,4	263:12	322:7
287:22 320:7	324:22,23	402:13 407:12	279:25 280:3	hall 262:18
339:17 345:9	330:2 345:18	409:1 410:14	293:2,14	273:11 286:12
371:4 386:22	362:3,7,19	412:4	greater 263:14	314:21 318:3
388:6 407:10	369:19 371:25	good 265:4	292:7 320:3	328:6 331:25
generated	374:11 376:6	267:8,9	green 324:21	384:19
408:21	387:9 388:15	268:5 273:12	324:22	389:22
generating	389:5 406:1	273:13 274:15	325:10,19	398:20 413:8
307:14,21	406:25	274:18 275:17	326:12 329:12	416:5,11,15,22
308:9,11	GMO's 283:11	275:25 280:5	343:14	Hamilton 354:1
generation	284:20 285:7	286:15,16	Greenwood	hand 379:5
284:24,25	302:15 326:13	310:22,23	358:8 369:21	hands 390:20
306:19 307:1	358:6 370:12	313:6,7 314:3	grid 334:3	happen 270:8
307:6,22	370:17,18,24	314:4,22,23	392:9 409:8	403:6 406:10
308:15,20	371:24 372:8	323:24,25	409:16 410:7	happened
329:14	373:16 376:9			392:4 408:11
335:22		328:7,8 332:4	ground 349:20	happening
343:19 346:18	go 289:10	332:5 344:13	392:14	385:12 400:19
	294:17 316:1	344:16 347:9	grounds 348:7	
346:23 347:8	321:23 350:9	352:19,20	349:21	happy 361:7
371:24 407:19	361:12 376:2	353:23 354:3	group 297:5	412:15
407:25 408:8	380:17 384:11	375:11,13	304:1 356:10	hard 348:25
408:23	393:4 395:8	381:4 384:20	356:16	harder 406:17
Geoff 310:20	396:21 401:4	385:20	359:23	harm 271:23
	l	l	l	

330:17 331:13	historically	imagine 405:9	392:23	368:21 369:9
harmed 291:10	340:24	impact 313:11	393:15 403:8	369:13 372:21
harmful 291:4	history 374:8	313:20 346:17	413:21	individual
Haub 351:7	hold 291:17		included 279:15	
		346:23		375:16
head 391:18	Holdco 280:11	impacting	284:12 288:13	industrial 289:6
402:19	281:1 285:18	395:20	288:17 291:9	411:6
heading 369:7	288:19 317:10	implications	291:12,16	industrials
headquartered	326:2,8,22	305:16	302:11,13	289:8
363:14	holding 271:12	340:20,22	337:2	industry 385:16
headquarters	299:24	implied 394:20	includes 275:13	392:3
299:24 300:1	honest 332:22	implies 309:1	including	inform 340:14
heads 399:7	honestly	imply 306:6	272:19 285:16	information
Healy 264:1	329:20	important	377:14 393:18	290:21
hear 413:1	honesty 410:9	286:22 305:5	incorporated	304:24 305:2
heard 303:16	Honor 323:8	335:3,4	262:12 263:13	306:22
412:8	346:7 402:7	342:22	282:2 357:6	322:22 341:9
hearing 262:7	hopefully 401:11	347:12 375:2	incorporates	355:7 368:10
265:2,6,6	hoping 338:3	375:15 388:2	289:22	368:14
266:17 270:16	349:5,23	396:5	incorporating	informed
280:20,21	hour 404:16	impose 289:15	390:22	373:10 374:3
301:6 303:11	hour-long	imposed 291:11	incorporation	initial 364:9
312:21 323:12	401:15	398:18	354:23 355:2	376:11 413:4
352:9 358:3	households	improved	355:5 356:8	initiatives
377:1 401:10	326:3	286:6,11	359:7 362:15	326:15 329:21
413:3 415:7,9	huge 391:12	391:10	381:7 383:13	409:11
hearings 373:6	399:16 huh 329:9	improvement 286:11	383:15,24 417:6	inquiries 392:10 insert 328:13
heart 388:17 heavier 341:2				
	Hyman 290:25	improving 392:2	increase 396:11 396:12	instance 276:4
held 365:5 help 270:23	322:1,4,7,13 323:24 338:17	·		287:2 Institute 358:20
307:25 315:11	341:16 344:16	imprudent 414:4	increased 282:17 283:8	359:9,17
348:15	346:10 416:14	incentive 284:9	329:20	360:4,7,19
helped 337:3	417:15,17	284:17 388:12	increases	361:2,6 362:3
helpful 325:7,12	417.13,17	406:13	298:9	363:1,2
329:25 337:8	<u> </u>	incentives	increasing	integral 305:22
helping 269:8	I's 297:22	326:8 388:25	345:1	integrated
hereto 377:7	I.e 284:25	389:8	independent	306:3 396:22
hesitant 333:16	idea 329:20	incentivize	377:21	398:13
hesitating	IDENTIFICATI	388:13	INDEX 417:1	integration
296:12 366:13	293:22	incentivized	indicate 288:25	279:6 285:4
Hi 384:21 390:4	354:20 368:2	388:23	403:13	386:1 387:12
hiccups 387:21	identifies	include 279:18	indicated	387:15
High 264:2	269:25	279:19,24	357:13,19	intend 346:1
higher 335:25	identify 269:2	280:15 281:2	360:6 373:7	415:1
hippies 400:21	270:7	293:7 308:7	409:19	intended
historical	identifying	317:9 347:20	indicates	365:23 401:13
398:15	270:12	349:4 381:14	349:16 368:5	413:17,21
	l			

intensive 391:16	362:6	334:8 339:21	303:2 309:17	jump 406:15
intent 271:15,15	intervened	341:3 371:22	310:10,13,15,16	jumped 406:16
271:21 273:22	362:3,19	371:22	310:19 311:11	jurisdiction
278:25	intervenor	issues 287:9	311:13 312:15	317:6
280:12,14	363:22	314:8 366:9	312:18,21,25	
292:12,18,18	intervention	399:8 410:16	313:4,25	K
293:7 414:6	402:22	410:20	314:13,15,18,19	K 262:24 351:2
intention 341:24	inure 282:13	item 384:17	314:20 318:7	418:5,18
interaction	317:19 337:22	items 332:7	318:10,11,12,15	Kansas 263:2,3
397:16	investment	lves 282:7	318:18,20,21	263:10,13
interest 269:3,9	326:24 353:5	lves' 322:23	319:18,23,24	264:7,9
269:13,23	405:3	1Ves 322.23	320:16,17	267:16 271:5
		J		271:6 272:17
270:14 284:21	inviting 294:4	J 262:20	321:21,23	272:19,20,24
285:8 300:8	involuntary	263:15 362:7	322:3 323:10	273:4,17,18,24
300:14 305:6	287:14,15	James 263:5	323:12,18,22	274:4,12,15,19
307:2,6,8,10	338:7,10	364:23 365:2	327:18,21,23	274:22,23
307:12 310:5	involve 280:25	368:5 417:8	327:25 328:1	275:7,12
325:2,9	involved 373:7		328:4 337:12	276:5,10,14
326:18 327:1	involvement	January 268:12 268:19 286:19	338:14 341:13	276:20 277:2
328:20	345:3	288:2 292:13	344:4,8,11,12	278:8 281:8
329:21 341:21	involving 358:6	· · -	346:5 350:3,5	
342:4,7,24	376:9 377:21	Jefferson	350:9,18	281:18 282:19
343:9 348:17	ion 341:2	262:9 263:7	352:5,7,9,13	287:11,11 291:3
351:16 379:22	IRP 285:3,11	264:2,12,17	352:15 353:9	291:13 292:6
380:4 382:4	303:7,12,15,19	418:16	353:11,14,16,18	293:13 294:10
387:5	303:21 304:4	jfischerpc@ao	353:19,21	294:14 295:19
interested	304:8,11,14,16	263:8	354:14,17	295:22 296:7
368:25 400:7	304:19 305:3	Jim 353:24	356:22,24	297:2,12,15,19
400:13 413:8	305:8 306:6	399:24 400:1	357:7 358:16	297:25 298:1
413:25	306:14 309:8	job 391:17	361:11,14,18	298:17,19
interesting	309:10 327:14	402:12	367:2,8,21,24	299:8,14,16
393:16 399:5	333:8 336:15	joined 268:11	367:25 370:6	299:25 300:2
interests 321:19	344:19 345:7	joining 360:25	376:4,13,19,22	300:5,12
357:14 366:12	345:15	joint 268:6	377:1 380:8,16	302:2,18,19
379:14 382:18	392:22	303:11 377:10	380:17,23	310:10 313:10
383:8,17,18	IRPs 304:1	Judge 262:18	381:2,4 384:7	313:25 318:12
404:3 405:14	392:7	265:4,9,12	384:8,10,13,16	319:10,15,17
405:15	irrelevant	266:14,17,23	401:17,21,23	319:20,21
intermittent	360:14	266:25 267:1	402:1,3,5,6	320:2,7 321:4
391:4	I RS 359:3	267:3,4,24	412:17,19,20	321:12 327:18
Internet 368:15	Island 358:19	268:2,3 273:4	412:23 414:12	330:14,18,22
interns 369:2	359:9,17	273:8 286:14	414:17,19,20	331:6,9,15,20
interpret 277:1	360:3,6,19	291:21,24	414:22 415:3	332:22
interpretation	361:1,6 362:2	293:19,20	415:6,7 416:5	338:18 340:18
277:3 289:12	363:1,2	300:23,24	416:16	344:4 351:19
intervene	issue 317:5,16	301:3,6,10,12	Judge's 296:3	353:11 401:23
358:12,18,21	317:17 328:14	302:24 303:1	July 356:18	413:15
	l	I		I

Karl 263:9	307:20	266:10 293:6	397:4,9	417:8
350:19,21,25	308:15 329:16	312:11 315:9	legal 304:23	list 385:3
351:1 416:20	355:6 365:15	323:6 352:3	358:22 362:2	389:16
417:22	379:2 399:9	364:22	371:8 379:21	lithium 341:2
karl.zobrist@d	399:24	369:22 379:1	380:7,9	litigated 395:14
263:11	400:20	knows 311:12	legislation	litigation
KCC 267:18	408:15 411:11	KS 263:17	405:12 406:2	262:24
271:3,10,13,18	412:12		406:3	392:24 418:7
271:22 272:2	kinds 298:18	L	legitimate	little 286:21
272:5,9,11,15	308:19 329:21	lack 275:20	355:9,10	297:22
289:15 291:11	375:4 396:14	language	404:10	334:18 355:18
313:16 314:8	396:21	280:12,17	Lera 264:10	361:19 365:17
319:19 321:1	know 269:13	281:17 292:11	267:10	367:19
KCP&L 263:13	272:2 275:8	370:21 381:19	let's 301:24	386:23
279:14 280:10	279:9 280:9	382:8 383:14	316:1 321:23	392:25
283:11.16	285:11 289:1	383:15,21	325:24 326:1	394:24 399:8
284:5,11,20	290:12 291:12	413:19	350:9 375:13	LLC 263:16
285:7.18	306:14 307:15	languages	379:5 384:8	264:1
288:24 292:7	308:23 309:2	404:7	395:6	LLP 263:9
298:1,5	316:16.17	large 316:10	level 307:23	located 351:6
302:15	325:13	391:5.8	308:1,11 316:13	lock 386:16
324:22,23	329:22 334:7	394:15	345:2 364:10	387:1 392:16
		largely 275:5		
330:2 334:4	336:20 337:8	larger 386:11	392:7 401:10	locked 386:18
340:15 341:9	338:21	late 293:12	light 263:2,13	locking 278:11
345:18 376:6	344:22 356:6	law 262:18	292:7 319:9	logical 397:6
376:9 387:9	356:8,9	263:2,5,9,15	338:18	long 284:16
389:5 406:1	357:20,25	263:16 264:1	liked 407:3	longer 289:16
406:25	358:1,23	264:5 298:17	likelihood	315:14 357:3
409:22	360:10,12	349:17 351:7	341:25 386:19	360:18 361:5
KCP&L's 326:13	362:13,14,16		limit 292:15	look 278:4
KCPL 388:15	363:3,5,24	Lawrence	411:25 414:2,4	301:24 302:8
409:11	364:16	263:17	limitation	306:3 345:10
keep 333:4	369:23	laws 359:10	288:12	346:1 347:14
Kellene 262:24	372:13 374:1	lawyer 380:11	limitations	347:24 357:12
418:5,18	374:23 375:2	lay 361:15	304:23	371:21 374:24
KENNEY	375:8,19	lead 330:7	limited 339:21	375:4 393:6
262:19 318:5	379:20,21	334:9,10	line 269:5	397:21 400:1
332:2 389:25	381:22 382:6	340:21,24	302:8 322:20	404:1
kept 338:5	392:24 393:7	341:1,1	326:2 360:14	looked 330:22
KEVIN 264:15	394:14 395:1	leading 355:16	391:14	382:13 409:12
key 269:7	395:21	356:14	lines 325:25	looking 285:13
286:20	397:25 398:1	359:24	352:24 385:2	301:23 303:14
kicked 317:16	398:4,10	361:23 381:9	414:1	306:12 331:2
kind 279:3	399:11,21,22	learnings	Linhares 362:8	337:21 338:12
286:23 293:7	400:19 404:4	387:21	LinkedIn 367:18	352:21 404:7
293:8 298:21	405:6 406:11	leeway 361:19	368:4 378:19	409:5
306:19	knowledge	left 384:17	400:1 414:25	looks 355:5
-				

256.17 260.17	20745 405.10	205.12 200.9	200.22	417.4
356:17 369:17	387:15 405:19	295:13 299:8	309:23	417:4
375:13 404:5	management	305:20 306:6	342:18 363:9	mergers 280:19
lose 392:14	377:22 388:3	307:8 308:1	406:8,9	288:18,21
lot 274:9	390:21	334:16	merged 386:3	315:25 317:1,6
281:23 285:3	mandate 344:19	339:25	387:16 392:18	317:8
286:25	344:22	344:21 349:8	393:6	merges 394:4
304:25	mandating 411:3	374:22 386:13	merger 262:13	messier 398:19
329:23 359:3	manufacturing	387:13 400:1	269:19 278:4	Metering
374:14 385:12	391:14	401:5	279:7 282:12	335:19
394:4 395:20	March 262:8	meaning	283:8,15,15	method 309:10
398:16 399:19	265:5 287:25	281:23 355:18	284:18 285:9	methodology
402:14	288:4 337:14	370:14 372:3	285:10,12,13	290:14
403:24	413:5 417:4	means 274:25	285:17,22,24	metrics 281:12
lousy 402:12	margin 347:19	289:3 349:19	286:7 299:22	281:13
low 365:18	mark 370:7	356:7 393:20	300:8,13,18	MFN 316:4
low-cost	Marke 271:1	meant 269:14	304:5 305:2	MICHAEL
284:25,25	310:20,24	mechanism	305:10,12,13	262:17
lunch 390:5	311:1 312:19	277:8 298:17	305:15,23	Midwest 418:6
397:15	313:6 314:3,5	298:22	306:2,20	million 289:21
lunchtime	314:22 318:24	mechanisms	309:3,15	289:22
397:19	319:18 320:20	274:11 277:22	310:4 316:20	296:21 297:3
	416:9 417:20	297:12 298:3	317:3 321:13	301:25 302:2
M	marked 265:24	298:7,8	324:16 329:18	302:3,4,7
M 263:5	265:25	299:13,16,18	330:4 337:4,9	319:3 364:10
M-a-r-k-e 311:2	266:20	medicine	338:3 342:23	mind 333:5
ma'am 353:6	293:21 312:23	396:20	345:10 348:6	363:10
MacArthur	323:15 352:12	MEEIA 283:12	348:12,16,22	minds 316:9
364:6	354:15,19	283:24 284:8	349:6,9,13,17	minds 318.9 mindset 399:13
machine	368:1 414:23	299:20 303:6	349:23 376:1	
396:23				minute 406:7
Madison 263:6	415:4 417:2	327:4,9 330:4	378:24	minutes 291:1
264:11,16	market 278:24	333:9 348:3	382:12 384:1	350:7,14 381:3
Madison's	347:24 410:11	388:4,16	385:4,7,19	mirrors 372:16
390:6	markets 394:18	404:24	386:8,8,14,18	mischaracteri
MAIDA 262:20	marking 367:21	meet 348:7	386:24 387:4	282:9
	marks 354:12	364:11 370:19	387:9,11 389:1	missing 353:25
main 263:3,10	Martin 263:15	371:7,9 372:8	389:18 392:4	386:20
389:3,6,12	322:1,4,7,13	373:1,3,25	392:16,22	mission 359:23
maintain 387:18	416:14 417:15	meeting 289:9	393:3,11,15,18	361:23
maintaining	417:17	398:20	394:21 395:5	362:23 365:8
345:2	materially	meetings 287:7	395:11 396:21	374:17
major 282:4	319:15	289:6	397:1,5 403:7	Missouri 262:1
making 334:13	matter 262:12	meets 349:10,17	403:25	262:9 263:10
337:22 369:3	288:21	373:23	406:24	263:14,20,24
386:20	matters 412:25	memorializes	407:23	264:15,18
393:23 414:7	maximize 387:3	290:4	408:15,19	267:22 268:2
man 367:5	mean 274:21	mentioned	409:3 410:6	269:7,11 271:4
managed	275:21 280:6	278:2 303:7	411:12,16 412:3	271:10,17,23
	I			I

272.42 24	252.11 254.7	220.14	204-22	245.45 240.42
272:13,24	352:11 354:7	329:14	284:23	315:15 348:12
274:1,5,12,17	354:11,12,24	Missourians	motive 327:6	370:13 372:1
274:19,24	354:25 355:2	332:18 334:5	move 334:6	386:25 387:1
275:2,8,19,22	355:2,16	337:21	356:22 359:7	413:25
276:1,11,18,23	356:10,13	mix 389:4	411:17	necessity 372:1
277:13,23	357:13,16,22	mjb@mbjreg	movement	need 290:7
278:9 281:1,1	357:24 358:8	263:18	398:8,9	291:20
281:9,19,23	358:12,20	MJMEUC 264:4	moving 277:9	293:25 306:2
283:23 285:3	359:16,23,24	267:1 301:10	279:7 320:3	316:4 317:10
286:20	360:17,25	314:13 318:15	337:9 389:7	358:15 370:7
287:13 289:16	361:2,4,22,23	327:21 344:8	405:7	374:14 375:8
291:4,10	362:1,16,24	353:14 402:1		375:19 390:15
292:7 293:3,8	363:7 364:14	MO 263:3,7,22		412:25
293:13 294:3	364:24 365:4	264:2,7,12,17	N 265:1 416:1	needed 269:22
294:20 295:7	365:9,24	modernization	name 265:15,17	negative 313:11
295:20,21	366:23 368:6	392:9	288:23 289:1	313:20 346:17
296:4,5,9,11	368:19,22,24	modest 364:10	310:25 322:6	409:5
296:24 297:6	369:21 370:3	395:11	350:24,25	negotiate
297:12 298:13	370:10,11,18	modification	351:1 353:23	277:23
298:22 299:6	370:23,25	385:10 413:9	359:16 362:14	neither 311:12
299:7,9,22	371:14,15	modify 288:1	368:9 400:9	349:19 368:14
300:7,9,13,19	372:17 373:12	moment 315:10	narrow 398:17	nerd 398:1
302:1,6,12,12	373:16 374:10	Monday 270:17	narrower	net 332:22,23
302:13 303:1	374:12,19,25	278:3,17	383:18 403:14	334:17 335:19
303:5 305:8	376:6 377:16	286:9 293:13	404:9	348:18
306:14,15	379:7,17	303:11,17	Natelle 265:10	never 273:21
309:12,23	380:3,14,20	358:2 373:7	265:13,16,22	293:1 322:22
311:4 313:4,11	381:9,14,23	money 297:7	416:3 417:10	new 288:8
313:20 315:12	382:3 383:12	moratorium	417:12	289:1 317:21
317:5,10	383:17 386:2	275:13,25	nation 315:16	348:3 351:8
318:10 319:9	386:20,24	276:4,16,23	nations 270:22	362:21 389:7
319:14,16	388:5 390:12	331:18	nationwide	399:6 400:15
320:5,10	399:23 400:3	morning 265:4	389:5	noisier 398:20
322:10	400:5,9,11	267:8,9	nature 347:20	non-changes
323:22 326:5	402:22	268:5 273:12	383:23 398:4	396:2
326:23	403:14 405:2	273:13 286:15	401:7	non-energy
330:17 331:7	405:23 407:6	286:16 301:17	near 358:8	348:4
331:11,13,21	408:5 412:18	310:22,23	369:21	non-opposition
332:9,24	413:14 418:2	313:6,7 314:3	nec 330:5	325:5
334:9 335:15	418:16	314:4,22,23	necessarily	nonprofit 359:1
336:5 339:18	Missouri's	323:24,25	277:14,24	359:2,10,23
340:19 341:13	333:20 343:7	328:7,8 332:4	280:10 331:10	417:6
342:15 345:19	357:14 365:7	332:5 344:13	335:24	nonregulated
346:13 347:10	366:5,8	344:16 352:19	345:12 404:5	278:19
349:11,17	374:17 405:1	352:20	necessary	nonrenewable
350:17,19	416:19 417:21	353:23 412:16	273:17 282:1	285:6
351:10,22	Missouri-based	motivated	284:4 305:13	Nonunanimous
			l	

272:4 324:2	obvious 279:19	280:18	366:1 374:15	order 281:6
noon 350:12	obviously	287:25	401:16 408:10	313:10 314:8
Northstar 341:7	291:18 368:13	294:12	Opitz 263:20	321:1,15,17,17
		297:20 300:4		
note 283:2	402:11		268:3,4 273:2	331:8 333:19
330:24 341:5	occasions	308:17 324:6	303:2,3 310:8	342:3,4
345:13 348:2	410:18	328:11 333:20	313:5,23	346:22 370:1
349:1 350:10	occur 292:6	341:12 345:17	318:11 323:23	387:2 389:15
351:16 357:1	295:3 386:20	352:23	327:15 341:14	404:2
noted 270:25	408:16	355:13 356:3	341:15 344:2	ordered 333:10
331:14	October 376:8	358:1,9 360:5	350:18,22	333:12
notes 418:13	376:16,19	360:11 365:22	352:5,13	organization
notice 358:6	378:15	367:17 369:24	355:23 356:3	354:24
369:25 370:1	oddness 398:5	371:19 373:15	356:24 358:1	357:20 359:3
376:12,23	offer 266:12	375:23 377:13	360:13,17,22	362:19,21
377:2	300:25 301:1	378:8 382:24	366:20 367:2	401:4 404:5
noting 349:21	312:15 323:8	385:2 397:13	369:24 373:7	organizational
number 290:21	325:19 352:6	406:6 412:13	373:11 378:12	387:14
311:12,13	382:5 399:2	old 398:24	379:24 380:6	organizations
354:18 385:3	415:1	399:11	402:15 412:19	359:2,4,6
407:24 408:7	offered 267:15	once 290:3	414:20 415:6	organized
numbers	324:23	394:4	416:4,7,10,15	355:16 359:10
294:13	414:25	ones 286:10	416:17,21	381:8,17
	offering 366:1	317:14 338:4	opponents	oriented 326:11
0	office 263:16	ongoing 297:10	406:2	originally 348:6
O 264:5 265:1	264:10,13	OPC 272:20	opportunity	outcome
object 269:11	287:11 311:4	289:12,17	272:17 284:13	289:13 315:5
360:13	316:13 369:14	312:23 315:4	284:16 295:5	317:18 319:13
objected	369:18 371:20	330:22,23	402:9	319:15 321:9
269:16	373:17 376:6	OPC's 330:12	oppose 324:5	321:12 330:25
objection	376:18 378:12	416:8 417:18	331:4 340:10	331:4
319:24	378:17,23	open 399:13	348:24 349:2	outcomes 271:2
348:22,24,25	382:13,15	opening 270:17	349:6,20	311:25 318:1
348:25	383:2,10,18	398:16	373:22	319:8 320:21
356:25 357:6	383:25	operate 359:2	opposed 279:3	331:2 336:22
361:19 367:3	403:15 418:15	operated 381:18	328:16,19,22	342:1 349:5
380:6	office's 319:12	operates 327:4	328:25 329:6	349:22
objections	324:13	operating 315:8	340:5 348:6	outdated 357:4
266:15 301:4	offices 264:1	361:1 390:16	371:11 372:22	outlined
312:19 323:10	379:4	operation 361:5	373:11,18	289:20
352:7 376:23	official 358:6	operations	opposing	outside 279:4
obligation	369:25	263:14 292:8	349:15 373:9	281:1
379:3 403:21	376:12,23	298:1	401:8 412:9	outstanding
obligations	377:2	opining 401:16	option 329:12	311:22 317:16
279:23 379:2	offset 302:20	opinion 277:19	341:2	320:4
392:24	Oh 267:21	280:14 281:22	options 324:21	overall 299:13
obtained	311:20 341:11	290:16 295:19	325:20 326:3	300:4 342:22
354:25 395:4	Okay 270:4	300:17 337:17	394:18	overrule 361:19

overruled	280:7 282:7	409:20 410:7	396:16	place 264:6
319:25 367:8	296:17	414:3	perform 306:17	270:9 281:24
oversee 369:1	297:22	particularly	306:21 307:12	286:4 287:12
overseen 353:3	314:25 315:2	281:9 340:19	307:16	315:11 333:14
Owen 364:20	316:1,2 317:8	404:23 411:4	performance	346:22
		404.23 411.4	353:25	
364:23 365:2	318:24 329:15			359:13,19 389:18 409:21
366:17 367:13	337:16 359:9	parties 267:16	performed	
368:5 373:11	400:2	272:19 277:4	307:21	409:22 418:9
373:18 378:16	paragraphs	277:10,20	period 360:23	418:14
399:24	316:24 317:13	285:16 292:13	periodic 277:7	Plains 262:12
402:15 417:8	parent 359:3	317:18 331:16	permanent	263:12
Owen's 367:19	378:5	347:14 410:22	299:7	279:25 280:3
400:1	parentheses	411:3,16 412:1	permeating	293:2,14
owned 308:20	354:11	412:3,24	321:8	351:8
P	Parker 263:16	414:13	permission	plan 287:5
P 265:1	part 276:4	parties' 413:9	358:7 369:20	planning 305:5
p.m 415:10	284:23	413:25 414:6	permits 298:18	308:5,7,14,19
	295:13 300:3	partly 330:12	permitted	336:15 398:12
P.O 264:11,16	302:18 303:12	party 269:10,17	374:11	409:25
Pace 351:5,7 364:1	303:22	292:14	person 366:20	plans 303:13
·	305:22,25	372:20	366:22 410:11	398:14
page 269:4	306:20 308:7	373:24 401:8	personal 379:1	plant 326:14
285:14,14,15	308:13,19,22	414:3	387:14	358:8 369:21
288:7 289:10	309:15 316:3	pass 348:13	personally	393:8
290:20 291:8	324:8 327:8	paste 331:11	275:16 347:11	plants 305:19
294:5,6,9,10	328:13 336:17	path 400:24	404:12 418:8	305:21 309:1,1
294:13,17,22	336:21 348:10	pay 375:20	persons 363:1	309:4,14
295:1,11	351:7 388:22	411:4	perspective	391:8,9
296:15,24	404:6 410:25	paying 375:3	333:1343:2	394:22 395:2
297:18 301:23	partially 285:21	payment	374:9 399:17	395:2 407:19
312:1,2 314:25	334:16	406:14	402:23	409:2
315:1,2	participant	pays 339:6	403:12 405:1	players 398:24
322:20 326:1	383:5 410:15	PC 264:6	405:12 408:4	please 265:12
328:10 337:16	participate	PEGGY 264:1	phrase 355:8	265:15,18
348:20	284:9,18	peggy@healy	383:3 386:23	282:10 297:18
352:21 354:9	participates	264:3	phrasing 270:21	307:3 310:24
355:11 356:1,1	356:11	pencils 375:14	physically	312:17 322:6
357:2 369:16	participating	pending 271:25	390:15	350:23
370:9 371:21	411:13	283:3 302:16	pick 384:16	plus 334:2
377:4,20,25	participation	315:15 345:21	picking 394:20	poignant
378:5,9,9,20	379:23 398:13	people 271:16	picture 404:2	399:19
384:23	particular 270:1	332:9 362:22	pie 404:6	point 280:5
pages 294:14	284:21 286:7	367:20	pieces 277:9	281:16 283:23
295:11 325:25	329:18 337:17	393:14 398:9	pig 392:25	291:2,14
329:3 368:12	362:23	412:8	pilot 334:4	308:24 317:5
417:8	376:13 380:4	percent 277:4	341:6,10	325:22 327:5
paragraph	393:18	perfect 396:9	pin 325:16	329:24
		I	I	I

	I	I		
348:10	positive 286:10	353:12 382:17	334:11 365:16	356:12
355:24 384:8	374:10,14	393:8 394:22	375:25	398:25
396:8 397:6	405:3 408:6	401:24	395:18	procurement
402:25	409:6	PowerPoint	price 395:11	387:23
404:10,12,13	positively	293:17 417:4	prices 389:8	produce
404:16 414:14	386:2	practical 394:7	primary 317:14	392:23
pointed 407:22	possibilities	precisely	366:20 406:1	producer
points 277:5	386:17,18	332:24	principal 359:13	. 340:25,25
391:24	possibility	preclude 298:5	359:19	professional
poke 392:25	271:12	335:25	printer 361:10	374:15 405:11
policy 322:12	possible 269:2	predilection	prior 268:16	408:5
327:10 333:1	285:17	375:12	317:20,21	professionals
342:17 343:2	330:20	preferences	324:9 330:13	369:2
347:16	possibly 279:8	370:19 371:10	357:2 360:24	profile 368:5
359:23	285:17	preferential	priority 387:24	400:2 414:25
		279:3	388:2	
366:22,24	post 283:15			profit 284:13,17
369:1 405:17	284:18 286:7	prefiled 351:10	pro 400:20	327:6 347:18
policymaker	305:2 330:4	premarked	proactive	program 284:8
367:13	387:9 389:1	322:15 351:11	270:12 287:19	330:4 333:22
politics 401:6	389:18	prepare 351:9	probably	333:23 338:19
portray 401:2	posted 414:16	prepared	308:21 314:10	338:20,22,24
pose 390:9	posting 368:11	265:23,23	329:6 361:8	339:2,4,7
posed 351:23	Poston 268:1	311:8 322:14	361:12 389:14	340:11 388:12
POSINELLI	302:25 313:2	361:3	397:20	390:11 393:11
264:6	318:9 321:25	preparing	413:24,24	405:23
position 269:17	322:5 323:8	361:14	problem 399:12	409:25
269:18,25	323:16 350:4	present 273:25	procedures	programs
270:23 304:8	353:10 401:22	274:22 368:7	271:19	283:12,18
304:10,13,15	416:14	369:11 386:19	proceed 399:1	284:3,14
304:17,21	posture 374:1	418:8	proceeding	326:11 334:14
309:13 311:21	392:25 396:9	presentation	365:23,25	340:3 341:10
315:21 316:19	396:16	301:19	379:15 382:12	405:4,14,20
316:22 317:3	postured	presented	382:19 383:5	407:1,13
319:12 321:14	408:18	267:18 401:12	402:23	progress
321:17 324:7	potential	presents 275:1	403:25 411:12	399:20
324:11,13,14	270:10 272:16	322:21	412:2,12	prohibited
326:20	288:16 332:8	Presiding	proceedings	346:16
330:12 331:17	387:3 391:12	262:17	262:6 392:9	project 341:6
333:21 337:8	Potentially	pretty 398:11,17	418:8,11	370:12,18
342:19 349:13	339:11	399:6 414:10	process 285:3	371:24 372:22
365:5 369:7	power 263:2,13	prevent 270:10	285:11 290:2	375:4,7
370:3,10	264:9 273:5	341:21	303:7 305:8	409:15
371:18 372:15	280:7 292:7	preventive	329:11,15	promise 392:21
394:15 395:10	292:22 310:11	396:19	336:15 344:19	393:20,21
405:6 411:9	314:1 318:13	previous 281:19	345:8,15	
	327:19 333:18	281:21 285:22	386:1 395:14	promote 365:23
positions 383:6 403:4	338:18 344:5	288:13 317:3		
-03.4	550.10 544.5	200.13 317.3	processes	promoting

		1	1	
368:22 400:4	286:4,20	315:13,20,23	405:17 408:14	question 294:13
400:10	287:3,16	317:24 336:18	413:14	296:3 314:6
promotion	protects 383:7	336:20	publicly 414:16	332:22 335:7
405:4	provide 284:25	prudence	published	336:2,8
proper 285:5	285:23	339:19	293:15	337:13 345:6
property 298:9	287:12,18	prudency	purchase	359:8 363:6
298:10 320:9	288:23	339:14	278:24 326:4	367:10 380:16
Proponents	290:22	public 262:2	purchased	382:22
406:5,6	295:21 326:7	264:10,10,13	279:8	393:16 402:11
proposal	348:17 361:7	264:14,15,18	PURPA 410:18	403:18
285:22	413:13	267:4 269:3,9	purpose 278:18	406:22 414:9
343:16 344:23	provided 278:7	269:13,23	355:15,22	question's
375:16 396:4	286:23 293:11	270:13 273:15	356:7 357:5,5	320:4
413:19	293:16 295:15	280:25	357:17 374:21	questioning
proposals	295:22	292:16 300:8	380:20 381:8	360:14
275:9 325:11	306:23 319:3	300:14 301:12	381:11,13,14,17	questions
343:15 344:24	349:8 380:19	305:6 307:1,6	381:21,25	266:7.25
345:4 347:7	provides 269:7	307:8,10,11	382:2 383:23	267:2 268:1
397:1	284:9 286:20	310:5 311:5	403:20	270:19 273:6
propose 348:11	287:2,4,15	317:9 320:8	purposes 366:5	273:9,11,15
396:13	288:10 320:8	323:19 325:2	366:8 380:22	278:17 286:13
proposed 275:1	providing	325:9 326:18	381:19,23,24	286:14,17
304:11 305:23	269:21 279:2	326:25	383:12	291:22,24
306:4 326:5	289:5	328:20	pursuant 298:6	292:2 302:25
326:21 343:4	provision	338:15 341:21	pursue 327:11,11	309:18,21
346:12,19	275:17 277:2	342:4,7,24	333:7,11	310:14 313:2
348:14 395:21	277:12	343:9 348:17	pursuing 340:11	313:23 314:12
397:8 406:24	280:24 282:11	348:18 352:16	395:4	314:16,19,20
410:5	282:23 283:1	365:3 369:14	pursuit 326:22	314:21 318:4,5
proposing	283:6 288:9	369:18 370:14	purview 304:3	318:6,8,9,14
306:8,11	289:3 290:20	371:21 372:2,6	333:13 361:6	318:16,19
335:25	296:9 298:4	372:21,24,25	push 398:12,13	319:7 323:2
proposition	302:5 315:5	373:9,17	put 270:9	323:20
394:3	315:17 316:5	376:7,18	303:12,15	327:20,22,24
protect 270:9	317:11 318:1	377:21 378:12	304:25 315:10	328:2,3,4,6
325:2,8	319:8 330:16	378:17,23,24	332:20 341:18	332:1,3,7
326:25 342:4	330:25 331:4	378:24 379:4	346:22	337:12 338:15
342:6 379:14	337:1,18	379:15,16,18	374:22 386:4	342:9 343:17
382:18	provisions	379:22 381:15	394:13 400:9	344:6,9 346:4
protecting	276:18 278:21	382:3,11,13,16	403:17 412:11	346:5 347:15
305:6	281:8,18	382:19 383:1	puts 288:11,14	350:2,4
protection	283:6,25	383:2,4,8,10	390:20 395:9	351:23 353:10
282:18	284:3 286:18	383:19,21,25	putting 387:6	353:13,17,19
285:23	286:22 288:8	387:4 398:13	391:7	354:8 360:16
protections	291:4 295:6	401:18 402:18	551.7	384:17,19
269:7,21	295:25	402:25 403:6	Q	389:23,25
270:9 283:10	305:18 315:10	403:15 405:14	quantify 347:21	390:2,8
2,0.5 205.10	555.10 515.10	100.10 400.14		000.2,0

	1	1	1	
401:18,19,22	299:8 302:6	317:21 348:1	332:16	recommends
401:25 402:4	302:16 316:8	395:24	348:20	269:6
402:14 412:14	317:20,22	396:21	352:22 354:9	record 319:23
412:15 416:5,5	319:2,2 320:5	rating 285:18	384:25 417:10	350:10,24
416:11,15,16,16	320:11 324:23	286:1	417:15,20,22	407:12 415:5
416:22,23	325:16 331:18	ratings 286:6,6	REC'D 417:2	415:8
quibble 389:14	333:8 335:12	287:2	RECA 298:25	records 287:19
quite 329:20	336:7,13	reaches 271:13	299:4	287:22
340:24	339:20	read 277:9	recall 270:21	recover 298:2
quo 387:18	345:18,24	281:4 324:11	282:25	recovery 320:8
407:8	346:2,25	372:5 379:7	297:13 303:7	320:10
quotation	392:21 395:16	400:2 406:18	303:16 309:18	Recross 291:21
354:12	395:20,24	406:21	309:25 342:11	301:10 318:7
quote 326:2	rate-related	reading 371:5	346:13 348:9	338:14 401:17
quote/unquote	396:2	372:25	373:13 380:1	Recross-Exa
326:11,12	ratemaking	409:13	409:13 410:1	291:25 301:15
520.11,12	339:20,21	ready 265:8	410:21 411:2,5	303:3 318:23
R	ratepayer-fun	350:16 381:1	411:7,8	338:16 341:15
R 265:1 350:21	364:11	real 390:19	receipt 301:4	344:15 346:9
416:20 417:17			•	
417:22 418:1	ratepayers	realistic 304:14	received	402:8 416:6,6
R-a-b-a-g-o	269:8 271:6	realizing	266:20 301:8	416:7,11,17,17
351:1	271:10,23	387:22	312:22,24	416:18,18,23
Rabago 350:19	272:25 274:1	really 371:6	323:15 352:12	Redirect 310:13
350:21,23,25	274:4,5,15,17	372:12 375:14	357:9	320:17,19
353:23	274:23 275:2	396:5 397:24	recess 350:7	350:3 412:17
354:22	275:19,22	410:13	384:9	416:12
357:21 377:4	276:1 277:13	reason 283:14	recipient 364:1	reduce 270:3
380:10 402:10	282:13 286:21	296:12 325:9	recipients	341:25
412:14,21	286:24	330:2 333:18	363:7	reducing 389:8
	288:10,15	387:8 389:3	recognize	reduction
416:20 417:23	291:5,10	reasonable	274:5	406:25
Rabago's 414:21	295:21,23	290:17 316:9	recommend	407:12 410:6
raised 411:3	296:11 297:6	330:15 367:16	377:7 392:12	refer 281:19
range 277:5	298:10,19	375:22	411:15	reference
393:7	300:13	405:16	recommendat	413:20
rapid 391:3	304:20 313:12	reasonably	271:7 291:7,15	referring 332:10
rapidly 334:1	313:21 315:12	405:22	320:21 340:7	343:20
rate 271:25	317:20 319:17	reasons 279:19	340:9 371:3	344:23
272:1 274:11	331:13 333:24	347:12 389:6	recommendat	reflected
275:13,24	334:25	406:10 412:10	332:8,16	282:20
276:4,12,16	335:15 336:5	reassign 326:9	333:4,7	283:17
276:23 277:11	337:18,20,23	rebuttal 265:23	recommended	reform 302:9
277:16 282:15	ratepayers'	268:16 286:18	321:3 387:25	regard 292:6
282:21 283:1	321:19	291:8 312:19	393:25	389:5
283:3 288:13	rates 280:8	313:8 322:14	recommending	regarding
290:5,6,17,18	283:7 288:17	322:21 325:15	291:11 339:24	284:20
291:18 298:11	292:23 298:6	325:18,22	340:1,2 384:1	regards 335:18
	l			

registered	renew 263:20	381:20	377:8	303:6 309:20
357:1,2,3	263:24 268:2	388:20 400:4	require 282:24	309:23
359:16	269:11 303:1		283:2 329:16	312:20 319:6
		400:10,17		
regulated	313:4 318:10	403:9,24	344:25	323:11 330:12
278:18,20,21	323:22	renewables	required 295:2	336:11 352:8
278:23 279:17	329:23	285:5 344:18	requirement	376:25 380:9
292:6,9,15	333:20 341:13	345:1,3 347:15	282:20,21,22	responses
398:3 413:14	343:7 346:12	347:17,18	320:21	273:14
regulations	350:17,18	391:4,5	requirements	responsibilities
275:6	351:10 352:11	repeat 307:3	287:10,18	383:10,22
regulatory	354:10,12,24	367:10	349:11,17	responsibility
262:18	355:2 356:9	repeating	resent 322:22	378:1,23
292:24 295:2	357:13,13,21	394:13	322:23	382:11,25
320:13 331:14	357:24	rephrase	resents 322:22	383:2
335:17 398:1	358:12,20	294:12	reservations	restructuring
reiterate 372:12	359:15,22	338:23	345:14	285:25
reject 395:23	360:17,25	349:12 380:15	residential	result 283:8
related 270:23	361:2,4,22	Reply 413:5	396:14	285:9,10
274:9 281:12	362:1,16,24	Report 370:1	resolved 319:1	385:4 386:7,8
281:24 282:12	363:7,11	REPORTED	resolves 317:15	406:24
287:8 305:18	364:14,24	262:23	resource 305:5	408:22 410:6
347:22 376:10	365:7,24	reporter 265:18	308:5,7,14,19	results 340:14
377:15 378:1	366:4,8,23	293:22	334:7 335:3,5	resupports
relates 378:5	367:2 368:6	310:25	389:4 396:13	317:2
relationship	368:19,22	354:20 368:2	398:14 405:21	retail 296:25
362:17	370:3,9,10,23	418:6	409:24	299:1,4 413:13
relatively 391:15	371:14 372:16	reporting	410:20	retire 309:2,11
395:11	373:16 374:9	287:17 336:23	resources	309:14
relevance	374:17,25	reports 338:12	305:17 306:3	retired 306:20
367:3 401:14	379:17 380:3	represent	306:13 334:10	retirement
relevant 306:15	380:20 381:13	378:24 379:13	335:13	305:19,21
317:24 331:1	382:3 383:12	379:14,18	343:25 347:13	306:12
360:16 396:1	383:17 399:23	380:4 381:14	385:14 387:13	308:25
reliability 281:12	400:3,8	382:3,11,18	391:2,15	retirements
287:8	403:14 405:1	383:1	394:18 395:4	303:18
reliable 390:7	407:6 408:4,9	representatives	395:7,17	retraining 337:1
rely 305:1	412:17 416:19	411:7	410:23 411:22	338:7,11
remain 287:12	417:21	represented	411:23	return 331:18
remember	renewable	363:23	respect 402:15	revenue 282:21
303:23	325:10 326:4	representing	respective	396:18
346:18,20	326:14 343:15	353:24 367:6	293:15	review 272:8
364:17,19	355:17 356:11	represents	respond 334:15	294:14 295:17
404:25	356:14 357:14	383:7	responding	300:5 301:21
409:17	359:25	request 358:7	296:2	303:21,22
remind 381:7	361:24 365:9	376:9 413:7	response	304:4 305:3
remiss 347:23	368:23 369:4	requested	266:16	306:5 309:7
render 374:15	374:18 381:10	292:4 358:21	285:22 301:5	313:14 319:9

		I	I	
319:19 331:23	risk 387:19	San 363:15	se 348:24	seen 267:15,17
339:14 347:3	risks 300:12	sat 397:23	seated 265:12	272:11 286:1
reviewed	road 395:14	savings 282:12	310:19 322:3	286:10 321:1
306:22 309:6	robust 305:8	282:20	second 265:5	329:21 330:6
309:8 313:18	Rockefeller	305:23 306:4	280:19 296:13	330:21 331:10
366:2 409:21	364:6	326:23	296:15 314:24	334:1 355:5
reviewer	ROE 277:1,4,17	327:12 330:3	315:14,20	380:21 390:21
366:19	277:23 278:2	337:22	316:25 321:1	396:10 399:16
reviewing	ROGER 263:2	408:20,20	324:5,10	399:18,19
278:16 303:10	roger.steiner	saw 408:24	328:11,17	407:4
304:1 343:8	263:4	412:16	348:15 356:1	selected 309:4
revolution	role 270:12	saying 270:8	369:16 377:14	selecting 309:11
394:16	402:19 403:1	311:23 325:3	379:7 385:23	selection 309:1
rewards 284:24	403:3,10,14	340:4 374:20	390:18	sell 278:24
rider 299:3,12	roles 402:16,17	386:14 393:3	Secretary	Senior 264:10
299:19	room 270:16	413:11 414:2	354:25	sense 279:10
riders 331:15	280:20 303:11	says 279:22	357:23	314:11 321:11
ridiculous	358:3 386:1	283:1 298:4	section 311:25	413:16
410:12	398:21 401:10	302:20,21	312:1 315:24	sentence 353:1
right 268:7,14	RPR 262:24	327:10 359:9	315:25 317:1	separate 329:17
272:7 288:24	418:18	359:15 360:1	317:15 355:18	series 397:12
291:5 292:24			356:9 370:14	
	rule 278:15,17	369:6,12,17		service 262:2
294:9,12,13	278:18,21	370:15 371:6	372:3,9 379:6	264:15,19
295:14,16	279:1 292:3,5	372:7,12,14,24	379:10	282:12,17
316:24	292:15 293:9	372:25 377:6	sections 285:21	289:5 347:4
325:20	376:10	379:10 381:17	sector 359:1	348:1 370:14
343:24	397:20	393:10	see 272:9	372:2 379:16
354:16 356:5	rules 281:24	scale 358:7	273:9 297:21	399:8,13,17
356:19 357:7	282:3 308:23	369:21 394:17	321:4,11	413:13,14
358:13 359:7	348:3 402:22	scenarios	325:24 326:1	services
359:12	ruling 321:10	304:18	331:22 333:18	262:24 279:7
364:25	runs 356:1	schedule 413:4	334:19 335:2	326:7 418:7
366:22 369:11	Rupp 262:19	scheduled	355:19 359:17	serving 288:25
369:15,23	332:3 337:10	350:11 412:24	361:13 370:20	session 350:11
370:5 372:10	338:1 341:17	scheduling	370:21 371:2	set 329:3 348:1
372:20,22	342:10 343:18	350:10	372:3 375:13	359:4,5 372:9
374:19,20	346:11 390:2	school 351:7	377:12,16,23	418:9
375:5 378:10	404:17 416:16	399:11	378:2,3 392:5	setting 278:2
378:18 380:11	416:23	Schulte 264:5	393:9 395:13	settlement
381:10 382:4		273:6 310:12	396:22 401:5	277:17 294:15
386:6 391:7	<u> </u>	314:2,12	406:23 407:3	294:18 295:18
398:11 402:14	S 265:1	318:14 327:20	407:6,15	296:7 297:19
403:15 407:15	safeguard	344:6 353:13	409:4 412:7,9	297:24 300:5
408:2,3	338:11	401:25 414:14	seeing 301:16	300:12 319:11
412:25 413:24	SAIDI 281:24	414:18 416:10	303:23	396:4 397:8
415:7	SAIFI 281:25	scientific 381:18	seeking 371:25	severance
rights 279:23	sales 396:17	SCOTT 262:19	412:1	337:24 338:8
-	l	l	I	I

220.10	265.17 272.16	350:6 354:13	410.22 411.4	40E-E
338:10	365:17 372:16		410:22 411:4	405:5
severances	378:20	355:20	411:21	speaking
287:15	showing 376:4	357:18,25	sole 268:20	356:25
shape 397:2	392:5	358:4 359:18	somebody	specific 270:7
share 297:6	shown 362:5	359:21 370:21	282:8	282:25
366:10 396:18	shows 367:19	372:4 377:5	somebody's	288:12 321:15
shared 382:8	side 284:1,1	377:18,24	374:23	344:25
404:8	326:23	378:7,14	somewhat	355:15,22
Shareholders	327:12 330:3	379:20 381:12	412:4	356:7 381:7,21
339:12	351:19 409:25	383:16 385:1	soon 381:2	381:25 383:12
sharing 277:8	Sierra 351:20	385:6,9	sooner 296:6	383:23
302:5 391:25	360:8 363:22	386:12 388:7	sophistication	403:19 404:7
sheet 418:10	363:24	388:10,14,18	398:5	406:22
Shemwell	sign 324:1,4	388:24 389:2	sorry 294:7	specifically
264:10 267:5	signatories	389:21 390:13	296:18 314:5	293:8 303:23
267:7,10,23	292:19 377:7	403:12 404:14	363:4,19	315:19 316:6
268:9 301:13	signatories'	404:22 409:9	366:6 367:9	326:1 343:13
301:15 302:22	279:22	409:18	376:21	396:8 403:19
310:21 311:11	signatory 280:1	situation	382:23 405:5	specifics
311:15,17	signature 378:9	267:20 271:6	411:14	369:23
312:13,17	378:11	386:16	sort 270:11	spell 265:17
319:18 320:18	signed 267:10	size 410:10	317:16,16	310:25
320:19 321:20	268:10 315:23	skills 326:10	325:16 351:16	350:24
323:20	362:7	slight 413:9	351:20 371:1,2	spelled 351:1
338:16 341:12	significance	slightly 333:5	371:6 372:15	spent 358:25
352:17,18	316:3	smaller 297:5	385:9 390:15	spoken 298:25
353:7 401:19	significant	404:6	390:23	sponsor 359:6
416:4,6,9,12	281:10,11	smart 334:3	392:17,24	spread 297:7
416:17,21	340:25	409:16	393:17 394:6	spreading
shift 300:12	387:19 389:11	smarter 395:6	395:7 397:20	276:18
391:1	389:13	smoke-filled	397:22 398:4	Springfield
short 340:8	significantly	398:21	402:21 403:16	341:5,6
350:6	394:19	snowstorm	403:17 411:16	ss 418:3
Shorthand	similar 275:17	354:5	sorts 305:15	staff 263:20
418:6	277:12	social 378:1	sound 365:10	264:15,18
shot 401:3	282:22	solar 326:12,12	366:14	265:21 266:19
402:24	289:13 291:16	334:24 335:3	sounds 268:14	267:10,14,15
404:18	293:17 335:9	335:4 343:22	369:23	268:10,11,20
show 285:11	394:9 395:3	347:22 353:2	386:13	269:5 271:3
354:22 358:11	398:12	358:8 362:3,7	source 278:25	277:24 278:13
361:4 367:17	simple 327:13	362:19 369:21	363:21 364:14	285:16 287:8
370:2 371:17	simply 337:4	370:17,24	364:17	287:18,21
372:8 375:23	344:19 345:8	371:10,14,23	sources 279:8	291:18 292:14
392:6	347:16 348:24	373:9,12	364:3	303:25 304:7
show-me	413:11	374:6,12,22	space 364:12	304:12 306:2
390:19	single- 339:20	375:4,18	398:6	306:17 310:13
showed 362:15	sir 332:5 341:12	394:11 395:9	speak 330:23	314:15 318:18

327:23 344:11	354:10 355:17	404:24 405:8	325:4 328:17	study 334:24
353:3,16	356:7,14	statutes 379:6	330:14,22	335:3 343:19
362:11 369:2	357:15,23	388:5	331:6,7,9,12	343:22 347:13
377:11 390:20	359:24	statutorily	331:21 336:21	347:20 353:2
402:3 410:11	361:23 365:4	398:18	337:14 349:2	375:18,18
Staff's 265:8	365:9 368:25	statutory 379:2	375:24 376:5	411:4,11
266:12	369:3,4	379:18,22	376:16,17	stuff 387:20
270:23	370:17 377:16	380:4,19,22	377:9,15,20	subject 299:8
292:18 416:2	381:9,16	383:18	395:22	355:8 377:8,9
417:9	382:2 386:2	403:20	stipulations	384:2
stakeholder	390:19 393:14	stay 407:7	267:11,22	submit 351:18
329:11,15	400:6,12	STEINER 263:2	268:10 274:6	subparagraph
353:4 411:17	418:2,16	Stenotype	274:15,16,24	379:8,11
411:20	State's 354:25	418:11,13	275:17 281:9	subscriber
stakeholders	stated 286:19	step 308:13	281:19 282:23	326:12
324:20	334:12 336:9	310:17 321:21	292:21 294:4	subscriber/sh
368:25 400:7	365:8 381:13	350:5 399:21	294:19,24	343:14
400:13	391:20 410:5	412:21	295:7,13,18	subsequent
stand 319:8	412:10	stimulus 409:14	295:20 300:6	373:8 374:7
standalone	statement	stipulation	300:10,20	399:9
361:5	269:25	267:15,17	302:12,14	subsidiaries
standard 300:9	270:17 271:22	268:11,23	315:16 319:10	281:2
307:9 332:23	291:8 294:8	269:11,16,20	328:14 329:2	substantial
332:25 333:5	324:7,12,14	269:20 272:5	331:22 349:7	370:16
371:8 386:24	326:20	272:9,12,15	349:10 384:3	substantially
387:7 393:4	342:19 355:14	273:24 274:3	stop 340:8	351:25
standards	362:1 370:3	274:22	storage 333:22	substantive
271:19	370:10,22	275:13 277:2	334:1 335:6	401:7 404:20
standing 337:4	371:5,18	279:22	338:19 341:4	successor
start 325:3	372:15 374:21	280:19 281:8	390:11,16	362:21
374:13 375:13	383:23	281:18 282:2	391:2,7,10	sufficient 370:11
390:22	400:14	282:6 283:7	392:2,5,11,19	371:7
405:18	statements	286:19,20	393:10,24	suggested
starting 269:5	286:10 347:16	287:25 288:2	409:8,11,20	278:3 324:16
285:14,14	states 274:10	288:5,14	409:24 410:8	407:23 409:1
288:7 326:1	294:24 321:8	289:20 290:1	Street 263:10	suggesting
406:10	370:10	291:3 292:14	264:2,11,16	289:14
starts 297:22	380:22 392:8	296:14,16	strength 392:19	307:24 341:8
340:19	station 391:9	297:16 302:19	strides 399:16	suggestion
state 262:1	stationary	309:22,25	strike 311:22,24	346:16
265:15 269:5	334:7 341:4	311:21,24	structure	Suite 263:6,10
275:20,20	status 362:13,16	312:4 313:15	277:25 278:4	263:21 264:2
310:24 322:6	387:18 407:8	313:18 314:24	288:21 345:14	264:6,11
327:10 333:24	statute 283:24	315:14,20,24	struggling	359:14
334:18,25	284:4 327:9	316:25 320:2	307:7 308:11	sum 396:24
335:14	373:2 382:12	320:23 321:1	studies 410:22	summarized
350:23	383:11,14	324:2,10	412:6	286:18
	I	I	I	1

	205.25	410.5	22445 272.22	
summarizes	265:25	412:5	331:15 373:22	267:2,5,23
294:18	270:25	talks 278:18	territory 370:17	268:3 273:2,6
summarizing	322:15 328:10	289:23	test 348:7,13	286:13 291:21
271:2	329:4 330:11	tangible 316:6	349:11	293:11 299:10
summary	332:11,13,17	tariff 324:21	testified 265:13	300:23 301:11
293:13 294:2	343:13 417:12	325:10,19	282:7 310:20	301:13 302:23
294:10 295:14	417:17	329:12 335:12	322:4 350:21	310:8,14,16
supplement	sworn 265:11	343:14	357:16	312:14 313:2
288:1,3	310:18 322:2	346:22 347:2	testify 365:25	313:24 314:14
supply 283:25	350:20	347:3 395:16	368:13,16	314:16 318:4,11
support 268:23	system 406:12	tariffs 298:6	testifying	318:16,19
277:4,11 325:5	system-wide	324:22	319:20	320:16,18
329:6 330:16	390:24	326:13 335:18	testimony	321:20,22
349:20,24	systems 390:14	346:17	265:24,25	323:21 326:16
366:4,8 371:14	409:22	Tartan 373:4	266:4 268:6	327:15,17,24
373:22 414:7		tax 298:9	268:15,16,20	332:1 337:10
supporting		302:9 389:8	268:23 269:1	338:14 341:12
270:2 337:3	T 262:19 418:1,1	taxes 298:10	269:5,14,24	341:14 344:2
338:5 349:13	table 396:1	320:9	270:25 271:3	344:6,9,12
381:24	take 283:16	technical	272:7 282:10	346:3,8 350:1
supportive	284:2 290:9	390:13,14,17	283:3 286:18	350:18 352:13
336:18,19	315:21 321:14	technically	291:8 301:25	352:17 353:8
370:23 373:16	321:24 350:6	394:23	309:9 311:8,19	353:15,17,21
390:25 405:9	358:5 361:8	technologies	312:10 313:8	356:3 384:14
supports 278:14	369:25 371:21	393:19 394:18	315:6 322:15	384:22
supposed	376:12 386:16	409:24	322:19,24	389:23,24
269:12	388:13 392:18	technology	323:2 325:19	390:1 393:13
surcharge	393:5 394:16	389:7 399:15	329:4 330:11	401:19 402:2
298:9	395:10 397:21	410:3	334:11 341:18	402:4 412:19
sure 275:2	399:5,20	tell 270:4 306:9	343:4,7	412:20,22
280:12,17	400:8	315:19 316:18	348:10 351:10	414:18 415:6
289:7,8	taken 350:8	326:24	351:14,18,19	theoretically
292:19 299:19	377:2 384:15	333:16 364:1	351:22 352:2	392:17
300:2 304:25	385:11 400:25	379:24	352:22 354:9	thereof 418:10
308:10 330:16	talk 283:7,25	403:22	365:22 366:7	they'd 405:9
337:15,21,22	313:8 393:7,8	telling 364:21	366:16,18	thing 271:20
340:13,23	talked 309:21	tells 394:23	367:14 392:13	275:18,25
358:14,23	345:15 346:11	ten 407:25	396:8 401:15	276:21 305:19
367:20	363:9 403:19	408:8	405:25	337:3 363:10
382:17 386:13	403:20	tender 266:21	406:19,21,23	375:11,13
388:1 392:13	404:23	312:13 323:16	407:2,3,5,22	385:20
393:4 394:2	talking 279:6	352:14	408:11,25	386:14
surprise 358:25	316:12 332:12	term 343:23	409:11 410:5	397:22
371:13,16	341:3,17	terms 277:25	411:15 414:21	413:23
surprised	364:19 367:7	281:22 294:3	417:10,12,15,17	things 274:12,21
356:12 406:7	367:20	299:12 300:19	417:20,22	275:6 281:12
surrebuttal	398:10 403:16	308:5 319:10	thank 265:9	281:13,25
	l			_, _

			I	
282:3 283:8	360:15 361:12	396:25 399:6	track 361:9	279:14,20,24
285:25 287:8	361:21 363:20	throwing 347:16	409:23 410:2	Transource
291:20 320:9	364:20 366:9	396:21	tracking 410:11	280:4 293:3
326:17 331:17	366:11 367:12	thrown 349:1	410:14	293:8
333:9 337:7	370:6 374:21	tide 392:14	tracks 397:10	treatment
338:4 340:17	375:6,14,22	tie 393:2	tradeoffs 394:8	279:3 302:9
340:18 347:6	380:10 381:3	tied 276:13	traditionally	315:11
375:4 385:12	383:3 385:21	277:6	347:25 348:2	tree-hugging
387:23 390:17	386:22,25	till 390:20	trajectory	400:22
393:24 394:4	387:5 388:15	Tim 378:11	385:15 392:1	trend 385:12
396:11,14	388:18 389:15	Tim@renewm	400:18 407:10	trickier 334:19
397:3,7 398:8	391:21 392:3	263:23	408:12	true 266:9
406:10	394:5,12	time 267:20	transaction	284:8 285:2
think 271:11,16	396:1,5 397:6	295:3 301:17	269:8 275:1	286:5 295:9
271:24 272:1	397:9 398:23	315:7 319:19	275:21 278:14	298:24 312:10
	399:4 402:21	320:25		· · · ·
272:15,20			278:17 279:1	320:13 323:5
275:18 277:5	405:18,24	324:18 325:15	292:3 328:15	343:3 352:2
278:2,9	406:7,8 408:9	330:13,15,21	328:18 329:2	362:12
281:21 282:1	408:17 409:14	330:25 352:5	331:8 338:6	370:20 375:7
282:16 283:1	409:16 412:11	354:3 360:23	376:1,10,11	375:17 385:5
283:9,21	414:5,10	368:7 378:16	413:10 414:4	389:19 400:14
284:5 286:25	thinking 296:13	380:24	transactions	418:12
287:22	296:19	387:13 399:14	279:5,20	trust 359:4
289:16 296:2	third 335:11	418:9,14	280:8,10	399:3 400:23
296:16 305:7	377:20	timeline 297:8	292:5,22	try 287:14 293:7
305:11 314:10	395:15	times 359:1	293:9 377:22	336:2 364:10
316:17 317:2,2	third-party	timing 274:11	413:12	396:11
317:14 319:6	353:4 377:21	276:19,24	transcript	trying 277:16
319:22 321:8	Thompson	295:24	262:6 413:2	279:11 364:18
321:11,16	264:15 265:9	TIMOTHY	418:13	367:4 402:12
325:7 327:8	265:14 266:12	263:20	transcripts	403:18,23
327:12 329:19	266:21 271:11	title 368:9	414:15	turn 296:15
329:24 333:2	310:14 314:16	titled 355:7	transform	297:18 355:11
333:12,17	318:19 327:24	today 265:4	355:16	377:4,19
334:5,18,21	344:12,14,15	266:7 319:9	359:24	378:8 381:6
335:1,16	346:3 353:17	323:3 327:2	361:23 365:9	384:23
336:3,3,20,20	384:10,14	329:10 350:12	381:9	385:23
336:25 337:2	402:4 416:3	399:21 404:21	transition	Turning 314:24
337:6,9,20	416:18	tonight 354:1	288:11,14,16	328:9
338:22 339:8	thought 276:24	top 356:1,18	315:24 316:11	Tweet 365:7
339:13,17	291:2 404:17	365:9 369:3	316:15,20	Twitter 365:8
340:8,17	thoughts 399:2	377:6 389:15	transmission	two 267:10
344:24 345:5	413:9 414:1	391:18	280:11,15	268:10 274:10
345:9 347:11	three 331:2	totally 397:14	293:4 298:16	278:20 285:1
350:16 354:5	333:21 336:17	touch 397:6	320:9 375:9	294:3 295:6
354:15 358:2	338:2 390:8	touting 400:16	413:21	297:22 300:6
358:3,15	390:10	town 398:20	transmission	300:9,19
000.0,10				000.0,10

	1	1	1	
315:15 319:9	392:9 396:4	use 332:24	veiled 401:5	300:16 337:5
321:8 328:14	400:24 401:14	336:2 355:8	venue 334:13	359:5,6,14
329:2 331:1	404:2 407:5	392:2 398:21	venues 333:6	378:20
336:11 338:2	understandab	uses 332:23,24	veracity 368:13	382:15,22
349:7 360:24	373:15	342:15	verified 390:15	383:3 387:24
365:16 381:2	understanding	utilities 292:16	versus 274:12	392:12 393:10
384:3 404:6	269:15 273:16	317:9 320:8	view 272:22	395:14 397:2
410:18 413:3	276:5,15	326:5 329:22	275:16 317:25	398:2 401:12
413:10	280:24 281:3	341:6 364:12	347:21 385:8	403:16 408:18
type 271:19	282:8,10	388:13 389:4	390:10 393:3	414:2
276:20 285:6	292:17	389:4 405:15	viewed 392:12	waylaid 385:24
288:21 293:3	296:24 299:5	406:16 410:10	virtue 385:16	ways 282:3
305:19 315:16	299:7 304:22	utility 280:25	visit 402:9	327:11
333:23 359:4	309:5 315:7	308:14 327:7	voiced 316:19	we'll 350:13
392:10 399:12	315:22	335:21 358:7	voices 398:17	384:9 414:11
399:13 406:2	332:25	369:20	399:1,3	we're 277:23
types 271:18	335:20	370:20	Volume 262:9	279:5 316:12
279:5 281:13	339:18 342:17	378:24	voluntary	329:5 350:12
281:25	355:21 356:15	390:18 392:10	283:24	364:1 367:6
284:24 287:9	357:17 360:9	396:18 398:3	287:14 327:5	367:20
291:20 334:14	360:22	398:10 405:19	337:24 388:9	380:23
336:10 397:2	378:22 384:4	406:15		393:17 397:22
	384:5	utility's 347:18	W	399:12 400:16
U	understating	utility-owned	W 263:2 264:6	400:17 412:5
Uh-huh 295:16	296:8	307:22 308:2	wait 273:17	we've 277:14
329:13	understood	utilize 305:17	314:7 321:4	286:1 329:21
ultimate 321:9	373:20		395:13	330:21,21
366:24	undertake	V	waiver 278:14	333:25
ultimately	365:15 392:8	value 334:23	279:10,15	348:23 361:21
269:12 321:13	unique 321:16	335:2 343:22	292:15,22	396:10
umbrella	unit 307:21	343:24 347:12	293:9 413:17	website 355:1
360:18 361:1	308:9,12	353:1 375:17	414:2	357:12,24
unable 336:25	units 307:6,14	375:18 394:10	walking 309:21	360:4 368:11
unbelievable	309:11 407:25	395:9,9	want 275:2	414:16
410:12	408:8,23	410:22,23	278:1,4	websites
uncertainty	410:8	411:3	300:24 312:15	293:15,18
321:7	University 351:7	valuing 283:25	330:23	weight 334:8
unclear 411:14	unsuccessful	395:6	334:19 351:16	341:3 404:13
413:20	374:4	Vandiver	366:13 372:12	welcome 354:7
understand	up-front 289:19	263:21	374:24 399:2	well-oiled
300:18	296:4 297:9	variance 292:5	399:2 400:23	396:22
305:22	301:25 319:4	376:10 377:8	402:10 411:25	went 306:9
307:25 334:3	Update 417:4	413:10,12,19	wanted 286:4	405:20
338:9 348:5	upheld 374:5	various 287:7,17	wanting 374:13	weren't 295:13
353:25	upward 407:10	298:7 307:5	wasn't 282:1	Westar 262:13
361:25 365:11	URLs 368:11	307:14 341:17	305:1	263:19 279:18
365:14 367:5	usage 290:13	402:16	way 285:8	292:8 293:14
		l	l	

EVIDENTIARY HEARING - Vol. 3 3/14/2018

298:1,5 340:11	367:9 376:5	408:21	0	19th 263:3
384:2 389:6	380:12			
407:24 408:6	389:24	X	1	$\frac{2}{2}$
409:2 413:20	397:15 412:22	X 416:1	1 295:11 322:20	2 294:5,6
Westar's 407:1	witnessed	Y	325:25,25	329:12 355:11
WHIPPLE 264:1	399:22 401:9	Y 262:18	330:8 354:9	359:9 377:4
267:2 301:11	witnesses	yeah 328:22	371:21	379:11
314:14 318:16	265:7 303:17	354:2,6	1:30 350:14	2:15 415:10
327:22 344:9	412:24	355:25	384:9	20 277:5 363:17
353:15 402:2	wonder 357:3	365:21	10 291:8 315:25	365:9 369:4
White 351:8	Woodsmall	367:23 368:8	317:1,8 350:7	200 264:11,16
whoa 400:24	273:8	369:9 376:15	364:10	265:24
wholesale	word 408:21	397:9 403:3	378:20	266:13,19
280:7 292:22	worded 295:25	year 334:2,2	101 263:6	417:10
wide 393:5,6	words 276:11	360:24	11 350:7	2006 357:20
wife 354:3	386:10 387:6	374:19 376:20	1100 263:10	357:24
WILLIAM	403:17	409:12	12 326:2 417:4	201 266:1,13,19
262:19	work 311:3,4	years 275:14,25	120 296:10	417:12 2012 409:12
willing 277:22	324:20	277:16 334:2	120-day 296:16	
277:24	326:10 364:1	336:23 338:13	1200 263:3	2016 356:18 357:23
wind 284:21	366:11 390:17	338:25	12th 268:12	359:25
375:7,10	399:4	358:25	13 314:25 315:2	361:24 369:15
389:7 400:17	worked 366:20	360:23	356:18	376:8
wise 342:8	working 290:1	363:17,19	13th 413:6	2017 369:10,15
withdraw	329:17 345:16	399:6 401:10	14 262:8 265:5	376:21
289:13,18	359:1369:3	403:25 408:1	282:7 297:18	2018 262:8
317:25	396:20 398:24	408:8	328:10 329:3	265:5 417:4
320:20 330:24	403:23 412:5	yesterday	15 296:17 317:15	2020 365:10
withdrawal	works 356:16	293:12 301:22	318:24	374:19
315:8	381:22 390:21	400:20	325:25 329:4 16 290:21	2020's 365:19
withdrawn	workshop	yields 390:21		205 263:21
348:21,23	410:17	York 351:8	293:19,21 294:5 301:2,8	2150 359:14
withdrew 315:5	worth 375:21		337:16 417:3	22 264:2 269:5
319:7	wouldn't 277:12	Z	16th 268:19	2230 264:11
witness 265:8	285:7,20	zero-sum	17 280:7 354:15	23 352:21
265:11 266:21	286:3 348:23	393:19,23	354:17,19	25 289:22
268:20 282:9	371:13 382:10	394:6,6	356:23 357:8	296:21 319:3
290:23 310:18	382:25	Zobrist 263:9	357:9 384:23	26 376:8
311:16 312:13	383:19	266:25	417:5	265 416:3
320:1 321:22	394:24	291:23,25	170(b)(1)(a)	266 417:11,11,13
321:24 322:2	402:17 403:10	293:19,23	355:18	417:13
323:16 327:17	404:4,11,12	300:22 301:1	18 367:25 368:1	267 416:4
343:7 344:13	wrapped 334:4	314:19 318:22	414:24 417:7	268 416:4
350:13,15,17	written 315:6	318:23 319:22	19 385:2	26th 376:16,19
350:20	341:23	320:6,15	1990 364:8	378:15
352:14 366:1	wrong 282:9	414:10 416:6,11	1992 397:24	273 416:5
		I		l

286 416:5	354 417:6	263:7	378:9	
280 410.5 29 301:25	357 417:6		9.3 277:4,10	
302:3	360 264:16	573)751-3234 264:17	331:18	
291 416:6			9:00 265:3	
	368 417:8 384 416:22	573)751-4857 264:12		
293 417:4		204:12	900 264:6,6	
3	386 379:10	6	93 397:24	
3 262:9 294:9	386.710 379:6	6 290:20	94 397:24	
294:10,14	379:10	294:17 295:11	964,200 297:3	
312:1 315:1	390 416:23	312:1 325:25		
329:15	393.107 372:3	326:1 337:16		
352:24	393.170 370:15	355:19 378:5		
30 302:4	372:9	610,900		
363:19	4	296:25		
300 322:16	4 288:7 294:14	64105 263:3		
323:9,14	301:23	64105 263:3 64111 263:10		
417:15	325:25 330:1	6411263:10 64112-1895		
301 322:16	377:25	264:7		
323:9,15	400 263:6	650 264:11		
416:6 417:4,16	402 416:23	65101 263:7		
303 416:7	402)943-7938	264:2		
303.170 370:15	263:22	65102 264:17		
30th 413:5	409 263:21	65102-2230		
310 416:9	45 302:7	264:12		
311 263:16	450 351:11	65202 263:22		
312 417:20,20	352:6,11	66049 263:17		
313 416:10	417:22	7		
314 416:10,11	4520 263:10	7 285:15		
318 416:11	460 359:14	294:22 295:11		
31st 268:7	460-2400	296:24 312:2		
320 416:12	263:11	325:25		
322 416:14	48th 264:6	75 302:2		
323 416:15	5	785)760-0319		
417:15,15,17,17	5 263:21 269:4	263:17		
328 416:15	285:14 289:10	203.17		
332 416:16	294:14 296:15	8		
337 416:16	314:25 315:2	8 348:20 385:2		
338 416:17	317:15 322:20	816 263:11		
341 416:17		816)556-2110		
344 416:18	352:24 50 289:21	263:4		
346 416:18	500 289:21 500 299:23	816)691-3731		
350 311:14,15	300:2	264:7		
312:19,23		838 262:24		
416:21 417:19	514 264:2			
352 416:21	573)415-8379 264:3	9		
417:23,23		9 315:24 316:1,2		
353 416:22	573)636-6758	,		
			I I	