

FILED  
March 6, 2017  
Data Center  
Missouri Public  
Service Commission

Exhibit No.: 207  
Issue: Policy  
Witness: Natelle Dietrich  
Sponsoring Party: MoPSC Staff  
Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony  
Case No.: ER-2016-0285  
Date Testimony Prepared: December 14, 2016

**MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**COMMISSION STAFF DIVISION**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY**

**OF**

**NATELLE DIETRICH**

STAFF Exhibit No. 207  
Date 2-28-17 Reporter KE  
File No. ER-2016-0285

**KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY**

**CASE NO. ER-2016-0285**

*Jefferson City, Missouri  
November 2016*

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OF  
NATELLE DIETRICH  
KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY  
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**DIRECT TESTIMONY**

**OF**

**NATELLE DIETRICH**

**KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY**

**CASE NO. ER-2016-0285**

Q. Please state your name and business address.

A. My name is Natelle Dietrich. My business address is 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101.

Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?

A. I am employed by the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") as Commission Staff Director.

Q. Have you provided your educational background and work experience in this file?

A. Yes. My educational and work experience is included in my Direct Testimony filed in this case with Staff's Direct Revenue Requirement Report on November 30, 2016.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

A. The purpose of this testimony is to sponsor the Staff's recommended rate design as developed by Staff and described in the Class Cost of Service/Rate Design Report ("CCOS Report") and to sponsor Staff's Report Responding to Certain Commission Questions ("Responsive Report"), both of which are filed concurrently with this direct testimony. Consistent with Staff's Cost of Service Report filed November 30, 2016, the

1 CCOS Report also includes Staff's recommendations concerning adjustments to KCPL's Fuel  
2 and Purchased Power Clause ("FAC") and its FAC tariff.

3 **CCOS REPORT**

4 Q. What is Staff's rate design recommendation in this case?

5 A. In Staff's Cost-of-Service Report, Staff indicated that based on the information  
6 available at the time of filing, Staff did not have enough information to support a change in  
7 rates. Therefore, in the CCOS Report, Staff recommends an adjustment of rates as follows:

- 8 • If no change in overall revenue requirement is ordered, Staff recommends a  
9 revenue neutral shift in revenue responsibility from the Lighting, SGS, MGS,  
10 and LGS classes to the Large Power ("LPS") class. Specifically, Staff  
11 recommends the LPS class's revenue responsibility be increased by  
12 approximately \$2.35 million, with a reduction to the Lighting class's revenue  
13 responsibility of approximately \$100,000, and the remainder of the reductions  
14 spread to the General Service classes (SGS, MGS, and LGS) so that the final  
15 rates are adjusted downward at an equal percentage to each of those rate  
16 classes.
- 17 • If the Commission awards an increase up to approximately 0.62% of current  
18 revenues, Staff recommends that increase be applied to the LPS class, though  
19 no other class should receive a rate reduction.
- 20 • If the Commission awards an increase in excess of approximately 0.62% of  
21 current revenues, Staff recommends the revenue neutral shifts described in the  
22 CCOS report be implemented.
- 23 • Incorporation of the changes to KCPL's pre-MEEIA and non-MEEIA revenue  
24 requirement will result in a slight reallocation of the revenue requirement  
25 responsibility of each non-lighting class.

26 If the Commission orders a rate increase, Staff further recommends the Residential customer  
27 charge increase by an equal percent of any final rate increase ordered for the Residential class  
28 up to a level of \$18.44.

1 **STAFF RATE DESIGN AND CCOS REPORT**

2 Q. How is the Staff's CCOS Report organized?

3 A. The CCOS Report is organized by topic as follows:

4 I. Executive Summary

5 II. Class Cost-of-Service Study Results

6 III. Staff's Class Cost-of-Service Study

7 IV. Rate Design

8 V. Fuel and Purchased Power Adjustment Clause Tariff Sheet  
9 Recommendations

10 **CLASS COST-OF-SERVICE STUDY**

11 Q. Did Staff perform a Class Cost of Service ("CCOS") Study in this case?

12 A. Yes. Staff's CCOS study is designed to determine what rate of return is  
13 produced by each customer class on that class's currently tariffed rates, for recovery of any  
14 newly determined revenue requirement amount. Typically, Staff's recommended interclass  
15 revenue responsibility shifts, as applicable, are designed to reasonably bring each class closer  
16 to producing the system-average rate of return used in determining Staff's recommended  
17 revenue requirement. As previously indicated, in its Cost-of-Service Report, Staff indicated it  
18 did not have enough information available at the time of filing to support a change in rates;  
19 therefore, in the CCOS Report, Staff provides recommendations for inter-class shifts that vary  
20 depending on whether the Commission orders an overall change in revenue requirement.

21 **STAFF'S REPORT RESPONDING TO CERTAIN COMMISSION QUESTIONS**

22 Q. Please summarize Staff's Responsive Report.

23 A. The Commission issued two orders seeking additional information from Staff.  
24 The first, issued on August 8, 2016, directed Staff to submit an Infrastructure Efficiency  
25 Tariff that would provide for a discounted volumetric rate or customer charge, or a waiver or

1 reduction of line extension-related charges, or some other mechanism to reduce bills of  
2 customers accessing infrastructure identified as under-utilized. The second, issued on August  
3 24, 2016, directed Staff to address certain issues related to AMI smart meters; a Plug-in  
4 Electric Vehicle Rate (“PEV”); residential Time-of-Use (“ToU”) and Time-of-Day (“ToD”)  
5 Rate Design; Property Assessed Clean Energy (“PACE”) and Pay as You Save (“PAYS”).  
6 Following is a summary of some of the key Staff observances as noted in the Responsive  
7 Report.

8       1. AMI “Smart” Metering: AMI meters have been installed in over 90% of KCPL’s  
9 Missouri customer homes. Approximately 15,000 KCPL Missouri customers do not have  
10 AMI meters. A small number of customers have contacted the PSC with concerns about the  
11 installation of the AMI meters and have requested a traditional analog meter. Although Staff  
12 notes it is not generally opposed to the installation of AMI meters, Staff recommends KCPL  
13 modify its tariff to create a meter opt-out program, which would include a provision to allow  
14 customers the option of a manually read meter rather than an AMI meter.

15       2. PEV: KCPL has launched an initiative to install and operate more than 1000  
16 electric vehicle (“EV”) charging stations throughout its Missouri, Kansas and GMO service  
17 territories. KCPL’s proposed tariff does not address charging of EVs at customer single-  
18 family residences or at privately owned and operated charging stations. Staff analyzed and  
19 compared KCPL’s tariff with the Georgia Plug-In Electric Vehicle ToU rate. Staff explains  
20 the Georgia model and states, that in its opinion, the Georgia model provides proper  
21 incentives to charge EVs in off-peak hours by breaking off-peak hours into two categories:  
22 Off-Peak and Super Off-Peak. Staff recommends the implementation of PEV-ToU rates, and

1 also recommends KCPL gather data and report annually to the Commission and interested  
2 stakeholders on the impact of EVs on grid reliability.

3         3. Residential ToU or ToD rate design: Staff has had discussions with KCPL related  
4 to its deployment of AMI metering and related billing software. KCPL has represented that  
5 while nearly all of its residential customers are metered using AMI metering, KCPL has not  
6 transitioned to a billing system capable of recording the multiple meter readings necessary to  
7 bill on ToU or ToD rates. Staff and KCPL are working to design a geographically-limited  
8 dynamic pricing program to explore the applicability of such a program to mitigate upgrades  
9 to the distribution system, in addition to the typical application of peak rebate programs to  
10 mitigate purchases of expensive energy and capacity.

11         4. PACE: PACE financing is designed to make payments affordable by offering a  
12 fixed interest rate that is payable over an extended period of time. Home improvement energy  
13 efficiency measures are permanently installed and assessed to the property. The assessment  
14 transfer homeowners when the home sells. Staff's Responsive Report discusses current  
15 PACE programs, which are currently only available in Jackson County, Missouri, but there  
16 are plans to implement the program in other parts of Missouri. Current program eligibility  
17 requirements include:

- 18         • Maximum 90% loan-to-value ("LTV") ratio;
- 19         • Current on property taxes for last twelve months and not late more than once  
20         over the prior three years;
- 21         • Current on mortgage for last twelve months;
- 22         • No bankruptcy for last two years;
- 23         • No involuntary liens on the property; and
- 24         • \$2,500 minimum financing; maximum financing is twenty percent of property  
25         value (LTV cannot exceed 100%).

Direct Testimony of  
Natelle Dietrich

1           5. PAYS: PAYS enables utility customers to purchase and install cost-effective  
2 energy efficiency upgrades or distributed renewable energy assets through a voluntary  
3 program that assures immediate net savings to customers. The utility pays the up-front costs  
4 of the upgrades, then places a fixed charge on the customer's electric bill. The Responsive  
5 Report outlines the core elements and general terms and conditions of the program.  
6 Currently, no Missouri investor-owned utilities participate in the PAYS program.

7           6. Infrastructure efficiency tariff: Staff and KCPL have had discussions about the  
8 Commission's request for an infrastructure efficiency tariff. In the Responsive Report, Staff  
9 explains its review, including a discussion of CCOS studies, customer-related distribution  
10 revenue requirement ranges, and customer-related distribution facilities. Staff notes the  
11 Commission's inquiry requires a level of data not currently available to Staff, and a set of  
12 assumptions not typically made in designing rates. Staff recommends that if a volumetric or  
13 monthly bill-based discount is to be implemented, such discount be proportionate to the  
14 functionalized customer-related distribution costs for each broad category of class, applied as  
15 a percentage to the customer's monthly bill after application of all other applicable  
16 surcharges, discounts and riders. For KCPL, this would result in a discount of approximately  
17 5% for residential customers, 6% for SGS customers and .5% for all other customer classes.  
18 Staff recommends KCPL modify its facility extension tariff provisions to more fully consider  
19 the incremental costs a customer causes to a system in determining how much, if any,  
20 customer advance is required.

21           Q.     Does this conclude your direct testimony?

22           A.     Yes.



BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Kansas City Power & Light )  
Company's Request for Authority to ) Case No. ER-2016-0285  
Implement A General Rate Increase for )  
Electric Service )

**AFFIDAVIT OF NATELLE DIETRICH**

STATE OF MISSOURI )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF COLE )

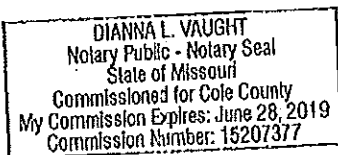
COMES NOW NATELLE DIETRICH and on her oath declares that she is of sound mind and lawful age; that she contributed to the foregoing Direct Testimony; and that the same is true and correct according to her best knowledge and belief.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.

Natelle Dietrich  
NATELLE DIETRICH

**JURAT**

Subscribed and sworn before me, a duly constituted and authorized Notary Public, in and for the County of Cole, State of Missouri, at my office in Jefferson City, on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2016.



Dianna L. Vaught  
Notary Public