

Kansas Corporation Commission  
Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection  
1500 SW Arrowhead Road  
Topeka, KS 66604 4027

Re: Proposed Great Plains Energy/Kansas City Power & Light Acquisition of Westar Energy  
(Docket #16-KCPE-593-ACQ)

Dear Commissioners –

The City of Edgerton, KS (pop. 1,700) is home to Logistics Park Kansas City (LPKC). Logistics Park Kansas City (LPKC) is a 1,700-acre master-planned distribution and warehouse development in Edgerton, Kansas — just southwest of downtown Kansas City. Served by global intermodal transportation leader, BNSF Railway, LPKC is a world-class inland port with capacity for 17 million square feet of industrial buildings. To date, there is over 8 million square feet of new distribution facilities at LPKC with tenants such as Amazon, Jet, Kubota and Flexsteel Industries.

As home to Logistics Park Kansas City (LPKC), Edgerton competes against communities nationwide in attracting companies to make an investment in locating their warehouse, distribution, internet fulfillment or manufacturing business in Kansas. The ability to provide high-quality, responsive, dependable utilities is critical to any company's decision to locate their business here. Particularly, in the realm of supply and logistics, provision of this type of electric utility is crucial for the sophisticated equipment and software used in many of the picking and packing modules deployed within the warehouses to move goods around the world.

Kansas City Power & Light (KCP&L) has played an integral role with Edgerton, and our other partners Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway and NorthPoint Development in energizing LPKC for the future. Our understanding is that the new company will operate more efficiently by managing costs more effectively through economies of scale. Additionally, KCP&L has partnered with new companies locating to Kansas for cost-sharing in deployment of infrastructure. This cost-sharing provides an additional incentive for that business to choose Kansas over another market. A combined utility could leverage this visionary approach to deployment of infrastructure to bring new business to Kansas.

KCP&L recognizes the importance of fostering an environment that encourages business investment and job growth by dedicating their time and resources to economic development efforts both within the company and with their partner communities. KCP&L illustrates its commitment to furthering the economic vitality of the communities it serves through efforts by participating in both regional and local economic development agencies such as Kansas City SmartPort and ElevateEdgerton!. Additionally, through innovative programs such as its Local Partner Programs showcased at [www.kcpled.com](http://www.kcpled.com). This program assists partner communities in economic development efforts to drive business investment in Kansas. Through this program the City of Edgerton has updated its comprehensive plan after annexing LPKC and is in the process of updating our website to be more development friendly on all devices. The proposed merger could grow this commitment to economic development in more areas attracting more businesses to Kansas.

The City of Edgerton offers its support for the proposed Great Plains Energy/Kansas City Power & Light Acquisition of Westar Energy. We appreciate the opportunity to provide comment.

Sincerely,

Beth Linn  
City Administrator