



WICHITA METRO
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

December 5, 2016

Kansas Corporation Commission
Jay Scott Emler, Chair
1500 SW Arrowhead Road
Topeka, Kansas 66604

RE: Proposed Merger between Westar Energy and Kansas City Power and Light

Dear Chairman Emler and Corporation Commissioners,

On behalf of the Wichita Metro Chamber Board of Directors, we are writing about the proposed merger between Westar Energy and Kansas City Power and Light. We anticipate this merger to enhance the Wichita regional area based on both companies' commitments to community engagement and support.

We look forward to the KCC evaluation of the merger and believe the proposed new entity will be dedicated to advancing the growth of our region's businesses and economy. We are optimistic that by combining these two companies, thereby keeping ownership local, management will be responsive to customers, shareholders, employees, regulators and community needs. The merger is also expected to create operational efficiencies and future savings that will benefit all constituents, and will help reduce future rate increase requests.

Finally, we think this merger has the opportunity to combine the unique strengths of both organizations to form an even stronger company for the Wichita region and all of Kansas.

Sincerely,

Gary Plummer
President & CEO
Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce

Barry Schwan
Chairman
Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce