

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (FEE REQUIRED)

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 1996

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (NO FEE REQUIRED)

For the transition period from to

Commission file number 1-707

A. Full title of the Plan:

Kansas City Power & Light Company
Cash or Deferred Arrangement
(Employee Savings Plus Plan)
(hereinafter referred to as "Plan")

B. Name of issuer of the securities held
pursuant to the Plan and the address
of its principal executive office:

Kansas City Power & Light Company
1201 Walnut
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2124

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	Page
Report of Independent Accountants	1
Statements of Financial Condition, With Fund Information	
December 31, 1996	2
December 31, 1995	4
Statements of Income and Changes in Plan Equity, With Fund Information for the Year Ended	
December 31, 1996	6
December 31, 1995	8
December 31, 1994	10
Notes to Financial Statements	12
Signatures	18
Consent of Independent Accountants	19

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

To the Administrative Committee,
Kansas City Power & Light Company
Cash or Deferred Arrangement Employee Savings Plus Plan

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial condition of Kansas City Power & Light Company Cash or Deferred Arrangement Employee Savings Plus Plan as of December 31, 1996 and 1995, and the related statements of income and changes in Plan equity for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 1996. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial condition of the Plan as of December 31, 1996 and 1995, and the income and changes in Plan equity for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 1996, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audits were performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The fund information in the statement of financial condition and the statement of income and changes in Plan equity is presented for purposes of additional analysis rather than to present the financial condition and the income and changes in Plan equity of each fund. The fund information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

/s/ COOPERS & LYBRAND L.L.P.
COOPERS & LYBRAND L.L.P.

Kansas City, Missouri
June 6, 1997

Kansas City Power & Light Company
Cash or Deferred Arrangement Employee Savings Plus Plan
Statement of Financial Condition, With Fund Information
December 31, 1996

Investment Funds	Fidelity					
ASSETS	MIP	Puritan	Magellan	Asset Manager	OTC Portfolio	Overseas
Investments, at market:						
Short term money market		\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	
159,103 \$ - \$ - \$ -						
Kansas City Power & Light Co. Stock						
2,679,331.3966 shares (cost \$57,271,426)		-		-	-	-
- -						
Fidelity Managed Income Portfolio						
(MIP) (cost \$7,492,939)		7,492,939		-	-	-
- -						
Fidelity Puritan Fund						
726,829.5399 shares (cost \$11,183,328)		-	12,530,541	-	-	-
- -						
Fidelity Magellan Fund						
341,712.9438 shares (cost \$23,746,811)		-	-	-	-	-
27,559,149		-	-	-	-	-

Fidelity Asset Manager Fund									
45,883.8316 shares (cost \$705,044)	-	-	-	755,707	-				
-									
Fidelity OTC Portfolio Fund									
55,985.2874 shares (cost \$1,717,316)	-	-	-	-					
1,831,279	-								
Fidelity Overseas Fund									
48,895.7508 shares (cost \$1,427,865)	-	-	-	-					
1,507,945									
Loans to participants	-	-	-						
-									
Total investments				7,492,939	12,530,541				
27,718,252	755,707	1,831,279	1,507,945						
Receivables:									
Investment income				37,621	-	-	-	-	-
-									
Money market interest				26	50				
100	6	33	10						
Commission reimbursement				-	-	-	-	-	-
-									
Total receivables				37,647	50				
100	6	33	10						
TOTAL ASSETS				\$7,530,586	\$12,530,591				
\$27,718,352	\$755,713	\$1,831,312	\$1,507,955						

LIABILITIES AND PLAN EQUITY

Liabilities:

Benefits payable to participants				\$ 284,742	\$ 246,498	\$			
421,322	\$ -	\$ 1,519	\$ -						
Plan Equity			7,245,844	12,284,093	27,297,030	755,713	\$1,829,793		
\$1,507,955									
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND PLAN EQUITY				\$7,530,586	\$12,530,591				
\$27,718,352	\$755,713	\$1,831,312	\$1,507,955						

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

Kansas City Power & Light Company
Cash or Deferred Arrangement Employee Savings Plus Plan
Statement of Financial Condition, With Fund Information
December 31, 1996

ASSETS	KCPL Stock Fund	Loans to Participants	Total of All Funds
Investments at Market:			
Short term money market		\$ -	\$ 237,500
396,603			
Kansas City Power & Light Co. Stock			
2,679,331.3966 (cost \$57,271,426)	76,360,945	-	76,360,945
Fidelity Managed Income Portfolio (MIP) (cost \$7,492,939)			
7,492,939		-	-
Fidelity Puritan Fund			
726,829.5399 shares (cost \$11,183,328)	-	-	12,530,541
Fidelity Magellan Fund			
341,712.9438 shares (cost \$23,746,811)	-	-	27,559,149
Fidelity Asset Manager Fund			
45,883.8316 shares (cost \$705,044)	-	-	755,707
Fidelity OTC Portfolio Fund			
55,985.2874 shares (cost \$1,717,316)	-	-	1,831,279
Fidelity Overseas Fund			
48,895.7508 shares (cost \$1,427,865)	-	-	1,507,945
Loans to participants		-	5,606,288
5,606,288			
Total investments		76,360,945	5,843,788
134,041,396			

Receivables:		
Investment income	-	-
37,621		
Money market interest	614	-
839		
Commission reimbursement	391	-
391		
Total receivables	1,005	-
38,851		
TOTAL ASSETS	\$76,361,950	\$5,843,788
\$134,080,247		

LIABILITIES AND PLAN EQUITY

Liabilities:			
Benefits payable to participants	\$ 1,560,754	\$ 41,141	\$
2,555,976			
Plan Equity	74,801,196	5,802,647	131,524,271
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND PLAN EQUITY	\$76,361,950	\$5,843,788	
\$134,080,247			

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

Kansas City Power & Light Company
Cash or Deferred Arrangement Employee Savings Plus Plan
Statement of Financial Condition, With Fund Information
December 31, 1995

Investment Funds	Fidelity					
		Asset	OTC		Overseas	
ASSETS	MIP	Puritan	Magellan	Manager	Portfolio	Overseas
Investments, at market:						
Short term money market		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
\$ -						
Kansas City Power & Light Co. Stock						
2,404,607.7374 shares (cost \$48,447,967)		-	-	-	-	-
- -						
Fidelity Managed Income Portfolio						
(MIP) (cost \$6,777,831)		6,777,831	-	-	-	-
- -						
Fidelity Puritan Fund						
619,232.7959 shares (cost \$9,242,390)		-	10,533,150	-	-	-
- -						
Fidelity Magellan Fund						
290,249.1863 shares (cost \$19,449,421)		-	-	-	-	-
24,955,625						
Fidelity Asset Manager Fund						
35,613.1852 shares (cost \$527,945)		-	-	-	564,469	-
- -						
Fidelity OTC Portfolio Fund						
21,852.0095 shares (cost \$599,894)		-	-	-	-	662,771
- -						
Fidelity Overseas Fund						
33,581.6574 shares (cost \$947,624)		-	-	-	-	-
976,219						
Loans to participants		-	-	-	-	-
- -						
Total investments		6,777,831	10,533,150			
24,955,625	564,469	662,771	976,219			

Receivables:			
Investment income		34,800	-
- -			
Money market interest		-	37
72	7	8	10
Commission reimbursement		-	-
- -			
Total receivables		34,800	37
72	7	8	10
TOTAL ASSETS		\$6,812,631	\$10,533,187

\$24,955,697 \$564,476 \$662,779 \$976,229

LIABILITIES AND PLAN EQUITY

Liabilities:

Benefits payable to participants		\$ 155,230	\$ 175,234	\$		
296,722	\$ 1	\$ 8	\$ 2,528			
Plan Equity		6,657,401	10,357,953	24,658,975	564,475	662,771
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND PLAN EQUITY		\$6,812,631	\$10,533,187			973,701
\$24,955,697	\$564,476	\$662,779	\$976,229			

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

Kansas City Power & Light Company
Cash or Deferred Arrangement Employee Savings Plus Plan
Statement of Financial Condition, With Fund Information
December 31, 1995

ASSETS	KCPL Stock Fund	Loans to Participants	Total of All Funds
Investments at Market:			
Short term money market		\$ 2,472	\$ 234,371
236,843			
Kansas City Power & Light Co. Stock			
2,404,607.7374 (cost \$48,447,967)	63,120,953	-	63,120,953
Fidelity Managed Income Portfolio (MIP) (cost \$6,777,831)		-	-
6,777,831			
Fidelity Puritan Fund			
619,232.7959 shares (cost \$9,242,390)	-	-	10,533,150
Fidelity Magellan Fund			
290,249.1863 shares (cost \$19,449,421)	-	-	24,955,625
Fidelity Asset Manager Fund			
35,613.1852 shares (cost \$527,945)	-	-	564,469
Fidelity OTC Portfolio Fund			
21,852.0095 shares (cost \$599,894)	-	-	662,771
Fidelity Overseas Fund			
33,581.6574 shares (cost \$947,624)	-	-	976,219
Loans to participants			
4,929,010		-	4,929,010
Total investments		63,123,425	5,163,381
112,756,871			
Receivables:			
Investment income		-	-
34,800			
Money market interest		305	-
439			
Commission reimbursement		339	-
339			
Total receivables		644	-
35,578			
TOTAL ASSETS		\$63,124,069	\$5,163,381
\$112,792,449			
LIABILITIES AND PLAN EQUITY			
Liabilities:			
Benefits payable to participants		\$ 1,034,580	\$ 34,629
1,698,932			
Plan Equity	62,089,489	5,128,752	111,093,517
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND PLAN EQUITY		\$63,124,069	\$5,163,381
\$112,792,449			

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

Kansas City Power & Light Company
Cash or Deferred Arrangement Employee Savings Plus Plan
Statement of Income and Changes in Plan Equity, With Fund Information
for the Year Ended December 31, 1996

Investment Funds

	MIP	Puritan	Magellan	Asset Manager	OTC Portfolio	Overseas
ADDITIONS						
Investment income:						
Net appreciation (depreciation) in the fair value of investments \$	-	\$ 199,817	\$(1,219,051)		\$ 20,769	\$
69,080 \$ 63,352						
Dividends	-	1,406,226	4,103,553	56,890	184,733	
90,771						
Interest:						
Investments		407,767	-	-	-	-
- -						
Money market		360	668			
1,326 63	310	144				
Loans		-	-	-	-	-
- -						
Other		-	(120)		186	
(1) 37	(4)					
Net investment income	408,127	1,606,591	2,886,014			
77,721 254,160	154,263					
Contributions:						
Employee	653,474	1,044,750	2,188,816	104,159	242,728	
213,324						
Employer	-	265	2,180	-	-	-
Rollover	1,686	27,038	74,862	6,963	24,591	
739						
Reimbursed commissions	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forfeiture credits	-	-	-	-	-	-
-						
Total contributions	655,160		1,072,053			
2,265,858 111.122	267,319	214,063				
TOTAL ADDITIONS		1,063,287	2,678,644			
5,151,872 188,843	521,479	368,326				
DEDUCTIONS						
Distributions to participants		(427,468)	(586,695)		(1,056,057)	
(326) (2,175)	(106)					
Forfeited benefits	-	-	-	-	-	-
- -						
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	(427,468)		(586,695)		(1,056,057)	
(326) (2,175)	(106)					
TRANSFERS						
Due to participant elections		(73,157)	(91,188)		(1,377,381)	
939 628,499	169,778					
Due to participant loans	25,781		(74,621)		(80,379)	
1,782 19,219	(3,744)					
TOTAL TRANSFERS		(47,376)	(165,809)		(1,457,760)	
2,721 647,718	166,034					
NET CHANGE IN PLAN EQUITY	588,443	1,926,140	2,638,055	191,238	1,167,022	
534,254						
PLAN EQUITY, beginning of year		6,657,401	10,357,953			
24,658,975 564,475	662,771	973,701				
PLAN EQUITY, end of year	\$7,245,844	\$12,284,093	\$27,297,030	\$755,713	\$1,829,793	
\$1,507,955						

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

Kansas City Power & Light Company
Cash or Deferred Arrangement Employee Savings Plus Plan
Statement of Income and Changes in Plan Equity, With Fund Information
for the Year Ended December 31, 1996

	KCPL Stock Fund	Loans to Participants	Total of All Funds
ADDITIONS			
Investment income:			
Net appreciation in the fair value of investments	\$ 5,291,582	\$ -	\$ 4,425,549
Dividends	4,033,672	-	9,875,845
Interest:			

Investments		-	-
407,767			
Money market		2,152	-
5,023			
Loans		-	533,818
533,818			
Other	418	-	516
Net investment income	9,327,824	533,818	15,248,518
Contributions:			
Employee	2,617,686	-	7,064,937
Employer	2,607,428	-	2,609,873
Rollover	13,009	-	148,888
Reimbursed commissions	44,193	-	44,193
Forfeiture credits		3,284	-
3,284			
Total contributions	5,285,600	-	9,871,175
TOTAL ADDITIONS	14,613,424	533,818	25,119,693
DEDUCTIONS			
Distributions to participants	(2,517,196)	(95,647)	(4,685,670)
Forfeited benefits		(3,269)	-
(3,269)			
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	(2,520,465)	(95,647)	(4,688,939)
TRANSFERS			
Due to participant elections	742,510	-	-
Due to participant loans	(123,762)	235,724	-
TOTAL TRANSFERS	618,748	235,724	-
NET CHANGE IN PLAN EQUITY	12,711,707	673,895	20,430,754
PLAN EQUITY, beginning of year	62,089,489	5,128,752	111,093,517
PLAN EQUITY, end of year	\$74,801,196	\$5,802,647	\$131,524,271

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

Kansas City Power & Light Company
Cash or Deferred Arrangement Employee Savings Plus Plan
Statement of Income and Changes in Plan Equity, With Fund Information
for the Year Ended December 31, 1995

Investment Funds	Fidelity					
	MIP	Puritan	Magellan	Asset Manager	OTC Portfolio	Overseas
ADDITIONS						
Investment income:						
Net appreciation						
in the fair value of investments \$	-	\$ 1,250,219	\$ 5,356,260	\$ 64,495	\$ 88,298	\$ 52,833
Dividends	-	547,145	1,447,394	14,860	34,872	21,681
Interest:						
Investments		369,126	-	-	-	-
-						
Money market		8	388			
725	57	104	99			
Loans		-	-	-	-	-
-						
Other		-	2		(60)	
2	-	-				
Net investment income		369,134	1,797,754		6,804,319	
79,414	123,274	74,613				
Contributions:						
Employee	655,886	993,120	2,158,252	101,883	133,448	226,330
Employer	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rollover	-	8,796	11,945	2,124	1,345	7,139
Reimbursed commissions	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forfeiture credits	-	-	-	-	-	-
-						
Total contributions	655,886		1,001,916		2,170,197	
104,007	134,793	233,469				
TOTAL ADDITIONS		1,025,020	2,799,670		8,974,516	
183,421	258,067	308,082				
DEDUCTIONS						

Distributions to participants			(594,334)	(345,139)	(800,329)		
(19,377)	(17,637)	(11,194)					
Forfeited benefits			-	-	-		
-	-						
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS		(594,334)		(345,139)	(800,329)		
(19,377)	(17,637)	(11,194)					
TRANSFERS							
Due to participant elections			782,883	27,745			
(1,834,727)	26,100	157,510	37,459				
Due to participant loans		(52,414)		(20,156)	(169,554)		
8,179	16,653	18,573					
TOTAL TRANSFERS			730,469	7,589	(2,004,281)		
34,279	174,163	56,032					
NET CHANGE IN PLAN EQUITY		1,161,155	2,462,120	6,169,906	198,323	414,593	352,920
PLAN EQUITY, beginning of year			5,496,246	7,895,833		18,489,069	
366,152	248,178	620,781					
PLAN EQUITY, end of year		\$6,657,401		\$10,357,953		\$24,658,975	
\$564,475	\$662,771	\$973,701					

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

Kansas City Power & Light Company
Cash or Deferred Arrangement Employee Savings Plus Plan
Statement of Income and Changes in Plan Equity, With Fund Information
for the Year Ended December 31, 1995

	KCPL Stock Fund	Loans to Participants	Total of All Funds
ADDITIONS			
Investment income:			
Net appreciation			
in the fair value of investments	\$ 6,292,588	\$ -	\$ 13,104,693
Dividends	3,502,951	-	5,568,903
Interest:			
Investments		-	-
369,126			
Money market		2,056	-
3,437			
Loans		-	436,646
436,646			
Other	(85)	-	(141)
Net investment income	9,797,510	436,646	19,482,664
Contributions:			
Employee	2,392,233	-	6,661,152
Employer	2,524,326	-	2,524,326
Rollovers	13,023	-	44,372
Reimbursed commissions	46,713	-	46,713
Forfeiture credits		4,118	-
4,118			
Total contributions	4,980,413	-	9,280,681
TOTAL ADDITIONS	14,777,923	436,646	28,763,345
DEDUCTIONS			
Distributions to participants	(2,406,800)	(145,975)	(4,340,785)
Forfeited benefits		(4,118)	-
(4,118)			
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	(2,410,918)	(145,975)	(4,344,903)
TRANSFERS			
Due to participant elections	803,030	-	-
Due to participant loans	(230,542)	429,261	-
TOTAL TRANSFERS	572,488	429,261	-
NET CHANGE IN PLAN EQUITY	12,939,493	719,932	24,418,442
PLAN EQUITY, beginning of year	49,149,996	4,408,820	86,675,075
PLAN EQUITY, end of year	\$62,089,489	\$5,128,752	\$111,093,517

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these

statements.

Kansas City Power & Light Company
Cash or Deferred Arrangement Employee Savings Plus Plan
Statement of Income and Changes in Plan Equity, With Fund Information
for the Year Ended December 31, 1994

Investment Funds		Fidelity					OTC Manager
		MIP	Puritan	Magellan	Asset		
Portfolio	Overseas						
ADDITIONS							
Investment income:							
Net depreciation							
in the fair value of investments \$							
(5,169)	\$(22,666)	-	\$ (516,284)	\$(1,102,236)		\$(32,159)	\$
Dividends							
		-	646,039	758,758	12,035	1,963	9,773
Interest:							
Investments							
			338,676	-	-	-	-
Money market							
1,199	47	29	221	366			
Loans							
			67				
Other							
(1,504)	(1)	-	-	1,488			
Net investment income (loss)							
(343,783)	(20,078)	(3,177)	338,897	131,609			
Contributions:							
Employee							
		738,913	1,011,049	2,310,016	93,693	86,493	177,998
Employer							
		-	-	-		-	-
Rollover							
981	-	-	6,407	981			
Reimbursed commissions							
		14,951					
Forfeiture credits							
Total contributions							
2,310,997	93,693	86,493	745,320	1,012,030			
TOTAL ADDITIONS							
1,967,214	73,615	83,316	192,949	1,143,639			
DEDUCTIONS							
Distributions to participants							
(1,926,499)	(57,286)	(20,310)	(1,348,692)	(1,175,832)			
Forfeited benefits							
			(20,136)				
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS							
(1,926,499)	(57,286)	(20,310)	(1,348,692)	(1,175,832)			
TRANSFERS							
Due to participant elections							
(483,042)	142,660	100,084	(227,974)	(6,188)			
Due to participant loans							
(111,316)	11,574	8,889	(81,888)	(9,492)			
TOTAL TRANSFERS							
(594,358)	154,234	108,973	(309,862)	(15,680)			
NET CHANGE IN PLAN EQUITY							
(553,643)	170,563	171,979	(574,337)	(47,873)			
PLAN EQUITY, beginning of year							
19,042,712	195,589	76,199	6,070,583	7,943,706			
PLAN EQUITY, end of year							
\$18,489,069		\$366,152	\$5,496,246	\$7,895,833			\$620,781

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

Kansas City Power & Light Company
Cash or Deferred Arrangement Employee Savings Plus Plan
Statement of Income and Changes in Plan Equity, With Fund Information
for the Year Ended December 31, 1994

	KCPL Stock Fund	Loans to Participants	Total of All Funds	
ADDITIONS				
Investment income:				
Net depreciation				
in the fair value of investments	\$ (237,684)	\$ -	\$(1,916,198)	
Dividends	3,201,956	-	4,630,524	
Interest:				
Investments		-	-	338,676
Money market	1,997	-	3,926	
Loans		-	354,178	
354,178				
Other		(4)	-	
(19)				
Net investment income	2,966,265	354,178	3,411,087	
Contributions:				
Employee	2,592,423	-	7,010,585	
Employer	2,658,993	-	2,658,993	
Rollover	3,196	-	26,516	
Reimbursed commissions	45,999	-	45,999	
Forfeiture credits		4,637	-	
4,637				
Total contributions	5,305,248	-	9,746,730	
TOTAL ADDITIONS	8,271,513	354,178	13,157,817	
DEDUCTIONS				
Distributions to participants	(7,319,343)	(168,471)	(12,036,569)	
Forfeited benefits		(4,637)	-	
(4,637)				
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	(7,323,980)	(168,471)	(12,041,206)	
TRANSFERS				
Due to participant elections	152,268	-	-	
Due to participant loans	(13,297)	162,138	-	
TOTAL TRANSFERS	138,971	162,138	-	
NET CHANGE IN PLAN EQUITY	1,086,504	347,845	1,116,611	
PLAN EQUITY, beginning of year	48,063,492	4,060,975	85,558,464	
PLAN EQUITY, end of year	\$49,149,996	\$4,408,820	\$86,675,075	

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

The following description of the Kansas City Power & Light Company's Cash or Deferred Arrangement, alternatively known as Employee Savings Plus Plan (the Plan) provides only general information regarding the Plan. Participants should refer to the Plan Agreement for more complete information.

The Plan is designed to encourage and assist employees of Kansas City Power & Light Company and Subsidiary (Company) to adopt a regular savings and investment program for long term needs, especially retirement. The Company is the Plan Administrator and UMB Bank, n.a. (UMB) is the Trustee. The Administrative Committee is the fiduciary of the Plan and has the responsibility of establishing the rules under which the Plan is run.

I. Eligibility and Employee Contributions - Employees become eligible to participate on the first day of each month coincident with or following their completion of one year of service. Participants may change the amount of their elective contribution effective the first day of each month. A participant may cease elective contributions at any time. Effective February 1, 1996, employees are immediately eligible to make elective contributions to the Plan. If the employee begins employment during the first 15 days of a month, they can begin participating in the Plan the first day of the following month. If an employee's first day of employment is after the 15th of the month, they are eligible to participate in the Plan the first day of the next following month.

Participants can contribute any whole percentage of their base pay from 2% to 12% (prior to April 1, 1997, the maximum percentage was 10%) to the Plan, except that contributions may not exceed the maximum allowable under the law. The maximum individual contribution allowed for 1996 was \$9,500; and for 1995 and 1994 was \$9,240. Other special limitations

may reduce the participant elective and Company matching maximum contribution amounts for highly compensated employees.

II. Company Matching Contributions - The Company contributes an amount equal to 50% of the employee's elective contribution, not to exceed three percent of base pay as defined in the Plan. Company contributions may be made in cash, Company stock, or a combination thereof. Company contributions will at all times be invested in the common stock of the Company. The Company will begin matching employee contributions when the employee completes one year of service.

III. Rollovers - Participants may elect to transfer funds from another qualified retirement plan to the Plan, with permission from the Administrative Committee.

IV. Vesting and Forfeitures

A. Elective Contribution and Rollover Accounts - Participants are at all times 100% vested in their elective contribution and rollover accounts.

B. Company Match Account - Participants who retire after age 55, die, or become totally and permanently disabled while an employee of the Company are considered 100% vested in the Company Match Account, regardless of their length of service with the Company.

Vesting of the Company Match Account for participants who leave the Company for a reason other than death, disability, or retirement is based upon Years of Service for Vesting. A year of service for Plan purposes is defined as any year in which an employee completes at least 1,000 hours of service with the Company. Generally, all years of service with the Company are taken into account in computing Years of Service for Vesting. Participants who accrue two years of service prior to termination of employment are 20% vested. Participants are credited with 20% additional vesting each year thereafter, with full vesting after six years of service.

The portion of Company Match Accounts that is not vested is forfeited by terminating participants. Forfeitures are used to reduce future Company matching contributions. The 1996, 1995 and 1994 forfeited benefits were \$3,269, \$4,118, and \$4,637, respectively. The Company used forfeiture credits of \$3,284, \$4,118, and \$4,637 for 1996, 1995 and 1994, respectively, to reduce the matching contributions.

V. Investment of Accounts

A. Investment of Elective Contribution and Rollover Accounts
Participants may direct (in 5% increments) the investment of their elective contribution and rollover accounts in one or more of the following seven investment funds:

1. KCPL Stock Fund - a fund designed to invest solely in the Company's common stock.

2. Fidelity Managed Income Portfolio (MIP) Fund - a fund that seeks to preserve capital and provide a competitive level of income over time.

3. Fidelity Puritan Fund - a growth and income fund that seeks income consistent with preservation of capital by investing in a broadly diversified portfolio of common stocks, preferred stocks, and bonds, including lower-quality, high-yield debt securities.

4. Fidelity Magellan Fund - a growth fund that seeks long term capital appreciation by investing in stocks of companies with potentially above average growth potential and a corresponding higher level of risk.

5. Fidelity Asset Manager Fund - an asset allocation fund that seeks high total return with reduced risk over the long term by investing in domestic and foreign equities, bonds and short term instruments.

6. Fidelity OTC Portfolio Fund - a growth fund that seeks long term capital appreciation by investing in securities traded on the over-the-counter securities market.

7. Fidelity Overseas Fund - an international growth fund that seeks long term capital growth by investing in foreign securities that includes common stock, securities convertible into common stock and debt instruments.

B. Investment of Company Match Account - This account will at all times be invested in the common stock of the Company.

As of December 31, 1996, 1,853 employees were participating in the Plan, 1,044 of whom were investing their elective contributions in more than one of the available options of the Plan. There were 82 employees contributing only to the Fidelity MIP Fund, 34 employees contributing only to the Fidelity Puritan Fund, 168 employees contributing only to the Fidelity Magellan Fund, 2 employees contributing only to the

Fidelity Asset Manager Fund, 30 employees contributing only to the Fidelity OTC Portfolio Fund, 16 employees contributing only to the Fidelity Overseas Fund, and 477 employees contributing only to the KCPL Stock Fund. Participants also have the opportunity to change how their past savings in their elective and rollover accounts are invested. Participants can make such changes on a daily basis. Participants making such elections will have their fund shares sold, and the proceeds transferred and fund shares purchased per their request.

The non-participant directed portion of the KCPL Stock Fund consisted of 1,164,914.9967 shares valued at \$33,200,077 and 1,036,648.4941 shares valued at \$27,212,023 at December 31, 1996 and 1995, respectively.

VI. Allocation of Investment Income - The Trustee allocates investment income based on the shares held by participants in their individual accounts. Individual accounts are valued on each business day of the Trustee to reflect the current market value of the investments.

If contributions or participant transfers received by the Trustee cannot be immediately invested in the investment funds, the moneys are held in an interest bearing UMB Money Market Fund. Some distributions may also be invested in the money market fund prior to payment to the participant. Any interest earned is allocated back to the investment accounts based on the amounts originally transferred.

The money market interest receivable represents interest earned in the money market accounts for December 1996 and 1995.

VII. Termination Payments - Participants who leave the Company as a result of termination, retirement, or permanent disability may receive the entire amount of their account in one lump-sum payment, rollover their account to another trustee, or elect to defer distribution until age 62 or retirement, whichever is later. Upon death, distributions will be made to beneficiaries in a lump sum or in installment payments over a period of no more than three years. Payment will commence no later than 60 days after the December 31 coinciding with or next following the date of the participant's death.

Benefits Payable to Participants represents an accrual for those participants who had terminated service during the year and had not received their distribution by December 31. This amount, however, does not include an accrual for those terminated employees that elected to defer their distribution until age 62, except for those that will reach age 62 during 1996 and 1995. The deferred to age 62 totals for participants not required to receive distributions in the next calendar year are \$8,015,135 and \$9,583,307 for December 31, 1996 and 1995, respectively.

VIII. Loans to Participants - The Plan allows participants to borrow against their vested account balance to obtain either an installment or residential loan. Other than by obtaining a loan, the Plan does not provide for in-service withdrawals from elective accounts, rollover accounts, or Company Match accounts. Distributions are made only upon retirement, disability, termination of employment, or death.

An installment loan may be used for any purpose, whereas a residential loan must be used for the purchase of the participant's primary residence. The maximum loan terms for installment and residential loans are 5 and 15 years, respectively. A participant may have no more than one of each type of loan outstanding at the same time.

For all loans issued through October 1989, if the participant's account balance was \$20,000 or less, then a maximum of 80% of the vested account balance, not to exceed \$10,000, could be borrowed. If the account balance was more than \$20,000, then 50% of the vested account balance, not to exceed \$50,000 could be borrowed. The interest rate for these loans was based on the Fidelity GIC Group Trust interest rate of 8.31%.

For loans issued after November 1, 1989, the maximum amount that a participant can borrow is 50% of their vested account balance, not to exceed \$50,000. The interest rate for these loans is UMB's prime rate plus 2%. The minimum amount a participant can borrow is \$1,000.

Principal and interest on all loans is repaid to the participant's individual accounts based on their current contribution allocation election. All loans are repaid by payroll deduction except when paid in full in advance or the unpaid principal is deducted from a total distribution which results from a death, disability, retirement, or

termination.

Loans to Participants represents the total of the outstanding loans issued from the investment funds. The 1996 Loans to Participants total of \$5,606,288 was comprised of \$804,508 of residential and \$4,801,780 of installment loans. The 1995 Loans to Participants total of \$4,929,010 was comprised of \$718,046 of residential and \$4,210,964 of installment loans.

- IX. Commissions and Administrative Expenses - Total 1996, 1995 and 1994 commissions were \$44,193, \$46,713, and \$45,999, respectively, of which the Company owed the Plan \$391 at December 31, 1996, and \$339 at December 31, 1995. Commissions paid by the Plan for purchases and sales of Company common stock are reimbursed by the Company.

Administrative expenses are also paid by the Company. During the year ended December 31, 1996, a net of \$26,030 in costs for the administration of the Plan were billed to the Company by the Trustee after deducting plan expense reimbursements from Fidelity Investments. The total administrative costs billed to the Company for 1995 and 1994 were \$53,085 and \$55,516, respectively.

- X. Voluntary Early Retirement Program - On March 8, 1994, the Board of Directors of the Company authorized the Company to offer a Voluntary Early Retirement Program. Of the 411 eligible employees, 312 employees with a Plan account elected to participate in the program and retired from the Company on June 30, 1994. Retiring employees who participated in the Plan could elect any of the termination payment options described in Note 7.

- XI. Related Party and Party-In-Interest Transactions - The Trustee is authorized under contract provisions and ERISA regulations, to invest in funds under its control and in securities of the Company.

In 1996 there were 473,425 shares purchased and 152,278 shares sold in the KCPL Stock Fund under the Trustee's control totaling \$12,826,028 and \$4,063,353 respectively. In 1995 there were 483,086 shares purchased and 184,534 shares sold totaling \$11,426,866 and \$4,296,353, respectively.

Temporary cash balances are invested on a daily basis in short-term investment funds under the Trustee's control. Although those temporary cash balances are not material to the Plan's financial statements, there were 540 purchases and 474 sales in the UMB Money Market Fund totaling \$16,855,503 and \$16,808,414, respectively in 1996. In 1995 there were 505 purchases and 503 sales totaling \$15,939,033 and \$16,009,474, respectively.

- XII. Agreement and Plan of Merger with Western Resources - On February 7, 1997, KCPL and Western Resources entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger to form a strategic business combination. The effective time of the merger is dependent upon all conditions of the Merger Agreement being met or waived. Under the terms of the agreement, KCPL common stock will be exchanged for Western Resources common stock valued at \$32.00, subject to a conversion ration limiting the amount of Western Resources common stock that holders of KCPL common stock would receive per share of KCPL common stock to no more than 1.1 shares and no less that 0.917 shares. The transaction is subject to several closing conditions including approval by each company's shareholders, approval by a number of regulatory authorities, and dissenting shares equaling less that 5.5% of KCPL's outstanding shares. The Merger Agreement does not allow KCPL to increase its common stock dividend prior to the effective time or termination. The effect of the merger on the Plan is not known at this time.

- XIII. Summary of Other Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting - The Plan's financial statements are maintained on the accrual basis. Plan records are maintained on a calendar year basis. Investments are valued at quoted market prices on the last business day of the Plan year. In accordance with the policy of stating investments at fair market value, the Plan presents in the statement of changes in net assets available for Plan benefits, the net appreciation (depreciation) in the fair value of its investments which consists of the realized gains and losses and the unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on those investments.

Reclassifications - Certain amounts in the 1994 financial statements were reclassified to conform to the 1996 and 1995 presentations.

Tax Status - The Plan has been approved by the Internal Revenue Service as a "qualified" plan under the Internal Revenue Code. The Plan is exempt from Federal taxes on its income, and the participants in the Plan are not subject to

taxes on either the income or the Company's contributions until such time as distributions are received. The Plan has been amended since receiving the last tax determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service. However, the Administrative Committee believes the Plan is currently designed and operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Code. The Administrative Committee believes the Plan is qualified and tax-exempt, as described above, as of December 31, 1996 and 1995.

Amendment and Termination - Although the Company intends to continue the Plan indefinitely, it reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan or cease Company contributions to it. If the Plan is terminated, participants will receive the amounts credited to their accounts and will automatically be fully vested in the Company Match Account regardless of the participant's years of service for vesting.

Management's Estimates - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of additions to and deductions from the Plan during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

XIV. Risks and Uncertainties - The Plan provides for various investment options in any combination of stocks, bonds, fixed income securities, mutual funds, and other investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market and credit. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities and the level of uncertainty related to changes in the value of investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in risks in the near term would materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statement of net assets available for Plan benefits and the statement of changes in net assets available for Plan benefits.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Administrative Committee of the Employee Savings Plus Plan has duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

EMPLOYEE SAVINGS PLUS PLAN

(
(
(By: /s/ B. M. Tate
(B. M. Tate, Chairman
(
(
(/s/ S. W. Cattron
(S. W. Cattron, Member
(
(
(/s/ J. S. Latz
(J. S. Latz, Member
(

June 20, 1997

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the registration statement of Kansas City Power & Light Company on Form S-8 (File No. 33-58917) of our report dated June 6, 1997, on our audit of the financial statements of the Kansas City Power & Light Company Cash or Deferred Arrangement Employee Savings Plus Plan as of December 31, 1996, and 1995, and for the years ended December 31,

1996, 1995, and 1994, which report is included in this Annual Report on Form 11-K.

/s/ Coopers & Lybrand L.L.P.
COOPERS & LYBRAND L.L.P.

Kansas City, Missouri
June 19, 1997