

Explanatory Note: certain hyperlinks to Great Plains Energy Incorporated's intranet have been omitted.

Excerpt from E-News Article to Employees

e-News

Voluntary severance for Westar employees

As you may recall, we previously shared that we don't plan to offer another round of voluntary severance for KCP&L employees. The VEEP program is now complete and closed.

However, some of you have asked what Westar's plans are for voluntary severance. They recently announced they'll offer a voluntary exit option for nonunion employees. Details won't be shared until early October, but we know it won't be the same as the one offered last year.

Because the original severance plan was designed to protect Westar employees from the possibility of losing their jobs, it was unusually lucrative. In the new transaction, we've agreed there will be no involuntary layoffs as a result of the merger. While complete details of the voluntary exit program are still being developed, the new voluntary exit program is anticipated to be similar to the standard Westar severance plan.

Following communication, Westar non-union employees will have the opportunity to review the new package and decide if it's the best choice for them.

For more information, visit our Merger FAQ page. Please continue to send merger-related questions to BetterTogether@kcpl.com.

Excerpt from FAQ Page

FAQ Page

In the original transaction, there was a voluntary severance plan for Westar's non-union employees. Will voluntary packages be offered to them this time, too, and if so, will they be the same?

A voluntary exit option will be offered to non-union employees, but it won't be the same plan. Complete details of the voluntary exit program are still being developed. We expect to have that information in early October.

Because the original severance plan was designed to protect Westar employees from the possibility of losing their jobs, it was unusually lucrative. In the new transaction, we've agreed there will be no involuntary layoffs as a result of the merger. While complete details of the voluntary exit program are still being developed, the new voluntary exit program is anticipated to be similar to the standard Westar severance plan.

Westar employees who previously elected the enhanced severance package will have the opportunity to review the new package and decide if it's the best choice for them. (The old program offered in the original transaction no longer exists.)

Are there any limits on participation in Westar's voluntary severance plan?

Yes. If they were to have more volunteers than Westar management believes would be consistent with safe, reliable operations, Westar reserves the right to limit the number of voluntary exits by area or by the company in total. They do not, however, expect the need to impose such limits.

In testimony filed with the KCC, there was a reference to a potential Westar union severance program related specifically to power plants that may close. Is there a plan to offer such a program?

No. Westar had considered that possibility, and thus, had planned for those possible costs as a contingency for the possibility we might not have sufficient job opportunities for employees of the closing plants. Any severance program for union employees would be subject to negotiations.

Why was Kansas City, Missouri, selected for the company headquarters?

Bringing together a new agreement, we worked to balance many interests. A lot of give and take was involved. As we worked through many items, the balance of the negotiations left this item in favor of Kansas City. (It's common in a merger for the larger city to hold the corporate headquarters.) Practically speaking, a company must establish a single legal corporate headquarters even though we expect our senior management to be based out of two locations. Topeka will continue as an operational headquarters staffed by executives and professionals.

Forward-Looking Statements

Statements made in this communication that are not based on historical facts are forward-looking, may involve risks and uncertainties, and are intended to be as of the date when made. Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements relating to the anticipated merger transaction of Great Plains Energy Incorporated (Great Plains Energy) and Westar Energy, Inc. (Westar Energy), including those that relate to the expected financial and operational benefits of the merger to the companies and their shareholders (including cost savings, operational efficiencies and the impact of the anticipated merger on earnings per share), the expected timing of closing, the outcome of regulatory proceedings, cost estimates of capital projects, dividend growth, share repurchases, balance sheet and credit ratings, rebates to customers, employee issues and other matters affecting future operations. In connection with the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, Great Plains Energy is providing a number of important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the provided forward-looking information. These important factors include: future economic conditions in regional, national and international markets and their effects on sales, prices and costs; prices and availability of electricity in regional and national wholesale markets; market perception of the energy industry, Great Plains Energy and Westar Energy; changes in business strategy, operations or development plans; the outcome of contract negotiations for goods and services; effects of current or proposed state and federal legislative and regulatory actions or developments, including, but not limited to, deregulation, re-regulation and restructuring of the electric utility industry; decisions of regulators regarding rates that the companies can charge for electricity; adverse changes in applicable laws, regulations, rules, principles or practices governing tax, accounting and environmental matters including, but not limited to, air and water quality; financial market conditions and performance including, but not limited to, changes in interest rates and credit spreads and in availability and cost of capital and the effects on derivatives and hedges, nuclear decommissioning trust and pension plan assets and costs; impairments of long-lived assets or goodwill; credit ratings; inflation rates; effectiveness of risk

management policies and procedures and the ability of counterparties to satisfy their contractual commitments; impact of terrorist acts, including, but not limited to, cyber terrorism; ability to carry out marketing and sales plans; weather conditions including, but not limited to, weather-related damage and their effects on sales, prices and costs; cost, availability, quality and deliverability of fuel; the inherent uncertainties in estimating the effects of weather, economic conditions and other factors on customer consumption and financial results; ability to achieve generation goals and the occurrence and duration of planned and unplanned generation outages; delays in the anticipated in-service dates and cost increases of generation, transmission, distribution or other projects; Great Plains Energy's and Westar Energy's ability to successfully manage and integrate their respective transmission joint ventures; the inherent risks associated with the ownership and operation of a nuclear facility including, but not limited to, environmental, health, safety, regulatory and financial risks; workforce risks, including, but not limited to, increased costs of retirement, health care and other benefits; the ability of Great Plains Energy and Westar Energy to obtain the regulatory and shareholder approvals necessary to complete the anticipated merger or the imposition of adverse conditions or costs in connection with obtaining regulatory approvals; the risk that a condition to the closing of the anticipated merger may not be satisfied or that the anticipated merger may fail to close; the outcome of any legal proceedings, regulatory proceedings or enforcement matters that may be instituted relating to the anticipated merger; the costs incurred to consummate the anticipated merger; the possibility that the expected value creation from the anticipated merger will not be realized, or will not be realized within the expected time period; difficulties related to the integration of the two companies; the credit ratings of the combined company following the anticipated merger; disruption from the anticipated merger making it more difficult to maintain relationships with customers, employees, regulators or suppliers; the diversion of management time and attention on the anticipated merger; and other risks and uncertainties.

This list of factors is not all-inclusive because it is not possible to predict all factors. Additional risks and uncertainties will be discussed in the joint proxy statement/prospectus and other materials that Great Plains Energy, Westar Energy and Monarch Energy Holding, Inc. (Monarch Energy) will file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in connection with the anticipated merger. Other risk factors are detailed from time to time in quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and annual reports on Form 10-K filed by Great Plains Energy, KCP&L and Westar Energy with the SEC. Each forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date of the particular statement. Monarch Energy, Great Plains Energy, KCP&L and Westar Energy undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Additional Information and Where to Find It

This communication does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities or a solicitation of any proxy, vote or approval, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. In connection with the proposed merger, Monarch Energy will file a Registration Statement on Form S-4, that includes a joint proxy statement of Great Plains Energy and Westar Energy, which also constitutes a prospectus of Monarch Energy. **WE URGE INVESTORS TO READ THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT AND JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FILED BY MONARCH ENERGY, GREAT PLAINS ENERGY AND WESTAR ENERGY WITH THE SEC CAREFULLY WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT GREAT PLAINS ENERGY, WESTAR ENERGY, MONARCH ENERGY AND THE PROPOSED MERGER.**

Investors will be able to obtain free copies of the registration statement and joint proxy statement/prospectus when available and other documents filed by Monarch Energy, Great Plains Energy and Westar Energy with the SEC at <http://www.sec.gov>, the SEC's website, or free of charge from Great Plains Energy's website (<http://www.greatplainsenergy.com>) under the tab, "Investor Relations" and then under the heading "SEC Filings." These documents are also available free of charge from Westar Energy's website (<http://www.westarenergy.com/>) under the tab "Investors" and then under the heading "SEC Filings."

Participants in Proxy Solicitation

Great Plains Energy, Westar Energy and their respective directors and certain of their executive officers and employees may be deemed, under SEC rules, to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from Great Plains Energy's and Westar Energy's shareholders with respect to the proposed merger. Information regarding the officers and directors of Great Plains Energy is included in its definitive proxy statement for its 2017 annual meeting filed with SEC on March 23, 2017. Information regarding the officers and directors of Westar Energy is included in an amendment to its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, filed with the SEC on April 28, 2017. Additional information regarding the identity of potential participants, and their direct or indirect interests, by securities, holdings or otherwise, will be set forth in the registration statement and joint proxy statement/prospectus and other materials filed with SEC in connection with the proposed merger. Free copies of these documents may be obtained as described in the paragraphs above.