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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

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**Current Report  
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported):  
September 26, 2016**

Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter,  
State of Incorporation,  
Address of Principal Executive Offices and  
Telephone Number

**GREAT PLAINS ENERGY INCORPORATED**  
(A Missouri Corporation)

I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.  
**43-1916803**

Commission  
File Number  
**001-32206**

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**1200 Main Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64105  
(816) 556-2200**

**NOT APPLICABLE**  
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 5.03 Amendments to Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws; Change in Fiscal Year.**

As more specifically described under Item 5.07 below, at a special meeting of shareholders of Great Plains Energy Incorporated (“Great Plains Energy”) held on September 26, 2016, Great Plains Energy’s shareholders approved an amendment to Great Plains Energy’s articles of incorporation to increase the amount of authorized capital stock of Great Plains Energy.

On September 26, 2016, Great Plains Energy filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Missouri an amendment to its articles of incorporation (the “Charter Amendment”) to increase the amount of authorized capital stock of Great Plains Energy to 612,962,000 shares of capital stock, consisting of: (1) 390,000 shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock, par value \$100 per share; (2) 1,572,000 shares of Cumulative No Par Preferred Stock, without par value; (3) 11,000,000 shares of Preference Stock, without par value; and (4) 600,000,000 shares of common stock, without par value. A copy of the Charter Amendment is attached as Exhibit 3.1 hereto.

**Item 5.07 Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders.**

At a special meeting of shareholders held on September 26, 2016, the shareholders of Great Plains Energy approved the issuance of shares of Great Plains Energy common stock as contemplated by the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of May 29, 2016 (the “Merger Agreement”), by and among Great Plains Energy, Westar Energy, Inc. (“Westar”) and GP Star, Inc. (an entity referred to in the Merger Agreement as Merger Sub) (the “Stock Issuance Proposal”).

In addition at the special meeting of shareholders, the shareholders of Great Plains Energy approved an amendment to Great Plains Energy’s articles of incorporation to increase the amount of authorized capital stock of Great Plains Energy (the “Charter Amendment Proposal”).

The shareholders of Great Plains Energy also approved any motion to adjourn the Great Plains Energy special meeting, if necessary (the “Meeting Adjournment Proposal”).

Set forth below are the number of votes cast for or against, the number of abstentions and the number of broker non-votes with respect to the three matters voted on at the special meeting:

	<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>	<u>ABSTAINED</u>	<u>BROKER NON-VOTES</u>
1. Stock Issuance Proposal	116,555,286	5,084,997	4,530,547	—
2. Charter Amendment Proposal	114,960,547	5,087,304	6,122,979	—
3. Meeting Adjournment Proposal	109,918,578	11,590,087	4,662,165	—

**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

On September 26, 2016, Great Plains Energy and Westar issued a joint press release announcing that the shareholders of Great Plains Energy and Westar had approved their respective merger-related proposals. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto.

## Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.	Description
3.1	Amendment of Articles of Incorporation of Great Plains Energy Incorporated.
99.1	Joint press release of Great Plains Energy Incorporated and Westar Energy, Inc., dated September 26, 2016.

### Forward Looking Statements

Statements made in this Current Report on Form 8-K 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 Great Plains Energy's proposed acquisition of Westar, shareholder and regulatory approvals, the completion of the proposed transactions, benefits of the proposed transactions, and anticipated future financial measures and operating performance and results, including estimates for growth 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: the risk that Great Plains Energy or Westar may be unable to obtain shareholder approvals for the proposed transactions or that Great Plains Energy or Westar may be unable to obtain governmental and regulatory approvals required for the proposed transactions, or that required governmental and regulatory approvals or agreements with other parties interested therein may delay the proposed transactions or may be subject to or impose adverse conditions or costs; the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstances that could give rise to the termination of the proposed transactions or could otherwise cause the failure of the proposed transactions to close; risks relating to the potential decline in the Great Plains Energy share price resulting in an increase in the exchange ratio of Great Plains Energy shares offered to Westar shareholders in accordance with the transaction agreement and resulting in reduced value of the proposed transactions to Great Plains Energy shareholders; the risk that a condition to the closing of the proposed transactions or the committed debt or equity financing may not be satisfied; the failure to obtain, or to obtain on favorable terms, any equity, debt or equity-linked financing necessary to complete or permanently finance the proposed transactions and the costs of such financing; the outcome of any legal proceedings, regulatory proceedings or enforcement matters that may be instituted relating to the proposed transactions; the receipt of an unsolicited offer from another party to acquire assets or capital stock of Great Plains Energy or Westar that could interfere with the proposed transactions; the timing to consummate the proposed transactions; the costs incurred to consummate the proposed transactions; the possibility that the expected value creation from the proposed transactions will not be realized, or will not be realized within the expected time period; the credit ratings of the companies following the proposed transactions; disruption from the proposed transactions making it more difficult to maintain relationships with customers, employees, regulators or suppliers; the diversion of management time and attention on the proposed transactions; 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 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 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, derivatives and hedges and the effects on 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 ability to successfully manage transmission joint ventures or to integrate the transmission joint ventures of Westar; 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; 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 are discussed in the joint proxy statement/prospectus and other materials that Great Plains Energy will file with the SEC in connection with the proposed transactions. Other risk factors are detailed from time to time in Great Plains Energy's quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and annual report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Each forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date of the particular statement. Great Plains Energy undertakes 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 transaction, Great Plains Energy has filed with the SEC a Registration Statement on Form S-4 (Registration No. 333-212513), which was declared effective by the SEC, and a definitive joint proxy statement of Great Plains Energy and Westar, which also constitutes a prospectus of Great Plains Energy, each of which is publicly available, and Great Plains Energy and Westar have filed and may file other documents regarding the proposed transaction with the SEC. Great Plains Energy and Westar have mailed to their respective shareholders the definitive joint proxy statement/prospectus in connection with the transaction. **WE URGE INVESTORS TO READ THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT AND DEFINITIVE JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS AND THESE OTHER MATERIALS CAREFULLY WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT GREAT PLAINS ENERGY, WESTAR AND THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION.**

Investors can obtain free copies of the Registration Statement and joint proxy statement/prospectus and other documents filed by Great Plains Energy and Westar 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's website (<http://www.westarenergy.com>) under the tab "Investors" and then under the heading "SEC Filings."

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: September 26, 2016

**GREAT PLAINS ENERGY INCORPORATED**

By: /s/ Ellen E. Fairchild

Name: Ellen E. Fairchild

Title: Vice President, Chief Compliance Officer and  
Corporate Secretary

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
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99.1	Joint press release of Great Plains Energy Incorporated and Westar Energy, Inc., dated September 26, 2016.



State of Missouri  
Jason Kander, Secretary of State

Corporations Division  
PO Box 778 / 600 W. Main St., Rm. 322  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

**Amendment of Articles of Incorporation  
for a General Business or Close Corporation**  
*(Submit with \$25.00 filing fee; if increasing # of shares, please see fee schedule for appropriate fee.)*

Pursuant to the provisions of the General and Business Corporation Law of Missouri, the undersigned Corporation certifies the following:

- 1. The present name of the Corporation is Great Plains Energy Incorporated

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The name under which it was originally organized was Great Plains Energy Incorporated

\_\_\_\_\_

- 2. An amendment to the Corporation's Articles of Incorporation was adopted by the shareholders on 9/26/16

\_\_\_\_\_

*month/day/year*

- 3. Article Number Three is amended to read as follows:

See Annex A attached hereto.

*(If more than one article is to be amended or more space is needed attach additional pages)*

*(Please see next page)*

Name and address to return filed document:
Name: Great Plains Energy Incorporated c/o Jaileah Huddleston
Address: 1200 Main Street
City, State, and Zip Code: Kansas City, MO 64105

4. Of the 154,768,521 shares outstanding, 154,768,521 of such shares were entitled to vote on such amendment.

The number of outstanding shares of any class **entitled to vote thereon as a class** were as follows:

Class	Number of Outstanding Shares
Common	154,768,521
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

5. The number of shares voted for and against the amendment was as follows:

Class	No. Voted For	No. Voted Against
Common	114,960,547	5,087,304
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

- 6. If the amendment provides for an exchange, reclassification, or cancellation of issued shares, or a reduction of the number of authorized shares of any class below the number of issued shares of that class, the following is a statement of the manner in which such reduction shall be effected:
- 7. If the effective date of the amendment is to be a date other than the date of filing of the certificate of amendment with the Secretary of State, then the effective date, which shall be no more than 90 days following the filing date, shall be specified:

In Affirmation thereof, the facts stated above are true and correct:

(The undersigned understands that false statements made in this filing are subject to the penalties provided under Section 575.040, RSMo)

<u>/s/ Heather Humphrey</u>	<u>Heather Humphrey</u>	<u>General Counsel and Senior Vice President — Corporate Services</u>	<u>9/26/2016</u>
<i>Authorized Signature</i>	<i>Printed Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date</i>

ANNEX A

Reference is made to ARTICLE THREE of the Articles of Incorporation of Great Plains Energy Incorporated, a Missouri corporation, as amended May 6, 2014. The portion of ARTICLE THREE immediately preceding the heading "CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK AND CUMULATIVE NO PAR PREFERRED STOCK" is hereby amended and restated in its entirety as follows:

"The amount of authorized capital stock of the Company is Six Hundred Twelve Million, Nine Hundred Sixty-Two Thousand (612,962,000) shares divided into classes as follows:

Three Hundred Ninety Thousand (390,000) shares of Cumulative Preferred Stock, of the par value of One Hundred Dollars (\$100) each.

One Million Five Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand (1,572,000) shares of Cumulative No Par Preferred Stock without par value.

Eleven Million (11,000,000) shares of Preference Stock without par value.

Six Hundred Million (600,000,000) shares of Common Stock without par value.

The preferences, qualifications, limitations, restrictions, and special or relative rights of the Cumulative Preferred Stock, the Cumulative No Par Preferred Stock, the Preference Stock and the Common Stock shall be as follows:"

Except as amended hereby, the Articles of Incorporation of Great Plains Energy Incorporated, as amended May 6, 2014, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Great Plains Energy and Westar Energy Shareholders Approve Merger Related Proposals at Special Shareholder Meetings

*Transaction on Track to Close in Spring of 2017*

KANSAS CITY, Mo. & TOPEKA, Kan. – Sept. 26, 2016 – Great Plains Energy Incorporated (NYSE: GXP), the parent company of KCP&L, and Westar Energy, Inc. (NYSE: WR) today announced that their respective shareholders approved all proposals necessary for Great Plains Energy’s acquisition of Westar Energy at each company’s respective shareholder meeting.

“We are pleased that our shareholders have overwhelmingly demonstrated their support for this transaction, and I thank Great Plains Energy and Westar shareholders and employees for their support throughout this process,” said Terry Bassham, chairman and chief executive officer of Great Plains Energy and KCP&L. “This is a great transaction for all Great Plains Energy and Westar stakeholders. Together, we will create a stronger combined company that will be better positioned to serve customers, generate hundreds of millions of dollars in operational savings for years to come, meet the region’s energy needs and achieve improved and more stable, long-term financial returns.”

“Our shareholders’ support for the transaction clearly demonstrates the value of combining Westar and Great Plains Energy,” said Mark Ruelle, president and chief executive officer of Westar. “Together, we will be stronger both financially and operationally, which will benefit customers, shareholders and the communities in which we operate. We continue to make progress toward completing the transaction in the spring of 2017.”

Today’s announcement comes on the heels of the recent endorsements of the transaction by the Kansas City Area Development Council, regional economic development organizations and elected officials. Endorsements touted the economic benefits, competitive electric rates and commitment to growth that the combined utility will bring to the region.

“The combined generation portfolio of the new utility will be more diverse and sustainable,” said Bassham. “Once this transaction is complete, more than 45 percent of our combined retail customer demand will be met with emission-free energy and we will have one of the largest wind generation portfolios in the United States. This helps us maintain reliable, low cost energy for all of the residential and business customers we serve.”

Great Plains Energy has an established track record of gaining approval for utility acquisitions and successfully integrating with the acquired company. In 2008, Great Plains Energy completed its acquisition of Aquila, an electric utility serving customers in adjacent areas of Missouri. That acquisition exceeded expectations as it delivered and continues to deliver significant savings for customers.





For more information please visit  
[www.kcpl.com/westaracquisition](http://www.kcpl.com/westaracquisition).

### **About Great Plains Energy**

Headquartered in Kansas City, Mo., Great Plains Energy Incorporated (NYSE: GXP) is the holding company of Kansas City Power & Light Company and KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company, two of the leading regulated providers of electricity in the Midwest. Kansas City Power & Light Company and KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company use KCP&L as a brand name. More information about the companies is available on the internet at [www.greatplainsenergy.com](http://www.greatplainsenergy.com) or [www.kcpl.com](http://www.kcpl.com).

### **About Westar**

Westar Energy, Inc. (NYSE: WR) is Kansas' largest electric utility. For more than a century, Westar has provided Kansans the safe, reliable electricity needed to power their homes, businesses and communities. Every day, Westar professionals generate and deliver electricity, protect the environment and provide excellent service to nearly 700,000 customers. Westar's 2,400 employees live, volunteer and work in the communities they serve. The company has 7,200 MW of electric generation capacity fueled by wind, coal, uranium, natural gas and landfill gas. Westar also is a leader in electric transmission in Kansas. For more information about Westar, visit us at [www.WestarEnergy.com](http://www.WestarEnergy.com).

### **Forward-Looking Statements**

Statements made in this release 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 may include words like "believe," "anticipate," "target," "expect," "pro forma," "estimate," "intend," "guidance" or words of similar meaning. Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements relating to Great Plains Energy's proposed acquisition of Westar Energy, Inc. (Westar), the outcome of regulatory proceedings, cost estimates of capital projects 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 and KCP&L are 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 KCP&L 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 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 ability to successfully manage transmission joint venture or to integrate the transmission joint ventures of Westar; 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 to obtain the regulatory approvals necessary to complete the anticipated acquisition of Westar; the risk that a condition to the closing of the anticipated acquisition of Westar or the committed debt or equity financing may not be satisfied or that the anticipated acquisition may fail to close; the failure to obtain, or to obtain on favorable terms, any equity, debt or equity-linked financing necessary to complete or permanently finance the anticipated acquisition of Westar and the costs of such financing; the outcome of any legal proceedings, regulatory proceedings or enforcement matters that may be instituted relating to the anticipated acquisition of Westar; the costs incurred to consummate the anticipated acquisition of Westar; the possibility that the expected value creation from the anticipated acquisition of Westar will not be realized, or will not be realized within the expected time period; the credit ratings of Great Plains Energy following the anticipated acquisition of Westar; disruption from the anticipated acquisition of Westar making it more difficult to maintain relationships with customers, employees, regulators or suppliers; the diversion of management time and attention on the proposed transactions; and other risks and uncertainties.

With respect to Westar, the factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from any forward-looking statements include those discussed in the joint proxy statement/prospectus as well as (1) those discussed in Westar's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2015 (a) under the heading, "Forward-Looking Statements," (b) in ITEM 1. Business, (c) in ITEM 1A. Risk Factors, (d) in ITEM 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, and (e) in ITEM 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data: Notes 13 and 15; (2) those discussed in Westar's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed Aug. 2, 2016, (a) under the heading "Forward-Looking Statements." (b) in ITEM 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, (c) in Part I, Financial Information, ITEM 1. Financial Statements: Notes 3, 11 and 12, and (d) ITEM 1A. Risk Factors; and (3) other factors discussed in Westar's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date such statement was made, and Westar does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which such statement was made.

#### **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 transaction, Great Plains Energy has filed with the SEC a Registration Statement on Form S-4 (Registration No. 333-212513), which was declared effective by the SEC, and a definitive joint proxy statement of Great Plains Energy and Westar, which also constitutes a prospectus of Great Plains Energy, each of which is publicly available, and Great Plains Energy and Westar have filed and may file other documents regarding the proposed transaction with the SEC. Great Plains Energy and Westar have mailed to their respective shareholders the definitive joint proxy statement/prospectus in connection with the transaction. **WE URGE INVESTORS TO READ THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT AND DEFINITIVE JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS AND THESE OTHER MATERIALS CAREFULLY WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT GREAT PLAINS ENERGY, WESTAR AND THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION.**

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#### **Great Plains Energy Incorporated**

##### **Investors**

Calvin Girard, 816-654-1777  
Senior Manager, Investor Relations  
[calvin.girard@kcpl.com](mailto:calvin.girard@kcpl.com)

or





**Media**

Katie McDonald, 816-447-2118  
Senior Director, Corporate Communications  
katie.mcdonald@kcpl.com  
or  
Great Plains Energy Media line: (816) 392-9455  
or

**Westar Energy, Inc.**

**Investors**

Cody VandeVelde, 785-575-8227  
Director, Investor Relations  
Cody.VandeVelde@westarenergy.com  
or

**Media**

Jana Dawson, 785-575-1975  
Director, Corporate Communications  
Jana.Dawson@WestarEnergy.com  
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