

FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20549**

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL
OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31, 2005
Estimated average burden
hours per response...0.5

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* ERNST, Mark A. (Last) (First) (Middle) 4400 Main Street (Street) Kansas City, MO 64111 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Great Plains Energy Incorporated (GXP)	4. Statement for Month/Day/Year 01-21-2003	6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director ___ 10% Owner ___ Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)
3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (Voluntary)		5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)	7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person ___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I 3/4 Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr.8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock(1)	01-21-2003	01-23-2003	P		654	A	\$22.948		D	
Common Stock(2)	(2)	(2)	P		52	A	(2)	5,414	D	

- 1. Shares acquired with optional cash payment through participation in the Company's Dividend Reinvestment and Direct Stock Purchase Plan.
- 2. Shares acquired at various times and prices from automatic reinvestment of quarterly dividends through participation in the Company's Dividend Reinvestment and Direct Stock Purchase Plan during 2002.

FORM 4 (continued)

Table II Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr.8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					

Explanation of Responses:

Executed on behalf of Mark A. Ernst by Jeanie Sell Latz, Attorney-in-Fact (see Attached Exhibit A)

/s/Jeanie Sell Latz

January 24, 2003

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations.

See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That the undersigned, a Director of Great Plains Energy Incorporated, a Missouri corporation, does hereby constitute and appoint Bernard J. Beaudoin, Jeanie S. Latz or Mark G. English, his true and lawful attorney and agent, with full power and authority to execute in the name and on behalf of the undersigned director a Report on Form 4 or Form 5 and all amendments thereto; hereby granting unto such attorney and agent full power of substitution and revocation in the premises; and hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney and agent may do or cause to be done by virtue of these presents.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 24th day of January 2003.

/s/Mark A. Ernst
Mark A. Ernst

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss
COUNTY OF JACKSON)

On this 24th day of January 2003, before me the undersigned, a Notary Public, personally appeared Mark A. Ernst, to be known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and who, being by me first duly sworn, acknowledged that he executed the same as his free act and deed.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal the day and year last above written.

/s/Jacquetta L. Hartman
Notary Public
Ray County,
Missouri

My Commission Expires:
April 8, 2004