Form 10-Q SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

[X] QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 1998

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[] TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 or 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from to

Commission file number 1-707

KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Missouri (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 44-0308720 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

March 31

December 31

1201 Walnut, Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2124 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (816) 556-2200

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes (X) No ()

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's Common stock at May 4, 1998, was 61,872,915 shares.

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	1998	1997
	(thousands)	
ASSETS	•	•
UTILITY PLANT, at original cost		
Electric	\$3,517,951	\$3,502,796
Less-accumulated depreciation	1,340,860	1,314,154
Net utility plant in service	2,177,091	2,188,642
Construction work in progress	99,741	93,264
Nuclear fuel, net of amortization of		
\$91,240 and \$86,516	37,107	41,649
Total	2,313,939	2,323,555
REGULATORY ASSET - RECOVERABLE TAXES	123,000	123,000
INVESTMENTS AND NONUTILITY PROPERTY	366,821	345,126
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	19,566	74,098
Electric customer accounts receivable, net of		
allowance for doubtful accounts	00 700	00 744
of \$1,454 and \$1,941	20,722	28,741
Other receivables	31,673	33,492

Fuel inventories, at average cost Materials and supplies, at average cost Deferred income taxes Other Total	16,001 45,856 1,658 7,166 142,642	13,824 46,579 648 7,155 204,537
DEFERRED CHARGES Regulatory assets Other deferred charges Total Total	28,751 31,099 59,850 \$3,006,252	30,017 31,798 61,815 \$3,058,033
CAPITALIZATION AND LIABILITIES CAPITALIZATION (see statements) CURRENT LIABILITIES Notes payable to banks Commercial paper Current maturities of long-term debt Accounts payable Accrued taxes Accrued interest Accrued payroll and vacations Accrued refueling outage costs Other Total	\$2,049,307 1,495 2,000 23,168 40,305 13,626 20,663 24,021 4,259 17,926 147,463	\$2,051,489 1,243 0 74,180 57,568 1,672 22,360 23,409 1,664 15,068 197,164
DEFERRED CREDITS AND OTHER LIABILITIES Deferred income taxes Deferred investment tax credits Other Total	640,671 62,128 106,683 809,482	638,679 63,257 107,444 809,380
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES Total	\$3,006,252	\$3,058,033

COMMON CTOCK FOUTTY	March 31 1998 (thousands)	December 31 1997
COMMON STOCK EQUITY Common stock-150,000,000 shares authorized		
without par value-61,908,726 shares issued, stated value	\$449,697	\$449,697
Retained earnings (see statements)	416,678	428,452
Unrealized gain on securities available for sale Capital stock premium and expense Total	4,122 (1,664) 868,833	1,935 (1,664) 878,420
CUMULATIVE PREFERRED STOCK \$100 Par Value	,	,
3.80% - 100,000 shares issued	10,000	10,000
4.50% - 100,000 shares issued 4.20% - 70,000 shares issued	10,000 7,000	10,000 7,000
4.35% - 120,000 shares issued	12,000	12,000
No Par Value	,	,
4.375%* - 500,000 shares issued	50,000	50,000
\$100 Par Value - Redeemable 4.00%	62	62
Total	89,062	89,062
COMPANY-OBLIGATED MANDATORILY REDEEMABLE PREFERRED		
SECURITIES OF SUBSIDIARY TRUST HOLDING SOLELY KCPL SUBORDINATED DEBENTURES	150 000	150 000
SUBURDINATED DEBENTURES	150,000	150,000
LONG-TERM DEBT (excluding current maturities)		
General Mortgage Bonds Medium-Term Notes due 1998-2008, 6.92% and		
6.92% weighted-average rate	407,500	407,500
3.98%* Environmental Improvement Revenue	•	,
Refunding Bonds due 2012-23	158,768	158,768
Guaranty of Pollution Control Bonds 3.94%* due 2015-17	196,500	196,500
Subsidiary Obligations	130,300	100,000
Affordable Housing Notes due 2000-06, 8.34%		
and 8.48% weighted-average rate	68,612	61,207
Bank Credit Agreement due 1999, 6.51% and 6.67% weighted-average rate	107,500	107,500
Other Long-Term Notes	2,532	2,532
Total	941,412	934,007
Total	\$2,049,307	\$2,051,489

^{*} Variable rate securities, weighted-average rate as of March 31, 1998

Three Months Ended March 31	1998	1997
ELECTRIC OPERATING REVENUES	(thousai \$195,635	\$194,744
OPERATING EXPENSES Operation Fuel Purchased power	35,697 8,231	34,922 11,246
Other	47,003	43,923
Maintenance	15,738	16,816
Depreciation Transportation	28,631	27,842
Income taxes General taxes	8,237 22,168	8,530 22,692
Deferred Wolf Creek costs amortization	22,100	684
Total	165,705	166,655
OPERATING INCOME	29,930	28,089
OTHER INCOME AND (DEDUCTIONS) Allowance for equity funds used during construction	933	260
Miscellaneous income	13,223	3,893
Miscellaneous deductions	(20,900)	(62, 161)
Income taxes Total	9,747 3,003	30,233 (27,775)
Total	3,003	(21,113)
INCOME BEFORE INTEREST CHARGES	32,933	314
INTEREST CHARGES		
Long-term debt	14,939	14,516
Short-term debt	91	839
Miscellaneous Allowance for borrowed funds	4,190	875
used during construction	(653)	(784)
Total	18,567	15, 446
Net Income (Loss) Preferred Stock	14,366	(15,132)
Dividend Requirements	990	955
Earnings (Loss) Available for Common Stock	\$13,376	(\$16,087)
Average Number of Common Shares Outstanding Basic and Diluted earnings (loss)	61,873	61,896
per Common Share	\$0.22	(\$0.26)
Cash Dividends per Common Share	\$0.405	\$0.405

Twelve Months Ended March 31	1998	1997
ELECTRIC OPERATING REVENUES	(thousar \$896,834	\$892,039
OPERATING EXPENSES Operation		
Fuel	135,284	144,654
Purchased power	56,232	49,716
Other	194,977	181,143
Maintenance	69,814	70,282
Depreciation	111,687	107,038
Income taxes General taxes	70,820 92,773	63,272 95,579
Deferred Wolf Creek costs amortization	684	9,397
Total	732,271	721,081
OPERATING INCOME	164,563	170,958
OTHER INCOME AND (DEDUCTIONS) Allowance for equity funds		
used during construction	3,080	1,968
Miscellaneous income	48,351	7,995
Miscellaneous deductions	(77,181)	(113,548)
Income taxes	42,548	60,414
Total	16,798	(43,171)
INCOME BEFORE INTEREST CHARGES	181,361	127,787
INTEREST CHARGES		
Long-term debt	60,721	55,031
Short-term debt	634	1,972
Miscellaneous Allowance for borrowed funds	16,158	4,609
used during construction	(2,210)	(2,341)
Total	75,303	59,271
Net Income (Loss) Preferred Stock	106,058	68,516
Dividend Requirements Earnings (Loss) Available for	3,824	3,788
Common Stock	\$102,234	\$64,728
Average Number of Common	61 000	61 000
Shares Outstanding Basic and Diluted earnings (loss)	61,889	61,900
per Common Share	\$1.65	\$1.05
Cash Dividends per Common Share	\$1.62	\$1.605

Year to Date March 31	1998 (thous	1997 ands)
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES Net income (loss) Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash from operating activities:	\$ 14,366	\$ (15,132)
Depreciation Amortization of:	28,631	27,842
Nuclear fuel Deferred Wolf Creek costs Other Deferred income taxes (net) Investment tax credit	4,724 0 2,272 (258)	5,115 684 1,362 (2,885)
amortization and reversals Deferred merger costs Kansas rate refund accrual Allowance for equity funds used	(1,129) 0 3,165	(1,056) (4,787) 0
during construction Other operating activities (Note 2)	(933) 5,327	(260) (799)
Net cash from operating activities	56,165	10,084
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES Utility capital expenditures Allowance for borrowed funds used	(22,487)	(27,402)
during construction Purchases of investments Purchases of nonutility property Other investing activities	(653) (19,230) (2,794) 2,884	(77,241) (1,611)
Net cash from investing activities	(42,280)	(111,435)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES Issuance of long-term debt Repayment of long-term debt Net change in short-term borrowings Dividends paid Other financing activities	7,404 (51,011) 2,252 (26,140) (922)	
Net cash from financing activities	(68,417)	102,892
NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(54,532) 74,098	1,541 23,571
AT END OF PERIOD CASH PAID DURING THE PERIOD FOR: Interest (net of amount capitalized) Income taxes	\$19,566 \$20,380 \$0	\$25,112 \$17,019 \$0

Twelve Months Ended March 31	1998 (thou	sar	1997 ids)
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES Net income (loss) Adjustments to reconcile net income	\$ 106,058	\$	68,516
to net cash from operating activities: Depreciation Amortization of:	111,687		107,038
Nuclear fuel Deferred Wolf Creek costs Other Deferred income taxes (net) Investment tax credit	16,445 684 9,133 7,407		20,012 9,397 5,460 (17,278)
amortization and reversals Deferred storm costs Deferred merger costs Kansas rate refund accrual Allowance for equity funds used	(3,923) 0 4,787 3,165		(4,195) (8,885) 596 0
during construction Other operating activities (Note 2)	(3,080) 2,202		(1,968) (23,825)
Net cash from operating activities	254,565		154,868
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES Utility capital expenditures Allowance for borrowed funds used	(119,819)		(98,800)
during construction Purchases of investments Purchases of nonutility property	(2,210) (49,592) (16,916)		(2,341) (95,014) (22,006)
Sale of streetlights Other investing activities	21,500 (1,621)		0 (3,524)
Net cash from investing activities	(168,658)		(221,685)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES Issuance of mandatorily redeemable Preferred Securities Issuance of long-term debt Repayment of long-term debt Net change in short-term borrowings Dividends paid Other financing activities	150,000 41,696 (73,343) (98,866) (104,154) (6,786)		0 155,614 (80,730) 92,361 (103,119) (946)
Net cash from financing activities	(91,453)		63,180
NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(5,546)		(3,637)
AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	25,112		28,749
AT END OF PERIOD	\$19,566		\$25,112
CASH PAID DURING THE PERIOD FOR: Interest (net of amount capitalized) Income taxes	\$74,633 \$22,385		\$60,514 \$53,272

KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Three Months March 31	Ended	Twelve Months March 31	s Ended
	1998	1997 (thou	1998 usands)	1997
Net income (loss)	\$ 14,366	\$ (15,132)	\$ 106,058	\$ 68,516
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax: (Note 3) Net unrealized gain (loss) on	2 107	(4.002)	2 441	1 601
securities available for sale	2,187	(4,803)	2,441	1,681
Comprehensive Income (Loss)	16,553	(19,935)	108,499	70,197

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

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF RETAINED EARNINGS

	Three Months Ended March 31		Twelve Months Ended March 31	
	1998 (thousands)	1997	1998	1997
Beginning Balance	\$ 428,452	\$ 455,934	\$ 414,774	\$ 449,377
Net Income (Loss)	14,366	(15, 132)	106,058	68,516
	442,818	440,802	520,832	517,893
Dividends Declared				
Preferred stock - at required rates	1,081	960	3,894	3,772
Common stock	25,059	25,068	100,260	99,347
Ending Balance	\$416,678	\$414,774	\$416,678	\$414,774

Certain Forward-looking Information

Statements made in this report which are not based on historical are forward-looking and, accordingly, involve risks uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed. Any forward-looking statements are intended to be as of the date on which such a statement is made. In connection with the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, we are providing the following important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from provided forward-looking information. These important factors include: (a) the Western Resources Inc. (Western Resources) merger (see Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements); (b) future economic conditions in the regional, national and international markets; (c) state, federal and foreign regulation and possible additional reductions in regulated electric rates; (d) weather conditions; (e) financial conditions, including, but not limited to changes in interest rates; (f) inflation rates; (g) increased competition, including, but not limited to, the deregulation of the United States electric utility industry, and the entry of new competitors; (h) ability to carry out marketing and sales plans; (i) ability to achieve generation planning goals and the occurrence of unplanned generation outages; (j) nuclear operations; (k) ability to enter new markets successfully capitalize on growth opportunities in nonregulated businesses, and (1) adverse changes in applicable laws, regulations or rules governing environmental, tax or accounting matters. This list of factors may not be all inclusive since it is not possible for us to predict all possible factors.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

In management's opinion, the consolidated interim financial statements reflect all adjustments (which include only normal recurring adjustments) necessary to present fairly the results of operations for the interim periods presented. These statements and notes should be read in connection with the financial statements and related notes included in our 1997 annual report on Form 10-K.

1. AMENDED AND RESTATED PLAN OF MERGER WITH WESTERN RESOURCES

Western Resources, Inc. (Western Resources) delivered an unsolicited exchange offer and an amended offer to KCPL's Board of Directors during the second quarter of 1996. After careful consideration, KCPL's Board of Directors rejected both offers. In July 1996 Western Resources commenced an exchange offer for KCPL Common Stock. In late 1996 KCPL began discussing a possible merger with Western Resources leading to a February 7, 1997, agreement.

In December 1997 KCPL canceled its previously scheduled special meeting of shareholders to vote on the transaction because Western Resources advised KCPL that its investment bankers, Salomon Smith Barney, had indicated that it was unlikely that Salomon would be in a position to issue a fairness opinion for the merger transaction on the basis of the February 7, 1997, agreement. During 1997 KCPL incurred and deferred \$7 million of merger-related costs which were expensed in December 1997.

On March 18, 1998, KCPL and Western Resources entered into an Amended and Restated Agreement and Plan of Merger (Amended Agreement). This Amended Agreement provides for the combination of the regulated electric utilities of KCPL and Western Resources into Westar Energy, a new company, using purchase accounting. Westar Energy will be owned approximately 80.1% by Western Resources and approximately 19.9% by KCPL shareholders. At closing, KCPL shareholders will receive for every share of KCPL Common Stock one share of Westar Energy Common Stock and a fraction of a share of Western Resources Common Stock valued at \$23.50 if

the Western Resources Index Price (aggregate of the average high and low sales prices of Western Resources Common Stock over a 20-day trading period ending the tenth trading day prior to closing) is not greater than \$47.00 or less than \$38.28. If Western Resources Index Price is above \$47.00 or below \$38.28, the value of the Western Resources Common Stock to be issued to KCPL shareholders in the merger is subject to a collar and will increase or decrease, respectively. The value per share of Westar Energy Common Stock to be issued to KCPL shareholders in connection with the contemplated transactions is estimated to be in the range of \$10 to \$12 per share based on current market conditions. Since Westar Energy will be a newly formed entity with no trading history, there can be no assurance that Westar Energy will trade at such levels.

The transaction is subject to several closing conditions, including approval by each company's shareholders, approval by a number of regulatory and governmental agencies, confirmation from Kansas tax authorities that no sales or use tax is payable in connection with the proposed transactions and dissenting KCPL common shares constitute less than 5.5% of outstanding shares. If shareholder approval is not received by both companies by August 31, 1998, either party may terminate the Amended Agreement. If the merger has not been closed by December 31, 1999, either party may terminate the Amended Agreement as long as they did not contribute to the delay. If Western Resources Index Price is less than or equal to \$29.78 five trading days prior to closing, either party can terminate this Amended Agreement.

The Amended Agreement allows the KCPL Board discretion to make changes (including increases) in the KCPL Common Stock dividend consistent with past practice exercising good business judgment. also requires KCPL to redeem all outstanding shares of cumulative preferred stock prior to consummation of the proposed transactions. If the Amended Agreement is terminated under certain other circumstances and KCPL, within two and one-half years following termination, agrees to consummate a business combination with a third party that made a proposal to combine prior to termination, a payment of \$50 million will be due Western Resources. Under certain circumstances, if KCPL determines not to consummate its merger into Westar Energy due to its inability to receive a favorable tax opinion from its legal counsel, it must pay Western Resources \$5 million. Western Resources will pay KCPL \$5 million to \$35 million if the Amended Agreement is terminated and all closing conditions are satisfied other than conditions relating to Western Resources receiving a favorable tax opinion from its legal counsel, favorable statutory approvals or an exemption from the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935.

2. CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS - OTHER OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	Three	Months	Twelv	e Months
	Ended		E	inded
	1998	1997	1998	1997
Cash flows affected by changes in:		(thou	ısands)	
Receivables	\$9,838	\$25,895	\$(15,084)	\$9,547
Fuel inventories	(2,177)	1,360	1,716	(697)
Materials and supplies	723	37	1,441	(1,625)
Accounts payable	(17, 263)	(18,873)	3,560	(15, 296)
Accrued taxes	11,954	(7,356)	2,539	(30, 182)
Accrued interest	(1,697)	(1,191)	800	(1,928)
Wolf Creek refueling outage				
accrual	2,595	2,099	(5,021)	8,723
Pension and postretirement				
benefit obligations	(1,549)	(532)	(3,262)	(97)
0ther	2,903	(2,238)	15,513	7,730
Total	\$5,327	\$ (799)	\$2,202	\$(23,825)

3. ACCOUNTING CHANGES

Change in Accounting Estimate

In 1998 KCPL adopted the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Statement of Position (SOP) 98-1 -- Accounting for the Costs of Computer Software Developed or Obtained For Internal Use. KCPL was generally in conformance with this SOP prior to adoption in regards to external direct costs and interest costs incurred in the development of computer software for internal use. This SOP also provides that once the capitalization criteria of the SOP have been met, payroll and payroll-related costs for employees who are directly associated with and who devote time to the internal-use computer software project should be capitalized.

Costs capitalized in accordance with SOP 98-1 will be amortized on a straight-line basis over estimated service lives of 5 to 10 years. The effect of adopting SOP 98-1 for the three-months ended March 31, 1998, is an increase of net income of approximately \$600,000 (\$0.01 per share).

Comprehensive Income (Loss)

In 1998 KCPL adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 130 -- Reporting Comprehensive Income which establishes standards for reporting of comprehensive income and its components.

4. SECURITIES AVAILABLE FOR SALE

Certain investments in equity securities are accounted for as securities available for sale and adjusted to market value with unrealized gains (or losses), net of deferred income taxes, reported as a separate component of comprehensive income and common stock equity.

KLT Inc. (KLT), a wholly-owned subsidiary of KCPL, has a \$5 million investment in CellNet Data Systems, Inc. This investment is held as securities available for sale. Unrealized gains applicable to this investment of \$4.1 million, net of \$2.3 million deferred income taxes, at March 31, 1998, increased from \$1.9 million, net of \$1.1 million deferred income taxes, at December 31, 1997.

5. CAPITALIZATION

KCPL is authorized to issue up to \$300 million in unsecured medium-term notes under an indenture dated December 1, 1996. As of March 31, 1998, no unsecured medium-term notes had been issued.

KCPL Financing I (Trust), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Kansas City Power & Light Company, has previously issued \$150,000,000 of 8.3% preferred securities. The sole asset of the Trust is the \$154,640,000 principal amount of 8.3% Junior Subordinated Deferrable Interest Debentures, due 2037, issued by KCPL.

STATUS OF MERGER

See Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements as to the current status of the merger agreement with Western Resources Inc. (Western Resources) including the Amended and Restated Agreement and Plan of Merger (Amended Merger Agreement) dated March 18, 1998. In December 1996 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a statement concerning electric utility mergers. Under the statement, companies must demonstrate that their merger does not adversely affect competition or wholesale rates. As remedies, FERC may consider a range of conditions including transmission upgrades, divestitures of generating assets or formation of independent system operators.

REGULATION AND COMPETITION

As competition develops throughout the electric utility industry, we are positioning Kansas City Power & Light Company (KCPL) to excel in an open market. We are improving the efficiency of KCPL's core utility operations, lowering prices and offering new services. In particular, value-added services for large energy users can include contracts for natural gas commodities.

Competition in the electric utility industry was accelerated with the National Energy Policy Act of 1992. This Act gives FERC the authority to require electric utilities to provide transmission line access to independent power producers (IPPs) and other utilities (wholesale wheeling). KCPL, already active in the wholesale wheeling market, was one of the first utilities to receive FERC's approval of an open-access tariff for wholesale wheeling transactions. In April 1996 FERC issued an order requiring all owners of transmission facilities to adopt open-access tariffs and participate in wholesale wheeling. We have made the necessary filings to comply with that order.

FERC's April 1996 order has encouraged more movement toward retail competition at the state level. An increasing number of states have already adopted open access requirements for utilities' retail electric service, allowing competing suppliers access to their retail customers (retail wheeling). Many other states are actively considering retail wheeling. In Kansas, the retail wheeling task force has proposed a restructuring bill that would implement retail competition on July 1, 2001. Some of the key points included in the proposed bill are: 1) the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) will determine the amount of under-utilized assets (stranded costs) each utility is allowed to recover and 2) a unit charge per kwh will be assessed to all customers for recovery of competitive transition costs (these costs include stranded costs, other regulatory assets, nuclear decommissioning, etc.). No retail wheeling bill has been passed in the Kansas legislature in 1998. In Missouri, a legislative committee been formed to study the issue. The retail wheeling task force formed by the Missouri Public Service Commission (MPSC) issued its report in May 1998. The report identifies issues and various options for the legislature to address.

Competition through retail wheeling could result in market-based rates below current cost-based rates. This would provide growth opportunities for low-cost producers and risks for higher-cost producers, especially those with large industrial customers. Lower rates and the loss of major customers could result in stranded costs and place an unfair burden on the remaining customer base or shareholders. Testimony filed in the merger case in Kansas for KCPL indicated that stranded costs are approximately \$1 billion. An independent study prepared at the request of the KCC concluded that there are no stranded costs. We cannot predict the extent that stranded costs

will be recoverable in future rates. If an adequate and fair provision for recovery of these lost revenues is not provided, certain generating assets may have to be evaluated for impairment and appropriate charges recorded against earnings. In addition to lower profit margins, market-based rates could also require generating assets to be depreciated over shorter useful lives, increasing operating expenses.

Although Missouri and Kansas have not yet authorized retail wheeling, we believe KCPL is positioned well to compete in an open market with its diverse customer mix and pricing strategies. About 21% of KCPL's retail mwh sales are to industrial customers which is below the utility industry average. KCPL has a flexible rate structure with industrial rates that are competitively priced with other companies in the region. In addition, long-term contracts are in place or under negotiation for a large portion of KCPL's industrial sales. Although there currently is no direct competition for retail electric service within KCPL's service territory, it does exist within the bulk power market, between alternative fuel suppliers and among third-party energy management companies. Third-party energy management companies are seeking to initiate relationships with large users in an attempt to enhance their chances to directly supply electricity if retail wheeling is authorized.

Increased competition could also force utilities to change accounting methods. Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statement No. 71 - Accounting for Certain Types of Regulation, applies to regulated entities whose rates are designed to recover the costs of providing service. An entity's operations could stop meeting the requirements of FASB 71 for various reasons, including a change in regulation or a change in the competitive environment for a company's regulated services. For those operations no longer meeting the requirements of regulatory accounting, regulatory assets would be written off. KCPL's regulatory assets, totaling \$152 million at March 31, 1998, will be maintained as long as FASB 71 requirements are met.

It is possible that competition could eventually have a materially adverse affect on KCPL's results of operations and financial position. Should competition eventually result in a significant charge to equity, capital costs and requirements could increase significantly.

NONREGULATED OPPORTUNITIES

KLT Inc. (KLT) is a wholly-owned subsidiary pursuing nonregulated business ventures. Existing ventures include investments in domestic and international nonregulated power production, energy services, oil and gas development and production, telecommunications, telemetry technology and affordable housing limited partnerships.

KCPL had a total equity investment in KLT of \$119 million as of March 31, 1998, and KLT's net income for the three-month period ended March 31, 1998, totaled \$4.1 million. KLT's consolidated assets at March 31, 1998, totaled \$351 million. The growth of KLT accounts for most of the increase in KCPL's consolidated investments and nonutility property.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Three-month three months ended March 31, 1998, compared period: with three months ended March 31, 1997

Twelve-month twelve months ended March 31, 1998, compared period: with twelve months ended March 31, 1997

EARNINGS OVERVIEW

Earnings Per Share (EPS) For the Periods Ended March 31

Increase(decrease) Merger excluding Merger Expenses 1998 1997 Increase Expenses Three months \$0.22 \$(0.26) \$0.48 \$0.43 \$ 0.05 ended Twelve months \$1.65 \$ 1.05 \$0.60 \$0.67 \$(0.07)ended

EPS for the three-month period excluding merger expenses increased primarily due to increased subsidiary income \$0.04, reduced cost of fuel \$0.02, increased bulk power sales and continued load growth. Partially offsetting these increases were the effects on EPS of implementing rate reductions approved by the KCC effective January 1, 1998, (\$0.03), increased interest expense related to the mandatorily redeemable preferred securities (\$0.03) and milder weather.

EPS for the twelve-month period excluding merger expenses decreased due to the implementation of rate reductions approved by the KCC (\$0.03), the effect of the rate reductions approved by the MPSC (\$0.06), increased interest expense related to the mandatorily redeemable preferred securities (\$0.12) and increased depreciation expense (\$0.05). Partially offsetting these decreases are the effects on EPS of an increase in subsidiary income \$0.14, a decrease in amortization expense \$0.09 and continued load growth.

Merger expenses for the three-months ended March 31, 1998, were \$5.3 million (\$0.09 per share). During the three-months ended March 31, 1997, KCPL paid \$53 million (\$0.52 per share) to UtiliCorp United Inc. (UtiliCorp) for terminating the merger agreement with UtiliCorp and announcing an agreement to combine with Western Resources. Merger expenses for the twelve-months ended March 31, 1998, reduced EPS by \$0.16. For the twelve-months ended March 31, 1997, merger expenses reduced EPS by \$0.83 which includes \$0.52 for the UtiliCorp payment and \$0.31 for other merger expenses.

Sales and revenue data:

	Mar	ch			riods En ersus Ma		31, 1997	7
	Th	ree	e Moi	nths	Twel	ve Mon	iths	•
	Mwl	า	Reve	enues	Mwh			
		- (re	veni	ie chan	ge in m			
Retail:		(90		,	
Residential	1	%	\$	1	5 %			
Commercial	3	%		2	5 %		10	
Industrial	1	%			(3)%			
0ther		%		(2)	2 %		(̇̀5)	
Kansas rate				` ,			` '	
refund accrual				(3)			(3)	
Total Retail	2	%		(2)	3 %		14	
Sales for resale:				` ,				
Bulk power sales	13	%		3	(22)%		(12)	
Other	8			_	14 %		` 1	
Total				1			3	
Other revenues				_			2	
Total electric								
Operating Revenues			\$	1		\$	5	
- 1 · - · - · · · · · · · · · · · · ·								

The KCC approved a settlement agreement, effective January, 1, 1998, authorizing a \$14.2 million revenue reduction and an increase in depreciation expense of \$2.8 million. When the KCC approves a new rate design, which is anticipated near year-end 1998, KCPL will refund the portion of the \$14.2 million that has accrued between January 1, 1998 and the implementation date of the new rate design. Recorded revenues for the three- and twelve-month periods are reduced by about \$3 million as a result of an accrual for this rate refund.

During 1996 the MPSC approved a stipulation and agreement authorizing a \$20 million revenue reduction in two phases and an increase in depreciation and amortization expense by \$9 million per year. The decrease in revenues for the twelve-month period as a result of this stipulation and agreement was about \$6 million.

These rate reductions, combined with seasonally lower retail sales in March 1998 versus December 1997, resulted in a lower accounts receivable balance at March 31, 1998, compared with December 31, 1997.

Even though weather was milder for the three-month period, retail mwh sales increased due to load growth. Load growth consists of higher usage-per-customer as well as the addition of new customers.

Retail mwh sales for the current twelve-month period increased 3% while retail revenues increased 2%. The MPSC and KCC rate reductions discussed above decreased revenues for the twelve-month period while retail mwh sales increased due to continued load growth.

KCPL has long-term sales contracts with certain major industrial customers. These contracts are tailored to meet customers' needs in exchange for their long-term commitment to purchase energy. Long-term contracts are in place or under negotiation for a large portion of KCPL's industrial sales.

Bulk power sales vary with system requirements, generating unit and purchased power availability, fuel costs and the requirements of other electric systems. Outages at the LaCygne 1 and 2 generating units in the second quarter of 1997 and the extended 1997 Wolf Creek outage contributed to lower bulk power mwh sales in the current twelvementh period.

Total revenue per mwh sold varies with changes in rate tariffs, the mix of mwh sales among customer classifications and the effect of declining price per mwh as usage increases. An automatic fuel adjustment provision is only included in sales for resale tariffs, which apply to less than 1% of revenues.

Future mwh sales and revenues per mwh will also be affected by national and local economies, weather and customer conservation efforts. Competition, including alternative sources of energy such as natural gas, co-generation, IPPs and other electric utilities, may also affect future sales and revenue.

FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER

Combined fuel and purchased power expenses for the three-month period decreased by 5% while total mwh sales (total of retail and sales for resale) increased by 5%. This difference is largely attributable to increased generation from LaCygne II, a low-cost, coalfired generating unit that was not available during February and March 1997 because of a planned outage. Purchased power decreased primarily because of this additional generation. The cost per kwh for purchased power is significantly higher than the cost per kwh of generation.

Combined fuel and purchased power expenses for the twelve-month period decreased 1% while total mwh sales decreased 3%. This difference is largely due to increased purchased power expenses and a higher percentage of coal burned in the fuel mix.

Nuclear fuel costs per MMBTU remain substantially less than the MMBTU price of coal. Nuclear fuel costs per MMBTU decreased 2% for the twelve-month period. Nuclear fuel costs per MMBTU averaged 61% of the MMBTU price of coal for the current and prior twelve-month periods. We expect the current relationship and the price of nuclear fuel to remain fairly constant through the year 2001. During the current twelve-month period fossil plants represented about 75% of generation and the nuclear plant about 25%. For the prior twelve-month period, fossil plants represented about 72% of generation and the nuclear plant about 28%.

The price of coal burned declined by 2% for the twelve-month period. KCPL's coal procurement strategies continue to provide coal costs below the regional average. We expect the cost of coal per MMBTU to remain fairly constant through 2001.

OTHER OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES

Combined other operation and maintenance expenses for the threeand twelve-month periods increased due largely to increases in other power supply expenses and annual employee salary increases. The twelve-month period also reflects increases in customer accounts expenses and Wolf Creek non-fuel operations. We continue to emphasize new technologies, improved work methodology and cost control. We are improving system processes to provide increased efficiencies and improved operations. Through the use of cellular technology, a majority of customer meters are read automatically.

DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION

The increase in depreciation expense for the three- and twelvemonth periods reflects the implementation of the KCC settlement agreement, the continued impact of the MPSC stipulation and agreement and normal increases in depreciation from capital additions. The KCC settlement agreement authorized an annual increase in depreciation expense of \$2.8 million. The MPSC stipulation and agreement authorized a \$9 million annual increase in depreciation expense.

INCOME TAXES

Operating income taxes for the twelve-month period increased by approximately \$8 million as the prior twelve-month period reflected adjustments for the filing of the 1995 tax returns and the settlement with the Internal Revenue Service regarding tax issues included in the 1985 through 1990 tax returns.

OTHER INCOME AND (DEDUCTIONS)

Miscellaneous Income

Miscellaneous income for the three- and twelve-month periods includes increased revenues from non-utility and subsidiary operations. Dividends on the investment in a fossil-fuel generator in Argentina, revenues from a subsidiary in which KLT obtained a controlling interest during 1997 and increased revenues from oil and gas exploration contributed to the increase in miscellaneous income from subsidiary operations.

Miscellaneous Deductions

Miscellaneous deductions for the three- and twelve-month periods decreased primarily due to the \$53 million payment to UtiliCorp in the prior periods. During the three-months ended March 31, 1998, \$5 million of merger expenses were incurred related to the Amended Merger Agreement with Western Resources. In addition, the twelve-months ended March 31, 1998, includes \$7 million of merger expenses related to the original merger agreement with Western Resources. In addition to the \$53 million payment to UtiliCorp, the prior twelve-month period included \$31 million in other merger costs. These costs consist of \$13 million in previously deferred merger costs expensed as a result of terminating the merger agreement with UtiliCorp, a \$5 million termination fee paid upon termination, and \$13 million in costs to defend against Western Resources' unsolicited exchange offer.

Both periods also reflect increased non-utility expenses and subsidiary operating costs. Increased gas operations and inclusion of three small companies in which KLT obtained controlling interests during 1997 are the primary activities that contributed to the increased subsidiary expenses.

Income Taxes

Income taxes for the three- and twelve-month periods reflect the tax impact of the excess of miscellaneous deductions over miscellaneous income. Additionally, during the first quarter of both 1998 and 1997 we accrued tax credits of \$6 million, or one-fourth of the total expected annual credits, related to affordable housing partnership investments and oil and

gas investments. Non-taxable increases in the cash surrender value of corporate-owned life insurance contracts and certain non-deductible expenses also affected the relationship between miscellaneous deductions and income taxes.

INTEREST CHARGES

The increase in long-term debt interest expense for the threeand twelve-month periods reflects higher average levels of long-term debt outstanding. The higher average levels of debt resulted mainly from increased KLT debt to support expanding subsidiary operations.

The increase in miscellaneous interest charges for the three- and twelve-month periods is primarily due to interest charges incurred on the \$150 million of 8.3% preferred securities.

We use interest rate swap and cap agreements to limit the interest expense on a portion of KCPL's variable-rate long-term debt. We do not use derivative financial instruments for trading or other speculative purposes. These agreements are an integral part of KCPL's interest rate management. The effect of these agreements on interest expense and cash flows is not significant.

WOLF CREEK

Wolf Creek is one of KCPL's principal generating units representing about 16% of its accredited generating capacity. The plant's operating performance has remained strong, contributing about 27% of the annual mwh generation while operating at an average capacity of 88% over the last three years. It has the lowest fuel cost per MMBTU of any of KCPL's generating units.

The incremental operating, maintenance and replacement power costs for planned outages are accrued evenly over the unit's operating cycle, normally 18 months. As actual outage expenses are incurred, the refueling liability and related deferred tax asset are reduced.

Wolf Creek's ninth refueling and maintenance outage, budgeted for 35 days, began in early October 1997 and was completed in December 1997 (58 days). The extended length of the ninth outage was caused by several equipment problems. The extended length of the outage was the primary reason for a \$6 million increase in Wolf Creek related replacement power and operating and maintenance expenses for the twelve-month period. Wolf Creek's tenth refueling and maintenance outage is scheduled for the spring of 1999 and is estimated to be a 40 day outage.

Currently, no major equipment replacements are expected. An extended shut-down of Wolf Creek could have a substantial adverse effect on KCPL's business, financial condition and results of operations. Higher replacement power and other costs would be incurred as a result. Although not expected, an unscheduled plant shut-down could be caused by actions of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission reacting to safety concerns at the plant or other similar nuclear units. If a long-term shut-down occurred, the state regulatory commissions could consider reducing rates by excluding the Wolf Creek investment from rate base.

Ownership and operation of a nuclear generating unit exposes KCPL to risks regarding the cost of decommissioning the unit at the end of its life and to potential retrospective assessments and property losses in excess of insurance coverage.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

KCPL's policy is to act in an environmentally responsible manner and use the latest technology available to avoid and treat contamination. We continually conduct environmental audits designed to ensure compliance with governmental regulations and detect contamination. However, these regulations are constantly evolving; governmental bodies may impose additional or more rigid environmental regulations that could require substantial changes to operations or facilities.

The Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 contain two programs significantly affecting the utility industry. KCPL has spent about \$5 million for the installation of continuous emission monitoring equipment to satisfy the requirements under the acid rain provision. The other utility-related program calls for a study of certain air toxic substances. Based on the outcome of this study, regulation of these substances, including mercury, could be required. We cannot predict the likelihood of any such regulations or compliance costs.

In July 1997 the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published new air quality standards for ozone and particulate matter. Additional regulations implementing these new standards are expected to be finalized in 1998. Without the implementation regulations, the real impact of the standards on KCPL cannot be determined. However, the impact on KCPL and other utilities who use fossil fuels could be substantial. Under the new fine particulate regulations the EPA will begin a five-year study of fine particulate emissions. Until this testing and review period has been completed, KCPL cannot determine additional compliance costs, if any, associated with the new particulate regulations.

In 1997 the EPA also issued new proposed regulations on reducing Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) emissions. Under the new regulations 22 states, including Missouri but not Kansas, would be required to develop plans to reduce NOx emissions. The new limits would go into effect in either 2002 or 2004. The cost of equipment to reduce NOx emissions could be substantial, however, until regulations are finalized the associated costs to KCPL cannot be determined.

At a December 1997 meeting in Kyoto, Japan, the Clinton Administration supported changes to the International Global Climate Change treaty which would require a seven percent reduction in United States Carbon Dioxide (CO2) emissions below 1990 levels. President Clinton has stated that this change in the treaty will not be submitted to the U.S. Senate at this time where ratification is uncertain. If future national restrictions on electric utility CO2 emissions are eventually required, the financial impact upon KCPL could be substantial.

IMPACT OF THE YEAR 2000 ISSUE

The Year 2000 Issue is the result of computer programs using two digits instead of four digits to define the applicable year. Computer programs with date-sensitive software may recognize a date using "00" as the year 1900 rather than the year 2000. This could result in a system failure or miscalculations causing disruptions of operations.

Through ongoing assessment of the Year 2000 Issue, we have determined that it is necessary to modify or replace some of KCPL's internal software so that its computer systems will properly utilize dates beyond December 31, 1999. We believe that with the planned modifications and conversions of KCPL's software, the Year 2000 Issue can be mitigated. We will utilize both internal and external resources to address the Year 2000 Issue.

For the past several years, we have been incurring capitalizable costs to replace older systems with new and innovative technologies that place us in a stronger competitive position for the future. As a result, the cost of the Year 2000 project has been lessened. The costs of modifications and replacements identified in the Year 2000 project are being expensed as incurred and are not material to KCPL's results of operations. However, there is no guarantee that current cost estimates of the Year 2000 project will not be exceeded. Specific factors that might cause costs to exceed estimates include, but are not limited to, the availability and cost of appropriately trained personnel, the ability to locate and correct all relevant computer codes, and similar uncertainties.

We have initiated formal communications with all of KCPL's large suppliers and customers to evaluate KCPL's vulnerability to those third parties' failure to remediate their own Year 2000 Issue. However, there is no guarantee that third party systems on which KCPL's systems rely will be timely converted, or that a failure to convert, or a conversion that is incompatible with KCPL's systems, would not have a material adverse effect on KCPL.

CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS AND LIQUIDITY

As of April 1, 1998, the liquid resources of KCPL included cash flows from operations; \$300 million of registered but unissued, unsecured medium-term notes; \$150 million of registered but unissued, preferred securities and \$314 million of unused bank lines of credit. The unused lines consisted of KCPL's short-term bank lines of credit of \$271 million and KLT's long-term revolving line of credit of \$43 million. Cash and cash equivalents decreased by \$55 million from December 31, 1997 to March 31, 1998, primarily due to redeeming \$51 million of maturing long-term debt and paying dividends.

KCPL continues to generate positive cash flows from operating activities although individual components of working capital items will vary with normal business cycles and operations including the timing of receipts and payments. The timing of the Wolf Creek outage affects the refueling outage accrual, deferred income taxes and amortization of nuclear fuel.

The increase in accrued taxes from December 31, 1997, to March 31, 1998, mainly reflects the timing of income tax and property tax payments.

Coal inventory levels at the end of April 1998 continue to be about 75% of targeted levels, due mainly to poor railroad delivery performance. Such railroad related problems are expected to continue at least through the end of 1998. We are continuing to work with KCPL's rail carriers to ensure an adequate coal supply and allow recovery to targeted coal inventory levels.

Cash used in investing activities varies with the timing of utility capital expenditures and KLT's purchases of investments and nonutility properties. KLT closed several large investments during the first three months of 1997. Additionally, the current twelvementh period reflects \$21.5 million of proceeds from the sale of streetlights to the City of Kansas City, Missouri at a minimal gain.

Cash used for financing activities increased for the twelve-month period primarily due to repayment of long- and short-term debt. In April 1997, KCPL Financing I, a wholly-owned subsidiary of KCPL, issued \$150 million of preferred securities, which was used in part for these repayments. Additionally, in the prior twelve-month period long- and short-term borrowings increased to finance KCPL's \$53 million payment to UtiliCorp as well as additional purchases of investments and nonutility properties by KLT.

KCPL's common dividend payout ratio was 98% for the current twelve-month period and 153% for the prior twelve-month period compared to 80% for the twelve-month period ended March 31, 1996. The increase in the payout ratios is due mainly to the reduction in earnings because of the significant merger-related expenses in both twelve-month periods.

We expect to meet day-to-day operations, utility construction requirements and dividends with internally-generated funds. Uncertainties affecting KCPL's ability to meet these requirements with internally-generated funds include the effect of inflation on operating expenses, the level of mwh sales, regulatory actions, compliance with future environmental regulations and the availability of generating units. The funds needed for the retirement of \$414 million of maturing debt through the year 2002 will be provided from operations, refinancings or short-term debt. KCPL might issue additional debt and/or additional equity to finance growth or take advantage of new opportunities.

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

STATE OF MISSOURI EX REL. INTER-CITY BEVERAGE CO., INC., ET. AL VS. THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, ET. AL; AND JEWISH COMMUNITY CAMPUS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY, INC. VS. KANSAS STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION, ET. AL.

On August 13, 1993, a lawsuit was filed by nine customers, including Inter-City Beverage Co., Inc., in the Circuit Court of Jackson County, Missouri against KCPL. The suit alleged the misapplication of certain of KCPL's electric rate tariffs resulting in overcharges to industrial and commercial customers which had been provided service under those tariffs and requested certification as a class action. On December 3, 1993, the Court dismissed the matter for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. Plaintiffs appealed to the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District. The Court of Appeals upheld the dismissal. Plaintiffs then filed a motion to transfer the case with the Missouri Supreme Court. The motion was denied.

Plaintiffs then took their claims to the state commissions filing complaints at the MPSC on August 23, 1995, and at the KCC on August 30, 1995, on behalf of Jewish Community Campus, the only Kansas plaintiff. The MPSC complaint was dismissed May 1, 1996. The Cole County, Missouri Circuit Court affirmed the dismissal on January 29, 1997, and the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District, affirmed the dismissal on April 21, 1998. Appellant has until May 6, 1998, to file an application for transfer to the Missouri Supreme Court.

The KCC complaint was dismissed April 9, 1996. The Johnson County, Kansas District Court affirmed the dismissal on February 4, 1997. The Plaintiff filed a Notice of Appeal to the Kansas Court of Appeals on March 3, 1997. Plaintiff's Initial Brief was filed with the Court of Appeals on May 27, 1997. The briefs of KCPL and the KCC were filed on June 30, 1997. Plaintiff's Reply Brief was filed July 15, 1997.

Should the proceedings before the MPSC and KCC be overturned by the state courts, KCPL could be required to refund the alleged overcharges. KCPL believes it will be able to successfully defend these actions.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 12 Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges

Exhibit 27 Financial Data Schedule (for the three months ended March 31, 1998)

REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

A report on Form 8-K was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 6, 1998, with attached copy of a press release issued jointly by KCPL and Western Resources, Inc. announcing postponement of their respective January 21, 1998, special meetings of shareholders.

A report on Form 8-K was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 23, 1998, with attached press release and copy of Amended and Restated Agreement and Plan of Merger by and among Western Resources, Inc., Kansas Gas and Electric Company, NKC, Inc., and Kansas City Power & Light Company, dated as of February 7, 1997, and as amended and restated March 18, 1998.

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 thereunto duly authorized.

KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

Dated: May 5, 1998 By: /s/Drue Jennings

(Drue Jennings)

(Chief Executive Officer)

Dated: May 5, 1998 By: /s/Neil Roadman

(Neil Roadman)

(Principal Accounting Officer)

COMPUTATION OF RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

	12 Months Ended March 31 1998	1997	1996 (Thousands)	1995	1994
Net income	\$106,058	\$76,560	\$108,171	\$122,586	\$104,775
Add:					
Taxes on income	28,272	8,079	31,753	66,803	66,377
Kansas City earnings tax	587	392	558	958	524
Total taxes on income	28,859	8,471	32,311	67,761	66,901
Interest on value of					
leased property	7,816	8,309	8,301	8,269	6,732
Interest on long-term debt	60,721	60, 298	53,939	52,184	43, 962
Interest on short-term debt	634	1,382	1, 251	1, 189	1,170
Other interest expense		,	,	•	,
and amortization	16,158	12,843	4,840	3,112	4,128
Total fixed charges	85,329	82,832	68,331	64,754	55,992
Earnings before taxes on income and fixed					
charges	\$220,246	\$167,863	\$208,813	\$255,101	\$227,668
Ratio of earnings to					
fixed charges	2.58	2.03	3.06	3.94	4.07

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                 Mar-31-1998
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