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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

Amendment No. 53 to

SCHEDULE 14D-9

Solicitation/Recommendation Statement Pursuant to  
Section 14(d)(4) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY  
(Name of Subject Company)

KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY  
(Name of Person Filing Statement)

Common Stock, no par value  
(Title of Class of Securities)

485134100  
(CUSIP Number of Class of Securities)

Jeanie Sell Latz, Esq.  
Senior Vice President-Corporate Services  
Kansas City Power & Light Company  
1201 Walnut  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2124  
(816) 556-2200  
(Name, address and telephone number of person authorized  
to receive notice and communications on behalf  
of the person filing statement)

Copy to:

Nancy A. Lieberman, Esq.  
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom  
919 Third Avenue  
New York, New York 10022  
(212) 735-3000

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This statement amends and supplements the Solicitation/Recommendation Statement on Schedule 14D-9 of Kansas City Power & Light Company, a Missouri corporation ("KCPL"), filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") on July 9, 1996, as amended, (the "Schedule 14D-9"), with respect to the exchange offer made by Western Resources, Inc., a Kansas corporation ("Western Resources"), to exchange Western Resources common stock, par value \$5.00 per share, for all of the outstanding shares of KCPL common stock, no par value ("KCPL Common Stock"), on the terms and conditions set forth in the prospectus of Western Resources dated July 3, 1996 and the related Letter of Transmittal.

Capitalized terms used and not defined herein shall have the meanings assigned to such terms in the Schedule 14D-9.

Item 9. Material to be Filed as Exhibits.

The following Exhibit is filed herewith:

Exhibit 132 Press release jointly issued by KCPL and  
Western Resources on February 6, 1997.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of her knowledge and belief, the undersigned certifies that the information set

forth in this Statement is true, complete and correct.

KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

By: /s/ Jeanie Sell Latz  
Jeanie Sell Latz  
Senior Vice President-Corporate

Services

Dated: February 6, 1997

EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit No. | Description   | Page |
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| Exhibit 132 | Press release jointly issued by KCPL and Western Resources on February 6, 1997. |      |

|  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| Media Contacts:                            | Media Contact:           |
| Pam Levetzow (816) 556-2926<br>575-1927    | Michel' J. Philipp (913) |
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|                                    |                        |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Investor Contact:                  | Investor Contact:      |
| David Myers (816) 556-2312<br>8226 | Rick Kready (913) 575- |

JOINT NEWS RELEASE

KCPL, WESTERN RESOURCES  
CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS  
TENDER OFFER EXTENDED TO FEBRUARY 7

KANSAS CITY, Missouri, and TOPEKA, Kansas, February 6, 1997  
(7 a.m.. CST) -- Kansas City Power & Light Company (NYSE: KLT)  
and Western Resources, Inc. (NYSE:WR) said today that substantive  
merger negotiations are continuing between the two companies.

As a result of the positive dialogue between the companies  
and the complexity of negotiations, Western Resources is  
extending the expiration date of its tender offer to 5 p.m. EST  
February 7, 1997.

As of 5 p.m. EST February 5, 1997, 30.3 million shares of  
KCPL (or approximately 49 percent of the total outstanding  
shares) had been tendered to Western Resources.