SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

Amendment No. 51 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

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 7. CERTAIN NEGOTIATIONS AND TRANSACTIONS BY THE SUBJECT COMPANY.

Item 7 is hereby amended and supplemented to add the following:

KCPL has agreed to conduct merger negotiations with Western Resources until January 15, 1997. There can be no assurance that such negotiations will result in any transaction being recommended, authorized or consummated. KCPL will not be commenting further on such negotiations unless there is a material development.

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: December 16, 1996