

FORM 8-K

Current Report

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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported):  
January 6, 1998 (December 19, 1997)

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

1-707  
(Commission file number)

MISSOURI  
(State of other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

44-0308720  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

1201 Walnut  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106  
(Address of principal executive offices)

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

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

ITEM 5. OTHER EVENTS

Attached is a press release issued by the Company postponing  
its Special Meeting of Shareholders.

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

(c) Exhibit  
Number

99. Press Release, dated December 19, 1997,  
issued jointly by Kansas City Power & Light Company and  
Western Resources, Inc.

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.

KANSAS CITY POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

/s/Jeanie Sell Latz  
Jeanie Sell Latz  
Senior Vice President-Corporate Services

Date: January 6, 1998



[Western Resources(R) Logo]

[KCPL(R) Logo]

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KCPL:

MEDIA CONTACT:  
Phyllis Desbien  
816 / 556-2903

INVESTOR CONTACT:  
Andrea Bielsker  
816 / 556-2312

Joele Frank/Dan Katcher  
The Abernathy MacGregor Group Inc.  
212 / 371-5999

WESTERN RESOURCES:

MEDIA CONTACT:  
Robin Lampe  
785 / 575-6468

INVESTOR CONTACT:  
Bruce Burns  
785 / 575-8227

WESTERN RESOURCES AND KCPL POSTPONE  
SPECIAL MEETINGS OF SHAREHOLDERS

TOPEKA, KANSAS AND KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI (DECEMBER 19, 1997) -- Western Resources, Inc. (NYSE: WR) and Kansas City Power & Light Company (KCPL) (NYSE: KLT) announced today that they have postponed their respective special meetings of shareholders to vote on their Merger Agreement previously scheduled for January 21, 1998.

The Companies stated that representatives of Salomon Smith Barney, Western Resources' investment bankers, had indicated that they believe it is unlikely that Salomon would be in a position to issue a fairness opinion for the Western Resources/KCPL transaction on the basis of the previously announced terms for the transaction if the fairness to shareholders of Western Resources were formally submitted to the fairness committee of Salomon. A fairness opinion of Salomon is a condition to the mailing of proxy materials to shareholders of Western Resources. KCPL's investment bankers, Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc., have met with Salomon representatives to discuss the reasons for Salomon's position.

Both KCPL and Western Resources issued the following statement regarding the status of the proposed transaction:

"We are prepared to meet in good faith to discuss the matter, and we pledge to use our best efforts to work together constructively to resolve the matter on a basis that is fair to the shareholders of both companies."

The companies emphasized that it is impossible to predict the outcome of these efforts at the present time.

Kansas City Power & Light Company provides electric power to a growing and diversified service territory encompassing metropolitan Kansas City and parts of eastern Kansas and western Missouri. KCPL is a low-cost producer and leader in fuel procurement and plant technology. KLT Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of KCPL, pursues opportunities in non-regulated, primarily energy-related ventures. For more information about KCPL, visit <http://www.kcpl.com>.

Western Resources (NYSE: WR) is a full-service, diversified security and energy company with total assets of almost \$7 billion. Its utilities, KPL and KGE, operating in Kansas and Oklahoma, provide natural gas service to approximately 650,000 customers and electric service to approximately 600,000 customers. Western Resources, through its subsidiary, Westar Security, also is the third largest monitored security provider in the country, operating in 46 states in the U.S. Through its other subsidiaries, Westar Energy, Westar Capital and The Wing Group, a full range of energy and energy-related products and services are developed and marketed in the continental U.S. and

offshore. For more information about Western Resources and its operating companies, visit us on the Internet at <http://www.wstnres.com>.

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