Testimony on House HB2084 before the Senate Utilities Committee on Wednesday, March 2, 2005

Presented by Sandy Braden, Gaches, Braden, Barbee and Associates on behalf of Kansas City Power & Light

Chairman Emler and Members of the Committee:

My name is Sandy Braden, of Gaches, Braden, Barbee and Associates. I am representing Great Plains/Kansas City Power and Light. Kansas City Power and Light provides electricity to over 490,000 customers in 24 counties in the Kansas City metropolitan area.

KCPL supports the overall intent of this bill which would help Kansas meet the future energy needs of the state by including a combination of energy efficiency and conservation programs.

KCPL also believes that the KCC already has the authority to set rates allowing for recovery of prudently incurred costs as well as allowing for a return on investment in an increment above the rate of return as indicated in 66-117(e). KCPL believes conservation and energy efficiency are important components of resource plans, and Kansas utilities should work with the KCC to ensure both the efficacy of the overall plans, and the recovery of the costs associated with the plans. Thus, KCPL wants to ensure that this act does not preclude the state corporation commission and the utility from entering into mutually agreeable alternative agreements for recovery of the expenses of these programs.

KCPL supports energy efficiency and conservation programs as part of a comprehensive overall resource plan. KCPL has been working with numerous parties to develop a comprehensive plan to secure electric resources for the future. The plan, as proposed, considers efficiency and conservation programs, demand response programs, environmental impacts, wind energy, and coal-fired generation. KCPL believes that this approach-collaboration with the appropriate stakeholders--is the best way to consider the future energy needs of this state.

Thank you for your time and I would be glad to answer any questions from the Committee. I also have included a suggested amendment for your consideration.

Presented by Sandra Braden Gaches, Braden, Barbee and Associates 825 S. Kansas Suite 500 Topeka, Kansas 66612

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