

Great Plains Energy and KCP&L announce executive appointments

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Great Plains Energy Incorporated (NYSE: GXP) and Kansas City Power & Light Company (KCP&L) announced that Scott Heidtbrink, senior vice president - Supply, has been appointed executive vice president and chief operating officer of KCP&L and KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations.

Heidtbrink replaces Terry Bassham, who was recently named president and chief executive officer to succeed Michael J. Chesser following his retirement, effective June 1, 2012. In his new role, Heidtbrink will have management responsibility for all utility operations, including Generation, Transmission and Delivery Operations, Customer Service and Supply Chain.

The companies also announced today that Michael Deggendorf, senior vice president - Delivery, has been named senior vice president - Corporate Services. Deggendorf will oversee the company's new transmission partnership - Transource Energy LLC (Transource), its construction organization including the \$1.2 billion environmental retrofit project at La Cygne generating station and the company's corporate safety and facilities departments.

In addition, Kevin Noblet, senior director of renewables and gas generation, was promoted to vice president - Generation, where he will be responsible for the company's generation strategy, including the long-term planning and financial performance of the Generation division, supply resources and generation engineering.

"The appointments of these individuals reflect the Board's commitment to a strong and dynamic management team," said Mike Chesser, chairman and chief executive officer of Great Plains Energy. "Today's announcements are a reflection of the contributions these individuals have made to our company and the community and we are confident in their continued success at KCP&L."

Heidtbrink is a 25-year energy-industry veteran currently responsible for KCP&L's power generation operations. Heidtbrink joined KCP&L in 2008 as a result of the acquisition of Aquila. Prior to joining KCP&L, he served as vice president, Power Generation and Energy Resources, at Aquila. He joined Aquila in 1987 as a field engineer and held various gas and electric distribution positions in operations engineering and field and customer operations, achieving promotions to state president, general manager and vice president levels. He also led the development of Six Sigma into Aquila's utility operations.

"Scott is a tremendous asset to the company. His extensive operational experience and demonstrated sound judgment made him the ideal candidate for this role," said Bassham. "Scott's oversight of the generation fleet and its resulting improved performance and the successful start-up of Iatan 2, KCP&L's new 850 MW coal-fired generation facility, are stand-out achievements that demonstrate his leadership abilities."

Heidtbrink received a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Kansas State University, is a graduate of the Advanced Management Program at Harvard University and is a certified Six Sigma Black Belt.

Deggendorf has more than 28 years of experience in the energy and telecommunications industries and has held positions ranging from operations and marketing to regulatory and governmental affairs. Most recently, he successfully led KCP&L's Delivery division.

"Mike was instrumental in the establishment of the Company's new transmission joint venture, Transource, and our innovative SmartGrid demonstration project. His leadership and project management skills, knowledge of the industry and community involvement will serve the company well in his new role," said Bassham.

Deggendorf holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Iowa State University and is a graduate of the Advanced Management Program at Harvard University.

Noblet joined KCP&L in 2008 as part of the Aquila acquisition and is currently responsible for directing the company's gas and renewable generation fleet. Prior experience includes risk management, contract negotiation, sales and marketing, project management and supply engineering, safety and construction.

"At KCP&L we strive to create a balanced management team comprised of strong leadership," said Bassham. "Kevin's knowledge of the energy industry, coupled with his engineering background, operations experience and financial acumen position him well for his new role as vice president of Generation."

Noblet holds a Bachelor of Arts in Physics from William Jewell College, a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri and Master's of Business Administration from the University of Kansas.

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