

CLEANER AIR COMING TO MISSOURI COMMUNITIES AS KCP&L ANNOUNCES PLANS TO PHASE OUT COAL

Sierra Club Applauds KCP&L's Move Away from Coal; Will Continue Push For More Clean Energy

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KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Today, ahead of the first stakeholder conference call regarding its 2015 Integrated Resource Plan filing for Missouri, Kansas City Power & Light Company (KCP&L) announced plans to stop burning coal at three of its coal-fired power plants. KCP&L will phase out the entire Montrose coal plant in Clinton by 2021, one of its coal-fired units at the Lake Road coal plant in St. Joseph by 2016 and two of its coal-fired units at the Sibley coal plant in Sibley by 2019.

KCP&L described its move away from coal as the most cost-effective and clean path forward for customers and reported that all jobs will be retained in its transition plan. The Company also predicts its recent investments in efficiency and wind energy will save customers \$1 billion over the next 20 years.

"KCP&L's transition away from coal and embrace of clean energy is the absolute best path forward for its customers and for clean air," said **Holly Bender, Deputy Director of the Sierra Club Beyond Coal campaign**. "KCP&L is leading Missouri's utility sector in its commitment to innovation and steady progress on clean energy. In the process, it is helping to turn Kansas City into a hub of job-creating, clean-tech business development."

Clean energy jobs are growing in Missouri, with nearly 70 manufacturing and installation companies in the solar industry alone. According to the Solar Foundation's 2013 Solar Job Census, Missouri is ranked 12th in the nation with 2,800 Missourians currently working in the solar field. Sungevity, a solar company based in Sacramento, will increase that number by nearly 600 over the next five years due to its recently-announced expansion in Kansas City, Mo.

In August 2013, Sierra Club sent a notice of intent to sue KCP&L for more than 8,000 Clean Air Act violations at the company's coal-fired power plants, alleging particulate pollution at levels that exceed clean air safeguards. Sierra Club and KCP&L have been engaged in productive

discussions around how to resolve the violations. The end of coal burning is an important step toward that resolution.

“We strongly support KCP&L’s announcement today, and its commitment to clean energy growth as a prudent business decision that will bring significant environmental and economic benefits to Missouri,” said **Bender**.

With KCP&L's announcement, there has now been - in the past year - 1,922 MW of coal retired or committed to retire by 2022 in Missouri. This will cut more than 10 million metric tons of carbon emissions.

The announcement of the phase out of KCP&L’s Montrose coal plant represents the 184th coal plant to retire or announce retirement since 2010, cutting over 288 million metric tons of carbon emissions, the equivalent of 61 million passenger vehicles.

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