WESTAR ENERGY INC /KS Form 425 August 05, 2016

SECOND QUARTER 2016 BUSINESS UPDATE AND EARNINGS REVIEW August 5, 2016 Presented by: Terry Bassham Chairman, President and CEO Kevin Bryant SVP Finance & Strategy and CFO OUR FUTURE FOCUS Filed by Great Plains Energy Incorporated and deemed filed pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Securities Act of 1934

Subject Company: Westar Energy, Inc. Commission File No. 1-3523

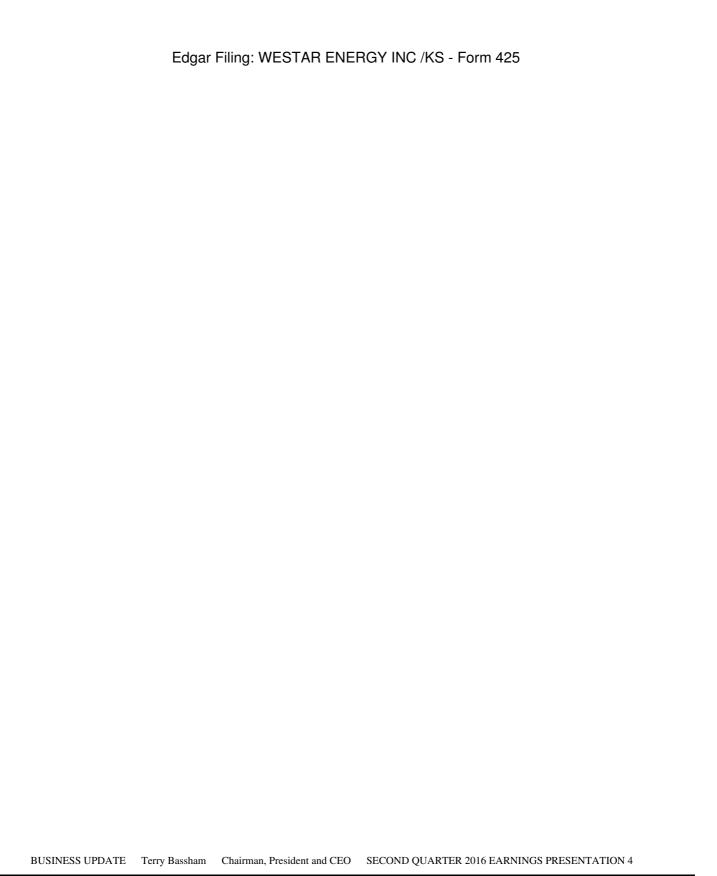


SECOND QUARTER 2016 EARNINGS PRESENTATION FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS R Statements made in this report that are not based on historical facts are forward-looking, may involve risks and uncertainties, and are intended to be as of the date when made. Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements relating to Great Plains Energy's proposed acquisition of Westar Energy, Inc. (Westar), the outcome of regulatory proceedings, cost estimates of capital projects and other matters affecting future operations. In connection with the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, Great Plains Energy and KCP&L are providing a number of important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the provided forward-looking information. These important factors include: future economic conditions in regional, national and international markets and their effects on sales, prices and costs; prices and availability of electricity in regional and national wholesale markets; market perception of the energy industry, Great Plains Energy and KCP&L; changes in business strategy, operations or development plans; the outcome of contract negotiations for goods and services; effects of current or proposed state and federal legislative and regulatory actions or developments, including, but not limited to,

deregulation, re-regulation and restructuring of the electric utility industry; decisions of regulators regarding rates the Companies can charge for electricity; adverse changes in applicable laws, regulations, rules, principles or practices governing tax, accounting and environmental matters including, but not limited to, air and water quality; financial market conditions and performance including, but not limited to, changes in interest rates and credit spreads and in availability and cost of capital and the effects on derivatives and hedges, nuclear decommissioning trust and pension plan assets and costs; impairments of long-lived assets or goodwill; credit ratings; inflation rates; effectiveness of risk management policies and procedures and the ability of counterparties to satisfy their contractual commitments; impact of terrorist acts, including, but not limited to, cyber terrorism; ability to carry out marketing and sales plans; including, but not limited to, weather-related damage and their effects on sales, prices and costs; cost, availability, quality and deliverability of fuel; the uncertainties in estimating the effects of weather, economic conditions and other factors on customer consumption and financial results; ability to achieve goals and the occurrence and duration of planned and unplanned generation outages; delays in the anticipated in-service dates and cost increases of generation, transmission, distribution or other projects; Great Plains Energy's ability to successfully manage transmission joint venture or to integrate the transmission joint ventures of Westar; the inherent risks associated with the ownership and operation of a nuclear facility including, but not limited to, environmental, health, safety, regulatory and financial risks; workforce risks, including, but not limited to, increased costs of retirement, health care and other benefits; the ability of Great Plains Energy to obtain the regulatory and shareholder approvals necessary to complete the anticipated acquisition of Westar; the risk that a condition to the closing of the anticipated acquisition of Westar or the committed debt or equity financing may not be satisfied or that the anticipated acquisition may fail to close; the failure to obtain, or to obtain on favorable terms, any equity, debt or equity-linked financing necessary to complete or permanently finance the anticipated acquisition of Westar and the costs of such financing; the outcome of any legal proceedings, regulatory proceedings or enforcement matters that may be instituted relating to the anticipated acquisition of Westar; the costs incurred to consummate the anticipated acquisition of Westar; the possibility that the expected value creation from the anticipated acquisition of Westar will not be realized, or will not be realized within expected time period; the credit ratings of Great Plains Energy following the anticipated acquisition of Westar; disruption from the anticipated acquisition of it more difficult to maintain relationships with customers, employees, regulators or suppliers; the diversion of management t ime and attention on the proposed transactions; and other risks and uncertainties.



SECOND QUARTER 2016 EARNINGS PRESENTATION AGENDA TOPICS FOR TODAY'S DISCUSSION EARNINGS REVIEW • Second quarter 2016 earnings drivers Regulatory priorities • Update of strategic plan S





As a leading provider of electricity in the Midwest, we focus on closely managing our existing business, promoting economic growth and improving our customer experience SECOND QUARTER 2016 EARNINGS PRESENTATION OUR FUTURE FOCUS RESULTS • Second quarter 2016 EPS of \$0.20 compared to \$0.28 in prior year • June 30, 2016, year to date EPS of \$0.37 compared to \$0.40 for the same period in R015 • Adjusted EPS (non-GAAP)1 for the second quarter and year to date 2016 were \$0.55 and \$0.72, respectively • On track to achieve 2016 adjusted EPS (non-GAAP) guidance range of \$1.65 to \$1.80 COMMITMENT • On track to close Westar acquisition in the spring of 2017 • Proactively addressing regulatory lag through expedited rate case filings in our Missouri jurisdictions • Environmental sustainability progress — Lake Road 4/6 unit converted to natural gas from coal — Ceased burning coal at Montrose unit 1 — GMO completed construction of 3 megawatt solar power facility INNOVATION • Company sponsored energy-savings programs help customers conserve energy usage UQ. A reconciliation of adjusted EPS (non-GAAP) to GAAP EPS can be found in the appendix.





We are firmly committed to reducing regulatory lag 

SECOND QUARTER 2016 EARNINGS PRESENTATION OUR REGULATORY PRIORITIES •

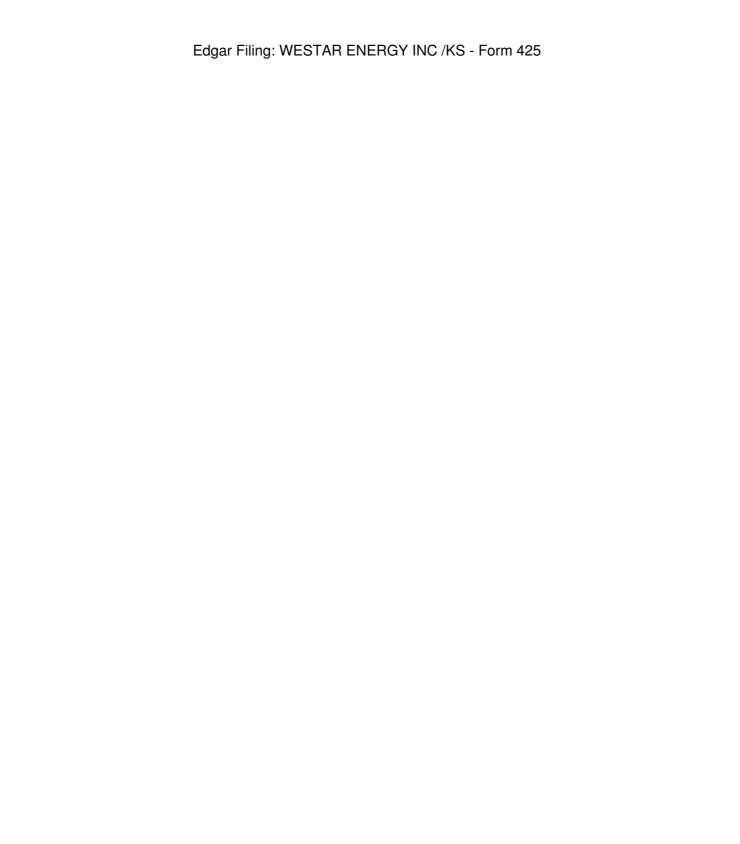
Approval of Westar acquisition • KCP&L Missouri filed \$62.9 million1 general rate case on July Q, 2016, to recover investments and to address cost of service lag • Expedited GMO rate case schedule calls for new retail rates offective December 2016 • File abbreviated rate case for KCP&L Kansas by November R016 • Committed to work toward comprehensive regulatory reform and expect to file legislation next year W MANAGING

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT Q. Does not include net fuel and purchased power of \$27.2 million that absent the case would flow through a fuel recovery mechanism. Total requested increase in base rates including net fuel and purchased power is \$90.1 million or 10.77%

Continue to promote the economic strength of the region, PRESENTATION OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES EXECUTING OUR PLAN FOR CONTINUED GROWTH BEST-IN-CLASS OPERATIONS CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT Disciplined execution to deliver reliable and low cost power of the facilitate more customer expectations — Technology investments opportunities and flexibility for opportunistic growth opportunistic growth securings SECOND QUARTER 2016 EARNINGS OPERATIONS OPE

Solid execution of our strategic plan and financial results combined with long-term targets equal an attractive platform for investors SECOND QUARTER 2016 EARNINGS PRESENTATION OUR VALUE PROPOSITION BASE PLAN INCREMENTAL OPPPORTUNITIES FROM WESTAR TRANSACTION EPS GROWTH TARGET • Annualized EPS growth of 4% to 5% through R0201 • Rate base growth of 2% to 3% through 20202 • Focus on minimizing regulatory lag • Annualized EPS growth of 6% to 8% through R0201 • Rate base growth of 3% to 4% through 20202 • Focus on minimizing regulatory lag DIVIDEND GROWTH TARGET • Dividend growth of 5% to 7% through 2020 • Dividend payout ratio of 60% to 70% through R0201 • Dividend growth of 5% to 7% through 2020 • Dividend payout ratio of 60% to 70% through R020 TOTAL RETURN • Balanced total shareholder return profile guidance range of \$1.65 - \$1.80 R. Includes the impact of bonus depreciation STRONG GROWTH AND BALANCED RETURNS





ADJUSTED EPS (NON-GAAP)1 S 3 SECOND QUARTER 2016 EARNINGS PRESENTATION SECOND QUARTER AND YEAR TO DATE RESULTS EARNINGS – 2016 vs 2015 RQ YTD3 New retail rates \$0.14 \$0.26 Weather 0.11 0.04 Weather-normalized demand (0.03) (0.03) New cost recovery mechanisms 0.05 0.11 MEEIA throughput disincentive 0.03 0.05 O&M - (0.02) Depreciation & Amortization - (0.03) Other (0.03) (0.06) Total \$0.27 \$0.32 Q1 ADJUSTED EPS (NON-GAAP) 2016 COMPARED TO 20151,2 Affirming 2016 adjusted earnings per share (non-GAAP) guidance range of \$1.65 - \$1.80 Q. A reconciliation of adjusted EPS (non-GAAP) to GAAP EPS can be found in the appendix R. Numbers may not add due to the effect of dilutive shares on EPS S. As of June 30

SECOND QUARTER 2016 EARNINGS PRESENTATION EARNINGS CONSIDERATIONS FULL YEAR 2016 EARNINGS GUIDANCE • Reaffirming 2016 adjusted EPS (non-GAAP) guidance range of \$1.65 - \$1.80 REVENUE ASSUMPTIONS • Normal weather for the remainder of 2016 • Weather-normalized demand growth - 12-months ended June 30, 2016, weather-normalized demand down from energy efficiency—in line with full year projection of flat to 0.5% • New retail rates and cost recovery mechanisms in KCP&L's Missouri and Kansas jurisdictions effective September 29, 2015 and October 1, 2015, respectively OTHER DRIVERS • Disciplined cost and capital management • Effective tax rate of approximately 37% in 2016 Q2











SECOND QUARTER 2016 EARNINGS PRESENTATION 18 (\$ in millions, except per share amounts) THREE MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30 EARNINGS PER GREAT PLAINS ENERGY SHARE R016 2015 2016 2015 GAAP Earnings Electric Utility \$ 88.3 \$ 46.4 \$ 0.57 \$ 0.30 Other (56.3) (2.0) (0.37) (0.02) Net income 32.0 44.4 0.20 0.28 Preferred dividends (0.4) (0.4) - Earnings available for common shareholders \$ 31.6 \$ 44.0 \$ 0.20 \$ 0.28 Reconciliation of GAAP to Non-GAAP Earnings available for common shareholders \$ 31.6 \$ 44.0 \$ 0.20 \$ 0.28 Costs to achieve the anticipated acquisition of Westar: Operating expenses (1) 5.0 - Financing (2) 4.7 - Mark-to-market impacts of interest rate swaps (3) 77.0 - Income tax benefit (32.7) - Adjusted Earnings (Non-GAAP) \$ 85.6 \$ 44.0 \$ 0.55 \$ 0.28 Adjusted Earnings (Non-GAAP) Electric Utility \$ 88.3 \$ 46.4 \$ 0.57 \$ 0.30 Other (2.7) (2.4) (0.02) (0.02) Adjusted Earnings (Non-GAAP) \$ 85.6 \$ 44.0 \$ 0.55 \$ 0.28 RECONCILIATION OF EARNINGS AND EARNINGS PER SHARE TO ADJUSTED EARNINGS AND EARNINGS PER SHARE (NON-GAAP) GREAT PLAINS ENERGY (UNAUDITED) In addition to earnings available for common shareholders, Great Plains Energy's management uses adjusted earnings (non-GAAP) to evaluate earnings without the impact of costs to

achieve the anticipated acquisition of Westar. Adjusted earnings excludes certain costs, expenses, gains and losses resulting from the anticipated acquisition. This information is intended to enhance an investor's overall understanding of results. Adjusted earnings is used internally to measure performance against budget and in reports for management and the Board of Directors. Adjusted earnings is a financial measure that is not calculated in accordance with GAAP and may not be comparable to other companies' presentations or more useful than the GAAP information provided elsewhere. Q. Reflects legal, advisory and consulting fees. R. Reflects fees incurred to finance the anticipated acquisition of Westar, including fees for a bridge term loan facility. S. Reflects the mark-to-market loss on interest rate swaps entered into in connection with financing the anticipated acquisition of Westar.

SECOND QUARTER 2016 EARNINGS PRESENTATION RECONCILIATION OF EARNINGS AND EARNINGS PER SHARE TO ADJUSTED EARNINGS AND EARNINGS PER SHARE (NON-GAAP) GREAT PLAINS ENERGY (UNAUDITED) Q9 (\$ in millions, except per share amounts) YEAR TO DATE JUNE 30 EARNINGS PER GREAT PLAINS ENERGY SHARE R016 2015 2016 2015 GAAP Earnings Electric Utility \$ 117.3 \$ 67.3 \$ 0.76 \$ 0.43 Other (58.9) (4.0) (0.39) (0.03) Net income 58.4 63.3 0.37 0.40 Preferred dividends (0.8) (0.8) -- Earnings available for common shareholders \$ 57.6 \$ 62.5 \$ 0.37 \$ 0.40 Reconciliation of GAAP to Non-GAAP Earnings available for common shareholders \$ 57.6 \$ 62.5 \$ 0.37 \$ 0.40 Ocosts to achieve the anticipated acquisition of Westar: Operating expenses (1) 5.0 - Financing (2) 4.7 Mark-to-market impacts of interest rate swaps (3) 77.0 - Income tax benefit (32.7) - Adjusted Earnings (Non-GAAP) \$ 111.6 \$ 62.5 \$ 0.72 \$ 0.40 Adjusted Earnings (Non-GAAP) Electric Utility \$ 117.3 \$ 67.3 \$ 0.76 \$ 0.43 Other (5.7) (4.8) (0.04) (0.03) Adjusted Earnings (Non-GAAP) \$ 111.6 \$ 62.5 \$ 0.72 \$ 0.40 In addition to earnings available for common shareholders, Great Plains Energy's management uses adjusted earnings (non-GAAP) to evaluate earnings without the impact of costs to

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SECOND QUARTER 2016 EARNINGS PRESENTATION RECONCILIATION OF GROSS MARGIN TO OPERATING REVENUES GREAT PLAINS ENERGY (UNAUDITED) Gross margin is a financial measure that is not calculated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Gross margin, as used by Great Plains Energy, is defined as operating revenues less fuel, purchased power and transmission. The Company's expense for fuel, purchased power and transmission, offset by wholesale sales margin, is subject to recovery through cost adjustment mechanisms, except for KCP&L's Missouri retail operations prior to September 29, 2015. As a result, operating revenues increase or decrease in relation to a significant portion of these expenses. Management believes that gross margin provides a meaningful basis for evaluating the Electric Utility segment's operations across periods than operating revenues because gross margin excludes the revenue effect of fluctuations in these expenses. Gross margin is used internally to measure performance against budget and in reports for management and the Board of Directors. The Company's definition of gross margin may differ from similar terms used by other companies. A reconciliation to GAAP operating revenues is provided in the table above R0 (\$ in millions) THREE MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30

YEAR TO DATE JUNE 30 R016 2015 2016 2015 Operating revenues \$670.8 \$609.0 \$1,242.9 \$1,158.1 Fuel (89.4) (99.9) (180.0) (207.5) Purchased power (53.1) (48.8) (98.1) (94.2) Transmission (17.2) (20.3) (40.7) (41.2) Gross margin \$511.1 \$440.0 \$924.1 \$815.2

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For the 12-months ended June 30, 2016: — Improving residential real estate and jobs market leading to customer growth of 1% — Weather-normalized sale
et of estimated 0.7% impact from our energy efficiency programs SECOND QUARTER 2016 EARNINGS PRESENTATION Full-year 2016 projection of at to 0.5% WEATHER-NORMALIZED RETAIL SALES GROWTH Q2-MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2016 WEATHER-NORMALIZED DEMAND TRENDS R1

SECOND QUARTER 2016 EARNINGS PRESENTATION GMO CONSOLIDATED RATE CASE SUMMARY • Test year ended June 30, 2015 with a requested July 31, 2016 true-up date • Primary drivers: - New infrastructure investments to ensure reliability, security and dependable service to customers - GMO standalone capital structure - Average of projected 2017-2018 expenses for both transmission costs and Critical Infrastructure Projection Standards (CIPS) / Cybersecurity RATE CASE ATTRIBUTES CASE NUMBER DATE FILED REQUESTED INCREASE (IN MILLIONS) REQUESTED INCREASE (PERCENT) RATE BASE (IN MILLIONS) ROE COST OF DEBT RATE - MAKING EQUITY RATIO CAPITAL STRUCTURE ROR ANTICIPATED EFFECTIVE DATE OF NEW RATES ER-2016-0156 2/23/16 \$59.3 8.17% \$1,9061 9.9% 5.09% 54.83% 7.73% 12/22/16 \$59.3 MILLION RATE INCREASE REQUEST Q. Projected rate base is approximately \$76 million or 4% higher than at the conclusion of the last GMO rate cases for the MPS and L&P jurisdictions R2

KCP&L – MISSOURI RATE CASE SUMMARY drivers:

New infrastructure investments to ensure reliability, security and dependable service to customers. Average of projected 2017- 2018 expenses for both transmission costs. and property taxes. Decline in weather-normalized retail. Sales primarily due to lower use per customer. CASE ATTRIBUTES. CASE NUMBER. DATE FILED REQUESTED INCREASE (IN MILLIONS) REQUESTED INCREASE (PERCENT). RATE BASE. (IN MILLIONS) ROE. COST. OF DEBT. RATE. MAKING EQUITY. RATIO. CAPITAL. STRUCTURE. ROR. REQUESTED. EFFECTIVE. DATE. OF NEW RATES. ER-2016-0285 7/1/16. \$62.91.7.52%1 \$2,576.9.9% 5.51% 49.88% 7.70% 5/31/17. \$62.9 MILLION RATE INCREASE REQUESTI. Q. Does not include net fuel and purchased power of \$27.2 million that absent the case would flow through a fuel recovery mechanism. Total requested increase in base rates including net fuel and purchased power is \$90.1 million or 10.77%. R3 SECOND QUARTER 2016 EARNINGS PRESENTATION.

SECOND QUARTER 2016 EARNINGS PRESENTATION June 30, 2016 DEBT PROFILE AND CREDIT RATINGS GREAT PLAINS ENERGY DEBT LONG-TERM DEBT MATURITIES5 CURRENT CREDIT RATINGS Moody's Standard & Poors Great Plains Energy Outlook Review for Downgrade Negative Corporate Credit Rating – BBB+ Preferred Stock Bal BBB- Senior Unsecured Debt Baa2 BBB KCP&L Outlook Stable Negative Senior Secured Debt A2 A Senior Unsecured Debt Baa1 BBB+ Commercial Paper P–2 A–2 GMO Outlook Stable Negative Senior Unsecured Debt Baa2 BBB+ Commercial Paper P–2 A–2 QGreat Plains Energy guarantees approximately 45% of GMO's debt; 2Weighted Average Rates–excludes premium/discounts and other amortizations; SIncludes current maturities of long-term debt; 4Secured debt=\$690M (16%), Unsecured debt=\$3,644M (84%); 5Includes long-term debt maturities through December 31, 2025 R4 Debt (\$ in millions) KCP&L GMO1 GPE Consolidated Amount Rate2 Amount Rate2 Amount Rate2 Amount Rate2 Short-term debt \$215.1 0.93% \$299.0 0.86% \$74.0 2.00% \$588.1 1.03% Long-term debt3 2,563.9 4.97% 444.1 5.03% 738.1 5.30% 3,746.1 5.04% Total \$2,779.0 4.66% \$743.1 3.36% \$812.1 5.00% \$4,334.2 4.50%4



INFORMATION ABOUT GREAT PLAINS ENERGY, WESTAR AND THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION. Following the Registration Statement having been declared effective by the SEC, a definitive joint proxy statement/prospectus will be sent to Great Plains Energy's and Westar's shareholders. Investors can obtain free copies of the Registration Statement and joint proxy statement/prospectus and other documents filed by Great Plains Energy and Westar with the SEC at http://www.sec.gov, the SEC's website, or free of charge from Great Plains Energy's website (http://www.greatplainsenergy.com) under the tab, "Investor Relations" and then under the heading "SEC Filings." These documents are also available free of charge from Westar's website (http://www.westarenergy.com) under the tab "Investors" and then under the heading "SEC Filings." Participants in Proxy Great Plains Energy, Westar and their respective directors and certain of their executive officers and employees may be deemed, under SEC rules, to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from Great Plains Energy's and Westar's shareholders with respect to the proposed transaction. Information regarding the officers and directors of Great Plains Energy is included in its definitive proxy statement for its 2016 annual meeting filed with SEC on March 24, 2016. Information regarding the officers and directors of Westar is included in its definitive proxy statement for its 2016 annual meeting filed with the SEC on April 1, 2016. Additional information regarding the identity of potential participants, and their direct or indirect interests, by securities, holdings or otherwise, is set forth in the Registration Statement and joint proxy statement/prospectus and other materials filed with SEC in connection with the proposed transaction. Free copies of these documents may be obtained as described in the paragraphs above. R5