

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**HITACHI POWER SYSTEMS AMERICA AWARDED CONTRACT TO
SUPPLY POLLUTION CONTROLS EQUIPMENT FOR KCP&L
Hitachi's Emissions Technology Will Help Meet Emission Reduction Targets**

BASKING RIDGE, NJ, December 12, 2011 - Hitachi Power Systems America, Ltd., "Hitachi", a wholly owned subsidiary of Hitachi America, Ltd., today announced that it has been awarded a contract with La Cygne Environmental Partners ("LEP"), a Joint Venture of Kiewit Power Constructors Co. and Sargent & Lundy, L.L.C. to supply air pollution controls equipment for Unit 1 and Unit 2 at the La Cygne Generating Station, "La Cygne." for KCP&L. Financial terms were not disclosed.

Hitachi will design and supply its world class air quality control systems for La Cygne, including wet flue gas desulfurization "FGD" systems, fabric filters, mercury control systems and appurtenant systems for Unit 1 (815MW) and Unit 2 (715 MW) and low NOx burners, over-fire air equipment, and a selective catalytic reduction system "SCR" for Unit 2. Hitachi's wet FGD systems have features that minimize capital investment and operating costs while increasing reliability and turndown. Hitachi's proven plate-type SCR catalyst technology has been operating successfully in over 800 units worldwide, and Hitachi is the only catalyst manufacturer who offers SCR systems for coal-fired units in the U.S. which affords single point performance responsibility. KCP&L will benefit from Hitachi's state-of-the-art CM catalyst which provides significantly extended catalyst life.

Hitachi's leading edge technologies will help KCP&L meet their emissions reduction requirements, for NOx, SO2, SO3, mercury, and particulate matter. The design and system integration of the air quality control systems for Unit 1 and Unit 2 are based on Hitachi's vast experience in combustion systems, boiler and multi-pollution control.

"We are pleased to be working with Hitachi on this project," said Bob Bell, KCP&L senior director of construction. "As a partner, Hitachi will assist KCP&L in making environmental upgrades at the La Cygne Generating Station that will benefit the entire Kansas City region."

In announcing the agreement, Henry Bartoli, president and CEO of Hitachi Power Systems America, Ltd. said, "We look forward to working with La Cygne Environmental Partners in supporting this project to combine Hitachi's SCR, WFGD, and low NOx burners and over-fire air equipment for a complete Air Quality Control Systems solution. We thank LEP for selecting our company to execute this important contract. We are very proud of our world-wide track record in the successful design and operation of our Air Quality Control Systems and we look forward to a long term relationship with KCP&L."

About Kansas City Power & Light

Headquartered in Kansas City, Mo., Great Plains Energy Incorporated (NYSE: GXP) is the holding company of Kansas City Power & Light Company and KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company, two of the leading regulated providers of electricity in the Midwest. Kansas City Power & Light and KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations use KCP&L as a brand name. More information about the companies is available on the Internet at www.greatplainsenergy.com or www.kcpl.com.

About Hitachi Power Systems America, Ltd.

Hitachi Power Systems America, Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Hitachi America, Ltd., is a leading supplier of equipment and services for the Power Generation Market including Thermal, Nuclear, and Hydroelectric facilities. Products include advanced Pulverized Coal Boilers, Heat Recovery Steam Generators, Steam, Gas, and Hydro Turbines and Generators, Substation Equipment, and Air Quality Control Systems for new plants and retrofit applications. Hitachi Power Systems America is Hitachi's Global Center of Excellence for the emissions market including Wet Flue Gas Desulfurization, mercury removal systems and Selective Catalytic Reduction technology. Services include operation & plant assessment, engineering studies, performance optimization, emissions improvement, equipment replacement and upgrades. For more information, please visit us at www.hitachipowersystems.us.

About Hitachi America, Ltd.

Hitachi America, Ltd., a subsidiary of Hitachi, Ltd. headquartered in Tarrytown, New York, and its subsidiary companies offer a broad range of electronics, power and industrial equipment and services, automotive products and consumer electronics with operations throughout the Americas. For more information, visit www.hitachi-america.us. For information on other Hitachi Group companies in the United States, please visit www.hitachi.us

#

Information contained in this news release is current as of the date of the press announcement, but may be subject to change without prior notice.
