In the Matter of:

THE NINTH PRUDENCE REVIEW OF COSTS SUBJECT TO THE COMMISSION-APPROVED, etc.

EO-2020-0262, VOL. II

January 27, 2021



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1	BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION	
2	STATE OF MISSOURI	
3		
4	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS	
5	Evidentiary Hearing, via WebEx	
6	January 27, 2021	
7	Jefferson City, Missouri	
8	Volume 2	
9		
10	In The Matter Of The Ninth) File No. EO-2020-0262	
11	Prudence Review of Costs)	
12	Subject To The) Commission-Approved Fuel)	
13	Adjustment Clause of Evergy) Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a)	
14	Evergy Missouri West)	
15	NANCY DIPPELL, Presiding	
16	SENIOR REGULATORY LAW JUDGE	
17	RYAN A. SILVEY, Chairman WILLIAM P. KENNEY	
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PROCEEDINGS

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JUDGE DIPPELL: We can go ahead and unmute the stream and we can go on the record. Good morning. This is January 27, 2021, and the Commission is here for an evidentiary hearing In The Matter Of The Ninth Prudence Review Of Costs Subject To The Commission-Approved Fuel Adjustment Clause Of Evergy Missouri West, Incorporated d/b/a Evergy Missouri West in Case No. E0-2020-0262.

This case was consolidated with its sister case, Case No. EO-2020-0263, which was captioned In The Matter Of The Third Prudence Review Of Costs Subject To The Commission-Approved Fuel Adjustment Clause Of Evergy Metro, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri Metro. Case No. EO-2020-0262 is the lead case.

My name is Nancy Dippell. I'm the Regulatory
Law Judge presiding over this hearing. Due to the
COVID-19 pandemic, we're meeting in this hearing
virtually via WebEx telephone and videoconference.
We're also streaming the non-confidential portions of
the audio of the hearing over the internet on the
Commission's website.

I want to begin then with entries of appearance. Can we have entries by Evergy?

MR. FISCHER: Yes, Your Honor. On behalf of the companies in this case, we have Roger Steiner,

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Joshua Harden and James Fischer. I think our contact
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     information are already on the pleadings, if that's
 3
    okay.
               JUDGE DIPPELL: That's fine. Commission
     Staff?
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 6
               MR. PRINGLE: Thank you, Judge. Travis
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    Pringle appearing for Staff Counsel. My business
 8
    address is 200 Madison Street, Suite 800, Jefferson
 9
    City, Missouri 65102.
               JUDGE DIPPELL: And the Office of the Public
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    Counsel?
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               MR. CLIZER: John Clizer on behalf of the
    Missouri Office of the Public Counsel. Our contact
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     information is also on the pleadings.
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: And the Sierra Club has
     already asked that they be excused. Their issues were
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     settled and I have excused them from participating.
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    Under Commission rules for these types of cases, we had
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     several parties that were made automatic parties to this
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     case but haven't actually been active or filed any
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    prefiled testimony. Do we have any of the other
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     intervenors present that wanted to make an entry of
23
     appearance?
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               MR. KEEVIL: Judge, this is not an intervenor.
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     This is Mr. Keevil on behalf of Staff. You might show
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me as appearing as co-counsel with Mr. Pringle just in case I have to say anything at some point. I don't intend to. Just to be on the safe side, you can enter me and then I'll be quiet.

JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Keevil. Okay. I don't hear any of the intervenors present. So we will go ahead. So again, I ask you to stay muted if you're not needing to speak, and please silence your cell phone so that when you are speaking it doesn't disrupt the broadcast. We have some of the witnesses in the same room and some of counsel in the same room together. So they're going to try to make sure that only one microphone is open at any time so we don't get that feedback issue.

If we run into some kind of disturbance like that, I'll probably mute you. So you'll have to go through the process of unmuting yourself to be heard. We marked the exhibits, the prefiled testimony exhibits prior to going on the record. So if there's something that wasn't already emailed to me officially that you wish to use as an exhibit, we'll have to pause while you email that to other counsel and myself for distribution. So we'll just have to be patient with one another.

Doing an online hearing we'll have to pause where needed to let people speak. There's a slight

delay. So just try to slow down and take your time and be patient.

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As far as the order of witnesses, we're going to follow the order provided by the parties. However, in this instance I'm not going to excuse the witnesses until the end of the hearing. It may be that the Commission wants to hear from Company or Staff witnesses after we've heard from Public Counsel witnesses. So the witnesses are not necessarily excused at the end of their original testimony.

We have a pending Motion to Supplement

Testimony and an objection on that motion, but I'm not
going to deal with that until after opening statements.

And I also wanted to note on the record that I gave
permission to the parties to submit to me their opening
statement presentations later than was originally in the
order. So that exception to the Commission's order is
granted in that case.

As we go, the Commission may want to take official notice of some of the tariffs. I will bring that up as we go along, but just be on notice about that. So I think with that we can go ahead and begin with opening statements. I want to break for agenda at about 10:00, and we'll probably take an hour break at that time and then come back and maybe go for a couple

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of hours and take a later lunch. That's always subject
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     to change if I determine that that's not going to be the
    best schedule but for now that is my plan. All right.
 3
    Let's go ahead then and start with opening statements.
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    Can we begin with Evergy?
               MR. FISCHER: Yes, Your Honor. Let me see if
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 7
     I can share my power point and we'll go from there.
 8
    Okay. Do you see the power point, Judge?
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes, I see it.
               MR. FISCHER: Okay. With that, I think I can
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11
    begin then, if that's okay with the Commission.
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               May it please the Commission. I think I'll --
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    Are you seeing me in the corner there too? Would you
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    prefer me to get out of that?
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: You're fine.
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               MR. FISCHER: Okay. May it please the
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     Commission. My name is Jim Fischer, and Roger Steiner
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    and Josh Harden and I will be representing Evergy Metro
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     and Evergy Missouri West in this case. And as you've
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     already pointed out, this involves the Ninth Fuel
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    Adjustment Clause Prudence Review of Evergy Missouri
    West and the Third Prudence Review of Evergy Metro's
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    Fuel Adjustment Clause.
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               The review period for this FAC audit was June
     1, 2018 to November 30, 2019. We appreciate the
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extraordinary efforts that the Commission and the Regulatory Law Judge has gone through today to hear this case under the extraordinary circumstances during this pandemic. On December 18 of 2020, Evergy, Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel filed a Partial Stipulation and Agreement which settled the issues raised by the Staff in the Staff FAC prudence audit of the companies. Under that stipulation, Evergy Missouri West agreed to remove certain Sibley retirement costs from the FAC and they'll record those retirement costs in the Sibley AAO regulatory liability account established in Case No. EC-2019-0200.

Evergy Missouri Metro will also remove about \$15,000 worth of Montrose fuel residual costs and will remove 184,000 from the FAC, and that will be recorded to the costs of removal account for consideration in the next general rate case. The Commission approved that stipulation on Wednesday of January 20, 2021.

Then on January 15 of 2021, Evergy, Staff,
Public Counsel and the Sierra filed a Unanimous
Stipulation and Agreement which, if approved, will
resolve the issues raised by the Sierra Club in this
case. Under this stipulation, the Company is agreeing
to retain and provide certain data, including net margin
costs, to the signatory parties related to its decision

to self-commit generating units on a day-ahead basis and on a realtime basis. It's my understanding that that matter may be pending on today's agenda. If the Commission approves the terms of the second stipulation, then the issues raised by the Sierra Club will be resolved.

Now, there are two other issues that remain that are being raised by the Public Counsel in this case. The first area relates to whether Evergy was imprudent for including capacity sales in its integrated resource plan. The second area relates to whether Evergy should have called more curtailable events in its MEEIA demand response programs during the FAC audit period.

Public Counsel argues in its position statement that Evergy acted imprudently when it included capacity sales in the 2017 update to the integrated resource plan. According to Public Counsel, the Commission should disallow almost \$2 million from Evergy's fuel and purchased power costs because the Company in its planning documents included the possibility that there might be capacity sales. Such a disallowance based upon an integrated resource plan document would be unprecedented and without merit in our opinion.

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As the Commission knows, the IRP is a planning process mandated by the Commission's rules. The IRP rules do not make the preferred integrated resource plan or the calculated revenue requirement into a yardstick to measure the Company's performance based upon hindsight information. If we did do that, as Public Counsel suggests we should do in this case, the IRP process would be transformed into a preapproval and a ratemaking process.

Evergy's witness Kayla Messamore testified in her rebuttal testimony that the modeling assumption related to the capacity sales that Ms. Mantle is complaining about had no impact on the Company's preferred resource plan decisions and had no impact on the actual cost of purchased power or fuel during the FAC period. Evergy ran the IRP scenarios again with a no capacity sales assumption included, and it made no difference in the outcome. In other words, the exclusion of these capacity sales had no material impact on the ranking of resource plans and thus was not a critical assumption which had no impact on the selected preferred plan. It was merely a planning assumption in a planning document and it had no impact on customers. And then importantly actual customer harm is a necessary legal element to find imprudence on the part of the

Company.

As Mr. Carlson explains in his testimony, capacity purchases and sales made in the SPP market are bilateral in nature meaning that they are contracted between two counterparties outside of the SPP marketplace. Unlike other regional transmission organizations such as the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, or MISO as we call them, SPP does not have a capacity market. Without a capacity market, market participants such as Evergy must canvass the market and find a counterparty that is interested in buying or selling capacity as needed.

Evergy routinely talks with other utilities, other energy marketers, municipalities, independent power producers and financial institutions to understand the needs of the marketplace to be in a position to respond to RFPs or to sell capacity on a bilateral basis to unaffiliated entities.

Of course, there are many factors that affect the ability to sell capacity, including the supply situation and needs of other utilities, transmission constraints, and the time periods that might be needed to upgrade transmission facilities to serve those customers. In some years, there are no buyers for bilateral contracts. For example, despite the Company's

best efforts, there were no agreements to be made on a short-term basis during this FAC period. However, in other years that may not be the case.

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During the term of the FAC review period in this case, Evergy Metro had three long-term capacity sales contracts in place with other utilities, one of which was Evergy Missouri West. In addition, during the FAC review period, Evergy Metro entered into two additional new long-term capacity sales contracts with other utilities, one with a non-Evergy utility and one with the Evergy Missouri West.

The Company also continued to respond to RFPs in 2018 and 2019, as it's done for years. Notably capacity contracts that are longer than one year would not flow through the fuel adjustment clause. So Public Counsel's recommended disallowance is not simply based on Evergy's entering into capacity contracts but of a certain type of capacity contracts for short-term capacity.

While Evergy had capacities to sell during the FAC audit period, it was not imprudent that it did not sell it, because there were simply no buyers for such short-term capacity. The Commission should not adopt Public Counsel's proposed disallowance of \$2 million simply because there were no buyers for this short-term

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capacity or because Evergy included the possibility of such sales in the planning process. As I've said, whether Evergy included that capacity sales assumption in the IRP or not, it did not affect the selection of its preferred resource plan. There was simply no harm to customers by including that assumption in the IRP process. Perhaps recognizing the unprecedented nature of Public Counsel's proposed disallowance of \$2 million of fuel costs based upon a planning assumption in the IRP planning process, Ms. Mantle makes an alternative recommendation on page 2 of her surrebuttal testimony. She states as an alternate resolution to the capacity sales issue, I recommend the Commission order Evergy to in its triennial resource plan filing that Evergy will be making in April of 2021, include for each of its model scenarios a run with no capacity sales other than its current contracts.

As explained in Kayla Messamore's rebuttal testimony, Evergy has already rerun its model scenarios in its previous 2017 IRP with a no capacity sales assumption. This assumption made no difference in the selection of the preferred resource plan. Evergy is willing to include both assumptions, one with capacity sales and another without capacity sales in its April 2021 triennial IRP if that would resolve this issue.

But in any event, the Commission should not adopt the Public Counsel's proposed disallowance of \$2 million in this case. The bottom line, there was no imprudence on the part of Evergy for including the possibility of capacity sales in its IRP and there's simply no harm to customers. Therefore, Public Counsel's disallowance related to the capacity sales assumption should be rejected.

The Staff and the Public Counsel also raised a MEEIA related issue. Was Evergy imprudent in its management of its demand response programs. And more specifically was it imprudent for Evergy to not call additional demand response events in its MEEIA program in a manner that would have reduced FAC costs.

Staff witness Jay Luebbert in his surrebuttal rebuttal testimony on pages 2 and 3 and Brad Fortson in his rebuttal on page 5, they recommend that Public Counsel's MEEIA related imprudence issues be dealt with in Evergy's pending MEEIA prudence review cases which are File Nos. EO-2020-0227 and 0228. As the Commission probably knows, there is extensive testimony in the MEEIA prudence review cases dealing with Evergy's management of its demand response programs.

A primary issue in that case is how many curtailment events should be called under the Company's

MEEIA programs. The parties requested that the Commission suspend the proceeding in the MEEIA prudence cases so that we can pursue settlement of those same issues. We are pursuing settlement in that MEEIA case at this time.

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Now, as I understand the Staff and Public Counsel's testimony, they believe that Evergy did not call enough demand response events, or what are sometimes referred to as curtailment events, during the audit period to maximize the benefit to customers. They argue that the Company acted imprudently by not calling more curtailment events to minimize fuel and purchased power costs. Both Public Counsel and Staff allege that the Company knew of the SPP fee reduction impact of additional curtailment calls in January 2019.

The Company addressed this topic in a data request during the MEEIA3 negotiations, but this data request response only indicated there could be additional potential benefits of value calling more events in MEEIA3, not a complete understanding that calling more events in existing MEEIA2 programs would not adversely impact the annual peak reduction value of the MEEIA2 programs.

A reasonable person would not have jeopardized the programs by immediately calling more events without

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first evaluating the impact on the MEEIA2 programs. Demand response events are times when the Company calls upon its commercial and its industrial customers or adjusts the residential and business thermostats and essentially automatically adjusts customers' electrical usage to reduce the peak load of the Company using the residential programmable thermostat program and the demand response incentive program for commercial and industrial customers. The Public Counsel has proposed disallowances related to the MEEIA demand response programs of about \$330,000 on a combined company basis related to energy sales and another 431,000 related to SPP Schedule 11 fees.

During the audit period, the Company followed the Commission's approved MEEIA plan and managed the thermostat program budget to the Commission approved level by controlling the number of direct installations being scheduled, which held a number of participants to a known level, which was approved by the MEEIA plan itself. However, Public Counsel Witness Mantle and the Staff witnesses argue that the Company should have called more events to maximize the reduction of SPP fees.

On February 15, 2019, the predecessor companies of Evergy Missouri Metro and Evergy Missouri

West, which of course were Kansas City Power & Light and GMO, these companies entered into a Stipulation and Agreement with the Commission Staff, the Office of the Public Counsel, the Department of Economic Development Division of Energy and Renew Missouri Advocates in File Nos. EO-2019-0132 and 0133. This unanimous stipulation recommended that the Commission approve a MEEIA2 Cycle 2 extension plan to allow the MEEIA Cycle 2 to continue beyond the scheduled expiration date of March 31, 2019, but it was under specified conditions.

One of those conditions was as follows. For the programmable thermostat program, the Company will call five demand response events per jurisdiction during the summer of 2019 June through September. In the Commission's order approving the Stipulation and Agreement in that case, the Commission found that the stipulation met the provisions of the MEEIA statute and it approved the stipulation. It also ordered the following, and I'll quote, its signatories shall comply with its terms.

The effect of this order was that Evergy, as well as the Commission Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel, were ordered to comply with the terms of the stipulation which clearly stated that the Company shall call five demand response events per Company

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during the summer of 2019. The Company complied with its order and called five demand response events during the summer of 2019. This slide shows the dates on which those five programmable thermostat events and the duration of those events. The events resulted in over \$7 million of benefits due to peak reduction.

As I mentioned earlier, the review period of this FAC case was June 1, 2018 through November 30 of 2019, which included that summer of 2019.

Notwithstanding the fact that Evergy was ordered to call five demand response events during the summer of 2019 and had complied with the order and called five demand response events during that period, the Public Counsel and the Staff are arguing in this case that the Company was imprudent for not calling more demand response events.

I think someone could have argued that it would have been imprudent if the Company had not complied with the Commission's order to call five events during the summer of 2019. In addition, Evergy would respectfully suggest that the Company's residential programmable thermostat and its demand response initiative programs were not designed to reduce SPP fees. The Company's approved tariffs state that these programs were designed to reduce customer load during

the annual peak period to help defer future generation capacity additions and provide for improvements in energy supply.

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Second, the Company operates its MEEIA programs to be consistent with its approved MEEIA tariffs, the MEEIA budgets, the MEEIA statutes and rules and other Commission approved parameters. The Commission approved programs were not designed to maximize the reduction in SPP fees. In other words, the demand response programs in question were not designed to arbitrage day-ahead locational marginal prices or to reduce Schedule 11's SPP fees through the calling of numerous demand response events.

The calling of more demand response events is not cost free to Evergy and it's not cost free to its customers. As those MEEIA programs are currently designed, the calling of more events would likely have a detrimental impact on the primary goal of the programs which was to reduce the annual peak load.

In order to maximize the reduction in SPP fees, a MEEIA program would need to be designed to call multiple times every month of the year since those SPP fees are associated with Evergy's peak load in every month, not just the summer months. In order to make sure that the monthly peak is mitigated or lowered,

curtailable events would likely need to be called more than five times per month.

The Company's programs were designed for a maximum of ten curtailment events in a year under the demand response initiative program and a maximum of 15 events under the residential thermostat program. A program that requires Evergy to call significantly more events to maximize reduction of SPP fees would need a different program design, potentially a higher financial incentive for customer participation and would possibly need to be targeted to different customer types.

Residential, commercial and industrial customers do not prefer that their power be curtailed, but they're willing to occasionally accept this inconvenience for a financial incentive. But if the number of curtailment, if they get too high, these customers are going to decide not to participate. Staff and Public Counsel don't seem to recognize that this is a down side to their approach. Their recommendation is based upon a static analysis and doesn't recognize the dynamic relationship between the Company and its customers in these demand response programs.

Signing up for a demand response program like the programmable thermostat program means that you're essentially allowing the utility to make changes to your

air-conditioning load during typically the hottest days of the summer. This requires a significant amount of trust, as well as financial incentives to manage this inconvenience.

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Now, if a customer were to start having their air-conditioning adjusted regularly during the hottest times of the day, like 20 times in a summer or nearly everyday as suggested by a Public Counsel witness in the MEEIA2 case, the entirety of the program would have to change.

It would likely require increased compensation and the participant pool will decrease significantly as the number of customers willing to give up control of their air-conditioners on the hottest days of the year will likely be considerably lower than under the Company's approved program.

I would just ask the Commissioners and the Regulatory Law Judge that are listening today, would you allow your electric utility to change the temperature of your home frequently throughout the summer even if you were getting a free thermostat and a \$25 incentive to participate. The Public Counsel's short-sighted view of these programs should be rejected by the Commission.

The benefits from the numerous curtailments are also dubious. Evergy witness Brian File discusses

in his rebuttal testimony the fact that the primary benefits of the MEEIA residential thermostat and the demand response initiative program is to lower the annual peak. It's not to achieve lower SPP fees or lower monthly peaks as assumed by the Public Counsel's analysis.

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Now, this slide that I have on the screen now shows the comparison of the Commission approved value of demand response or avoided capacity with the value of two other streams described by the Public Counsel witness in her testimony. If the Company adopted the multiple demand response event approach being recommended by Public Counsel and Staff in the MEEIA2 prudence case, the Company would be spending 90 percent of the event costs to achieve less than 6 percent of the value.

As shown on this slide, this is the very definition of the law of diminishing returns. The first event call results in the vast majority of the benefits. The four-event minimum results in a very small additional benefit and a ten-event minimum results in only a sliver more of benefits without consideration of all the already discussed down sides that is not considered by Staff and Public Counsel.

The Company's actual program was developed

based upon the goal to encourage customers to participate in the event maximums described in the existing program, not a much greater number of events that are contained in the existing program. The MEEIA programs, including the residential programmable thermostat program and the demand response incentive program, have proven to be cost effective by the EM&V consultant and by Staff's independent auditor.

These programs provide system wide benefits by reducing the annual peak load, which is the goal of the program. Evergy's position is simple and straight forward. A reasonable person would have operated the MEEIA programs as designed and as approved by the Commission within the budget achieving the cost effectiveness as defined by the Commission. This is what Evergy did.

Public Counsel and Staff's position is that reasonableness required Evergy to scrap the underlying purpose of the MEEIA2 program or reducing the system wide annual peak to chase minimal monthly savings by betting on the weather and making many more curtailment calls. The Commission should therefore reject Public Counsel's MEEIA related disallowances based upon the theory that there should have been many more curtailment events called than what has been previously approved in

the MEEIA2 plan.

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Finally, due to the procedural schedule ordered by the Commission, we weren't able to address all of the arguments that were included from the MEEIA2 case. We're hoping that we'll still be able to do that with the additional testimony that we've asked be included as Brian File's. I understand we're going to address that here in a little bit after the openings. But if we don't get that testimony in, I would certainly encourage the Commissioners and the Regulatory Law Judge to ask all your questions to our witnesses, because they have a lot more to say than what they've just filed in this case.

Finally, the last issue is, is it more appropriate to address the implementation of demand response programs in this case or in the MEEIA2 prudence case. As I already explained, the Company does not believe it's imprudent -- or we don't believe there's any imprudence related to the demand response programs in this audit period. We do believe that when a disallowance is recommended for capital expenditures for the MEEIA programs that would be, quote, subject to the DSIM, then the MEEIA proceeding is the appropriate proceeding to evaluate such of a proposed disallowance. However, we believe that any adjustment that involves

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energy costs that flow through the FAC clause, then it
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    would be appropriate to consider those disallowances in
     the FAC prudence review case. This is why the Company
 3
    attempted to remove the FAC adjustments related to
 4
    purchased power and SPP Schedule 11 fees from the MEEIA2
 5
 6
    prudence audit and we asked that they be removed and
 7
     considered in a fuel adjustment clause case.
 8
    Commission didn't grant the Company's motion but it did
 9
     indicate that it would consider removing the FAC related
10
     issues from the MEEIA case when it heard the evidence.
11
     That case is now on hold while we pursue a settlement.
12
               With that, I'm happy to try to answer your
13
                 Thank you very much.
    questions.
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you, Mr. Fischer.
15
    you can remove your sharing there and let us have the --
16
     Thank you.
17
               MR. FISCHER: Is that okay?
               JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes, that's perfect.
18
    you. Are there any questions from the Commissioners for
19
20
    Mr. Fischer at this time?
21
               CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Judge, I have a couple of
22
    questions.
23
               JUDGE DIPPELL: Go ahead, Mr. Chairman.
               CHAIRMAN SILVEY:
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                                 Thank you, Judge.
                                                    These are
    questions, you kind of touched on a couple of them, but
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I wanted to ask all of the parties. So I tend to ask all of the parties after opening these same questions. If you'll indulge. What type of issues should be addressed in this FAC prudence case versus the pending MEEIA prudence case?

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MR. FISCHER: Judge, as I mentioned, our position is that if we're talking about disallowances that involve capital expenditures in the MEEIA program that are subject to the DSIM charge, that would be appropriate to be considered in the prudence -- in the MEEIA prudence case. Now, to the extent we're talking about SPP fees or reductions in fuel or purchased power costs, those are subject to recovery in the fuel adjustment clause and we think those disallowances should be made related to the fuel adjustment clause and not the MEEIA prudence surcharge.

CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Okay. Thank you. And what is the standard that the Commission should apply for determining the prudency of costs included in an FAC?

MR. FISCHER: I think the standard that's been used in the past has been defined in the tariff on what is included in the clause itself but also it's a reasonableness standard.

CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Who has the burden of proof to show imprudence or harm to customers?

MR. FISCHER: As I understand the approach in prudence cases, the Company initially provides the programs but it's the other parties have the obligation to come forward and raise a serious doubt about the prudence of those expenditures and then the Company has the burden to respond to those allegations.

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CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Okay. And how detailed does the information need to be to show harm to customers?

Is it enough to show fuel or purchased power costs would likely have been less or does a specific amount of harm need to be shown?

MR. FISCHER: We would argue that it's the obligation of the parties to show that a specific amount of harm has occurred and what it is. Otherwise, you don't know how to quantify that disallowance.

CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Is there law, case law or regulations that identify how or if the Commission can apply Evergy's integrated resource plan to an FAC prudence review?

MR. FISCHER: If I understand your question,
Mr. Chairman, I don't think that has ever been
addressed. Regarding the prudence review process
itself, I would refer you to the Associated Natural Gas
case of several years ago. It was a PGA case. That
laid out in quite a bit of detail the prudence review

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process, but I don't think that the relationship between
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     -- If your question was the relationship between the
    MEEIA and a fuel adjustment prudence review, I think
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     this is the first case at least that I'm aware of that
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     this has ever come up.
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               CHAIRMAN SILVEY: It was specifically about
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    applying the integrated resource plan to an FAC prudence
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     review.
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               MR. FISCHER: This is the first one I recall
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    where anyone has ever suggested that you ought to have a
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    disallowance of fuel because of assumptions that were
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    made in an integrated resource plan.
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               CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Okay. And my final
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    question, which I believe you just answered, was going
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     to be has the Commission considered this in the past,
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     and I would understand your answer to be no?
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               MR. FISCHER: To my knowledge, that's the
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    case, no. I've lost you there. Chairman, I've lost
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    your audio.
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               CHAIRMAN SILVEY: I'm sorry. Thank you.
     Those are all the questions I have.
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               MR. FISCHER: Thank you.
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               JUDGE DIPPELL:
                               Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
                                                         Are
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     there other Commission questions for Mr. Fischer?
    not hearing any. I think the Chairman asked the
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1	questions I had.		
2	MR. FISCHER: I think I saw the Chairman		
3	trying to mouth a question; is that correct? He's		
4	frozen now.		
5	JUDGE DIPPELL: I have lost the Chairman's		
6	video. Now he's back. Mr. Chairman, did you have		
7	something else or was that all? Not sure. No more		
8	questions? Okay. Thank you.		
9	CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Sorry, Judge. I'm not sure		
10	why it's hanging up so badly. No, I have no further		
11	questions.		
12	JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Thank you.		
13	MR. FISCHER: I will mute my mike. Is that		
14	okay, Judge?		
15	JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes. Let's see. We've still		
16	got 15 or more minutes. Let's go ahead and go to		
17	Commission Staff.		
18	MR. PRINGLE: Thank you, Judge. One moment		
19	while I pull it up.		
20	May it please the Commission. I am here today		
21	to tell you a tale of two dockets when once we were in		
22	the best of times, today we find ourselves in the worst		
23	of times. My name is Travis Pringle and together with		
24	Jeff Keevil we represent the Staff of the Missouri		
25	Public Service Commission.		

Now, when it comes to our FAC prudence reviews, Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-20.090(11) and Missouri Revised Statute Section 386.266.5(4) require that Staff conduct prudence reviews of an electric utility's fuel adjustment clause, or the FAC, no less frequently than every 18 months. Staff notified the parties of its intent to start its prudence reviews of Evergy Metro and Evergy West on March 2, 2020.

Following its investigation, Staff filed its
Third Prudence Review Report for Evergy Metro and Ninth
Prudence Review Report for Evergy West on August 28,
2020. In its reports, Staff analyzed items affecting
Evergy's fuel costs, purchased power costs, net emission
costs, transmission costs, off-system sales revenue and
renewable energy credit revenues during the review
period of the FAC. For Evergy West, that was June 1,
2018 through November 30, 2019. For Evergy Metro, that
review period was July 1, 2018 through December 31,
2019.

When conducting a prudency review, Staff follows a prudency standard that was outlined in State ex rel. Associated Natural Gas Company vs. Public Service Commission of the State of Missouri. This standard posits that during a prudency review it is Staff's responsibility to determine how reasonable

people would have performed the tasks that confronted the Company. During its review of the prudency of costs subject to Evergy's FAC, Staff did exactly that; and with the exception of a disallowance issued today, Staff concluded that both Evergy West and Evergy Metro were prudent in their decision making regarding costs arising from the FAC. Now, at first glance, one would suppose that this docket deals with Staff's FAC prudence review of Evergy. However, upon review of the issues at hand today, this quickly begins to look like a different docket entirely, a docket seeking to address the prudency of energy efficiency programs arising from Evergy's MEEIA.

The Staff of the Missouri Public Service

Commission stakes out a clear path when conducting an

FAC prudence review. Today we are far off that path.

We are here to deal with the ramifications of Evergy's integrated resource plan and Evergy's failure to maximize ratepayer benefits from demand response programs implemented through its DSIM, the demand-side investment mechanism.

Staff has not taken a position in the context of this FAC prudence review on the issues arising from Evergy's IRP. As for the demand response programs, in the best of times these issues were set to be heard in

the proper venue, the ongoing Evergy MEEIA prudence review consolidated under Case No. EO-2020-0227. On August 19, 2020, this Commission issued an order stating that the MEEIA docket was indeed where they wanted to hear all MEEIA issues.

However, somehow along the way we stumbled into the worst of times and now these issues are before us today in an FAC prudence review docket. Those issues and Staff's respective positions are, number one, was Evergy imprudent by virtue of the assumptions it included in the integrated resource planning process? Staff took no position on the prudency of the inclusion of capacity sales as an assumption in Evergy's IRP in the context of this FAC prudence review.

However, the support provided by OPC witness Lena Mantle regarding the potential for capacity sales has concerned Staff. That being said, Ms. Mantle's information supports Staff's position in the Evergy MEEIA prudence review case EO-2020-0227 in which Staff argues that disallowance of program costs due to no sales of excess capacity is necessary.

If the Commission were to determine that the assumption of sales of excess capacity in Evergy's IRP was imprudent, then the recommendation of Ms. Mantle on behalf of OPC is reasonable based upon the information

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portrayed by Evergy in previous cases. Issue two, was the decision by Evergy to include capacity sales in its assumptions for its IRP imprudent? Similar to issue one, Staff took no position on the prudency of this issue in the context of an FAC prudence review. If the Commission were to determine that the decision by Evergy to include capacity sales in its assumptions for its IRP were imprudent, the recommendation of Ms. Mantle on behalf of OPC is reasonable based upon the information portrayed by Evergy in previous cases.

Issue three, was it imprudent for Evergy to not include FAC cost reductions arising from capacity sale contracts in its FAC rate calculations as modeled in its IRP? Just like issues one and two, Staff took no position on the prudence of the inclusion of capacity sales as an assumption in Evergy's IRP in the context of this FAC prudence review. Had Evergy executed capacity sales contracts as modeled in its IRP, there would have been FAC cost reductions arising from those contracts that should have been included in Evergy's FAC rate calculations.

Because Evergy did not execute sales contracts in the review period, Staff did not expect Evergy to voluntarily reduce its FAC by the assumed amount. Also like issues one and two, Staff does find the support

provided by Ms. Mantle concerning. And if the Commission were to determine that Evergy was imprudent for including an assumption for sales of excess capacity in its IRP, then the recommendation of Ms. Mantle on behalf of the OPC is reasonable based upon the information portrayed by Evergy in previous cases.

Issue number four, was Evergy imprudent in the management of its demand response programs? Yes. Staff has concluded that Evergy's implementation of its demand response programs was imprudent. However, Staff strongly believes this issue belongs in the MEEIA prudence review case, No. EO-2020-0227, and Staff's recommended disallowances are to be addressed in that case, not in this FAC prudence review.

Issue five, was it imprudent for Evergy to not call additional demand response events in a manner that would have reduced FAC costs? Yes, it was imprudent for Evergy to not call additional demand response events in a manner that would have reduced FAC costs. Evergy acted imprudently by not attempting to minimize costs and maximize benefits to ratepayers through the implementation of the demand response programs despite the ability to do so with minimal incremental program costs.

Staff's recommended disallowances for the

demand response programs are based on opportunities that were missed that a reasonable person would have attempted to achieve given the potential ratepayer benefits and the incentive structure in place at the time of implementation. While there were some opportunities for ratepayers to benefit through the FAC, the disallowances recommended by Staff are set to be addressed in the MEEIA prudence review, EO-2020-0227.

Issue six, if it was imprudent for Evergy to not call additional demand response events in a manner that would have reduced FAC costs, is it more appropriate to address the imprudent implementation of the programs through an ordered FAC adjustment or an ordered DSIM adjustment? The imprudent decision making associated with the implementation of Evergy's demand response program is best addressed through ordered adjustments to the DSIM. This proceeding is adding to the risk of hearing this issue multiple times which will likely lead to confusion and an inefficient use of resources. The prudency of Evergy's demand response programs is a question best answered in the MEEIA prudence review Case No. EO-2020-0227.

Staff will present two witnesses today to help explain how we got here and what to do next. Brad Fortson, a regulatory compliance manager for energy

resources, will take the stand to answer your questions 1 2 regarding the IRP issues in this case, issues one, two and three. Jay Luebbert, an associate engineer in 3 4 Staff's engineering analysis department, will take the 5 stand to answer any of your questions regarding the 6 demand response issues that have landed in this docket 7 in issues four, five and six. I implore you to ask them 8 questions and listen to their answers, because today we 9 are stuck in a tale of two dockets and we have before us today misguided options that prevent us from returning 10 11 to the best of times. Thank you and I'm happy to take 12 any questions.

JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you, Mr. Pringle. Are there Commissioner questions for Staff counsel at this time?

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CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Judge, I turned off my video to hopefully help with the lag issues, but I do have just one question for Mr. Pringle.

JUDGE DIPPELL: Go ahead, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Thank you. It sounds like you answered most of the questions I asked. I appreciate that. I do just want to clarify the last question that I had for the previous attorney. Is there law, case law or regulations that identifies how or if the Commission can apply Evergy's integrated resource

plan to an FAC prudence review? 1 MR. PRINGLE: Thank you, Chairman Silvey. 2 The Staff has not been able to find any real mention of 3 prudency regarding the IRP process. Typically the IRP 4 5 process parties can note concerns and deficiencies in 6 the plan put forward by a utility. At the same time, 7 though, we've also found nothing saying that a party 8 can't allege imprudence on that IRP in an FAC prudence 9 review adjustment. We haven't seen it happen before but 10 we haven't seen anything saying it can't happen. 11 CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Okay. So to your knowledge, 12 the Commission has not considered it in the past? 13 MR. PRINGLE: Correct, yes, we have not been able to find anything on point regarding an imprudent 14 15 allegation against an IRP. 16 CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Okay. Thank you, sir. 17 Thank you, Judge. 18 JUDGE DIPPELL: Are there any other I'm not hearing 19 Commissioner questions for Mr. Pringle? 20 any. Mr. Pringle, did you address the burden of proof 21 for a prudence review? 22 MR. PRINGLE: I just simply detailed the 23 standard. As to the burden, I do agree with Mr. Fischer 24 for the most part it's the party who is asserting the 25 imprudence usually has to show why.

JUDGE DIPPELL: And so when does that burden 1 2 shift or does it? MR. PRINGLE: Well, then usually the utility 3 is attempting to show why the party alleging imprudence 4 5 is incorrect, but typically I would say that the burden 6 is on the party asserting the imprudence. 7 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Thank you. 8 MR. PRINGLE: You're muted, Judge. 9 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. I was saying that puts us right at about 10:00, and the Commissioners have 10 11 agenda scheduled at 10:15. So I think rather than get 12 part way through Mr. Clizer's opening statement we're 13 going to go ahead and break at this time and we'll 14 finish with opening statements after agenda. Because of 15 the agenda being also broadcast via WebEx, what we will 16 do is if you are intending to participate in the agenda 17 WebEx, you'll need to leave this meeting and then this 18 will stay open and after agenda and the time for you to 19 come back you can just rejoin this meeting like you did 20 in the beginning. So I hope I made that clear. If you 21 want to participate in the other WebEx, you'll need to 22 leave this meeting and then rejoin after agenda. 23 Are there any questions before we go off the 24 record? 2.5 MR. CLIZER: I appreciate that we're rejoining

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1	after agenda. Do you have an idea of a hard time of
2	when exactly?
3	JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes. We'll just plan to
4	rejoin at 11:00.
5	MR. CLIZER: 11:00. Thank you.
6	JUDGE DIPPELL: Are there any other questions?
7	All right. Then we can go ahead and go off the record.
8	Thank you.
9	(Off the record.)
10	JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Let's go ahead then and
11	go back on the record. So we're back on the record
12	after our agenda break. And I believe Mr. Pringle
13	wanted to add a little something to his opening before
14	we continue with the Public Counsel. Go ahead,
15	Mr. Pringle.
16	MR. PRINGLE: Thank you, Judge. The burden
17	does shift once the party alleging imprudence raises a
18	serious doubt. That's when the burden shifts to the
19	Company to dispel that doubt and prove prudence.
20	JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you, Mr. Pringle. For
21	those listening on the audio, my cat decided to get into
22	the actions. That is why Mr. Pringle was laughing, not
23	that his answer was that funny.
24	MR. PRINGLE: The cat had perfect timing.
25	JUDGE DIPPELL: Did not obey my instructions

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not to participate today. Okay. So then let's go with 1 2 Public Counsel's opening statement. 3 MR. CLIZER: Thank you, Your Honor. Just really quick can you check is my audio clear? 4 5 JUDGE DIPPELL: Your audio is good. 6 MR. CLIZER: All right. I'm going to attempt 7 to share my screen. Is my screen showing up? 8 JUDGE DIPPELL: Your screen is sharing as 9 well. 10 MR. CLIZER: All right. Then I'm going to go 11 ahead and start. So this is John Clizer for the Office 12 of the Public Counsel. I will be presenting our opening 13 statement. 14 First off, I just want to say anybody who's 15 reviewed the list of issues, the position statements for 16 this case or who has listened to the opening arguments, you're probably familiar that there's seven official 17 18 issues sort of presented; but really, as I see it, 19 there's only two issues that this Commission needs to 20 focus on and address. The six first issues, list of issues are 21 22 really just permutations of these two, and the last one 23 is, of course, the Sierra Club which has been resolved. So the first issue that the Commission needs to address 24 is Evergy's imprudence in failing to call additional 2.5

demand response program events, and the second one is the imprudence in developing its integrated resource plan.

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I'm going to walk through both these issues starting with the demand response program. So the very first thing that I want to make sure is clear is that this is not the MEEIA case. Now, I loved Mr. Pringle, the Staff Attorney's illusion to Dickens. It was very nice. Unfortunately, I believe that he is wrong. And I believe that Evergy is also wrong when they attempt to drag the MEEIA into this case.

This is an FAC case and it needs to be considered as an FAC case. To make very clear what the OPC's position is, we are saying that Evergy failed to reduce the FAC energy costs and SPP Schedule 11 fees that flow through the FAC because it did not call additional demand response program events. We are not arguing for the prudency of the MEEIA program or whether or not the MEEIA program was implemented prudently, whether or not they achieved their MEEIA goals. The question here is simply and solely could Evergy have reduced energy costs for its consumers by using the available tools, and the answer to that is yes and that's why they're imprudent. But for the purposes of this case you can assume first that demand response

programs were prudently designed and second that Evergy prudently implemented those programs as necessary to meet the MEEIA objectives. Even if you make both of these assumptions, Evergy was still imprudent from an FAC perspective when it did not use its tools to reduce FAC costs.

Now, in order to explain more clearly the OPC's position, I'm going to provide you with an analogy. So I'm going to ask that you consider the following. Imagine a man walks up to you and he hands you a little black box with a red button on it, right, and he tells you every time you press the button you get \$100 U.S. American. There is no down side to you for pressing this button, but you can only press it 15 times in one year and then it will stop working for the rest of that year and you have to wait another year.

The crucial question I have is given these three facts, I want you to assume they're all true, there's no trick here, no deception, if you assume all three of these facts, how many times would you press that button? The OPC's position is you press the button 15 times a year, the maximum amount of times you can each year to maximize the money you receive.

Evergy, in essence, took a look at this issue and said we're going to press it five times and then

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stop, we don't care. That is imprudence. Now let's walk through and kind of apply that analogy to the facts to see exactly where we're coming from. The first thing you need to understand every time, or pretty much every time that energy is purchased by Evergy off the RTO, off the regional transmission offices, it costs the Company money. If the Company finds a way to reduce the amount of energy it purchases, it reduces the cost it spends buying money. This is a very, very simple concept.

Now, Evergy realizes this, which is why the tariff sheets that specifically set out the thermostat program and the curtailment programs, explicitly state that those programs can be used for the purpose of reducing costs. Now, you had the attorney for Evergy earlier read out parts of the tariff, and I'm going to do the same because I want to make sure it's very clear. If you look at the tariffs, there's a section called Need for Curtailment that says curtailments may be requested for operational or economic reasons.

Now, the operational curtailment is spelled out and that is the MEEIA. It's effectively to maintain the Company's capacity margin requirement. That's the goal of the MEEIA. But for economic reasons, the tariff states economic reasons may include any occasion when the marginal cost to produce or procure energy or the

price to sell the energy in a wholesale market is greater than the customer's retail price.

So again, Evergy's tariffs specifically state that these programs, these demand response programs, can be used for the explicit purpose of reducing energy costs, which is what the OPC wants the Company to use them for. And again, a fairly obvious point, if you reduce costs and you don't have to pay money, that is effectively having free money. So that's that first part of the analogy, pressing the button gets you \$100. Calling demand response program when the cost of energy is in the right situation produces a reduction in cost equivalent of getting free money.

So let's move on to the second two points.

I'm going to cover them both on one slide. It's very important for this Commission to understand that

Evergy's own witnesses state that these programs were designed to allow for 10 to 15 events a year. Now, I say 10 to 15, because it depends on the type of demand response program. For the large industrial customers, which is the curtailment program, it was 10 events. For the commercial and residential customers, which are the thermostat customers, it was 15 events a year. That is what Evergy maintains these were allowed to do.

The OPC has taken the position that if the

programs were prudently designed there was no down side to using them as designed. What this means quite simply is if Evergy says that the programs were designed to allow 15 events a year, there was no down side to Evergy calling 15 events in a year. This is important because the OPC is only asking that the program be used as designed. I want to make this very clear because during the opening of Evergy they insinuated that we're asking for a change to the program; that we want events called every day or 20 or more times a year. No, our position is very simple. If you say you can call 15 events, call 15 events.

The last thing I want to bring up, and this is a specific argument that you kind of heard Evergy make today in opening, there's this idea that if we call more events customers will be annoyed. To that I just want to say these customers are being paid for this program. They are receiving a free thermostat. They're receiving what's basically cash money in order to be able to use -- for Evergy to use these events. All the OPC is asking is that Evergy use the tools it has already paid customers for to the maximum amount that Evergy states they can be used for.

Now, given all that, you might be asking yourself if Evergy -- why, why doesn't Evergy call 15

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events if it can? Why is Evergy acting imprudent? The simple truth is there's just no benefit for Evergy to be prudent with regard to the FAC on this issue. All Evergy sees if it calls more events and reduces energy costs is the 5 percent of those costs that it saves which to Evergy just is not worth it. That 5 percent isn't enough. Whereas the 95 percent that gets passed along to customers, they don't care. That's not their That's why this prudence review is so important, money. because the only way that you can require Evergy to care about these cost savings for their customers is if you make it cost ineffective for Evergy to forego the effort meaning the Commission needs to require Evergy to attempt to get these cost savings or else pay what they could have gotten themselves. That's what the prudence review is here for.

So just to wrap up, the Commission gave Evergy a tool. You approve these demand response programs. We at the OPC, we're not questioning that as part of this case. That's not the issue here. What we want is for Evergy to use that tool, to use that tool as much as Evergy claims it was designed to be used and to use it in the manner that Evergy's own tariffs state it should be used or could be used. Evergy has a tool that can reduce energy costs. All that we're asking is that they

actually use it. In other words, we're asking Evergy to employ what we consider minimal efforts to reduce the FAC cost by calling the maximum number of events that these programs were designed to allow.

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Now, I want to say that conservative estimates of the cost savings here is around \$700,000. I want to be very clear when I say conservative estimates how exactly I mean that. OPC witness Ms. Lena Mantle can go into this in much more detail. It's addressed in her direct and she can explain it more if you have questions on the stand. But effectively when she calculated the amount of money that could be saved, what she did is she looked at the five hours of each of the four summer months that had the highest energy cost, the highest LMP, and she multiplied those five hours by the four months to come up with 20 hours. Now, it's really important that you understand when Evergy calls an event, that event can last up to four hours. So it's not one hour equals one event. That's not the case here.

Instead, it's one event can be up to four hours. And I'm not sure if she puts this in her testimony, but Ms. Mantle explains that when she calculated the 700,000, that was roughly nine additional events which on top of the five that Evergy claimed for

2019 would be close to the 15 total events that Evergy claims it could have called under its own program design.

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But if you take the four events that could be called for each event and you multiply that by 15, right, the total number of hours that could have been called is 60 hours. They could have called 60 hours worth of demand response events for the thermostat program. It's actually 80 for the curtailment or large customer program because you can curtail up to eight hours per event. Our numbers are based on 20, not 60, not 80. This is a small percentage of what the Company could have saved if it had called more events.

All right. With that, I'm going to move on to the second issue, the integrated resource plan. This is going to be a whole lot shorter and simpler. Here's the problem in brief. Evergy's 27 updates to its integrated resource plan assumed the sale of excess capacity. I'll be specific here, it's not on a slide, we're talking about short-term capacity sales. It assumed that it was going to make short-term capacity sales. But at the time it made those assumptions, it knew that it wasn't actually going to be able to make any such sales. There's just no market for it.

When it's making assumptions based on things

that it can't achieve, that is unreasonable. And that's why the OPC has a problem. The Company should not have included sales that the Company knew or should have known it wasn't going to make in its integrated resource plan.

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Now, you heard me discuss the IRP quite a lot, which obviously raised an important question. I know it's one that Chairman Silvey has alluded to. Why the Why are we bringing those up here? There's two FAC? reasons that we brought this up in this case. The first is that there's just no real good way to believe the inclusion of these unreasonable assumptions in the IRP If you raise a concern in the IRP process process. about the assumptions included, the response is going to be it's about the process, it's not about the actual plan being selected. As we see it, it's just not capable or we're not capable of actually addressing our concerns as part of the IRP.

The second issue is that the FAC, it creates a perverse incentive for the Company to do this, to include sales it knows it can't make. This is again explained in the testimony of Ms. Mantle. I'm going to take a stab at explaining it again here just so it's on the record. Effectively if the Company had no FAC and it included assumed sales in its IRP and it failed to

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make those sales, the financial analysts and stockholders who observed the Company would look at that and they go you failed to meet your projections. That's not a good thing. That would affect their stock negatively. But because they have the FAC, they can include these assumed sales as much as they want and it doesn't actually affect their earnings even if they don't make the sales because those sales, they're already designed to flow through to customers, which is why, again, Evergy just doesn't care. It includes these sales knowing full well that they're not going to be achieved and it's no skin off their nose to do so.

So what exactly is the OPC requesting? Well, our initial and immediate request is to impute into the FAC the sales Evergy said it would have made. I put approximately 5 million. I believe I might have transposed some numbers there. I apologize.

Regardless, just go with the numbers that are in our position statement. Again, the initial position that we had is impute into the FAC the sales Evergy assumed it would make.

We have an alternative. And that alternative has already been touched upon. We would like Evergy to just simply correct in the future. It's going to say that it's unlikely to make these sales. If it knows

that the market is such that these sales almost certainly aren't going to occur, stop modeling them in the IRP or at least include models that don't have these sales in them.

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The problem here is simply that looking forward the OPC can see that Evergy's IRPs in the future, the ones currently before the Commission, are still including the sale of excess capacity in increasing amounts. At the heart of the OPC's request, we just want this corrected. And in its opening, Evergy suggested that maybe if they had changed this for the '20-21 IRP that would have resolved the issue. I have to say yes, as far as the FAC is concerned, as far as this case is concerned, if they would just correct moving forward, I think this issue could be resolved.

So that, in essence, is my opening and I will simply ask if there are any questions. I know there's a few expected. I'll wait for them to be asked though.

JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you, Mr. Clizer. I'm going to ask the Chairman's questions for him because his connection is a little tenuous. So you touched on this a bit. So what issues -- What are the type of issues that should be addressed in the FAC prudence case versus the MEEIA prudence case?

MR. CLIZER: I'm not the attorney for the OPC

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in the MEEIA prudence case so I can't speak to exactly what issues have been raised there. As far as this case is concerned, though, the OPC is asking for a cost adjustment for energy costs that the Company could have achieved, cost savings the Company could have achieved had they called more events. Those energy costs would -- or those cost savings I should say would have flowed through the FAC and so they should be addressed in the FAC. Now, I believe in the MEEIA case there's a host of 10 other issues. You have administrative costs that have 11 been brought up across multiple different issues, for 12 example, and you have other issues related to the 13 prudency and implementation of the MEEIA program. 14 Again, I said for the purpose of this case assume it's implemented prudently, assume that it was prudent. the MEEIA case, probably not going to ask you to make those same assumptions. Those are what the MEEIA case needs to be focused on. But for this case right now is 19 simply this. Evergy had a tool they could have used to reduce costs. It didn't use those tools. Not using 20 21 those tools or that tool was imprudence. And the cost 22 it could have saved should flow through the FAC, and that issue needs to be dealt with here and now in the 24 FAC. Does that answer the question? JUDGE DIPPELL: It does. Thank you. So what

is the standard that the Commission should apply for determining the prudency costs included in an FAC?

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MR. CLIZER: I believe the idea that a reasonable standard has been approached, I feel like as far as the prudency I believe it is a reasonableness standard. It's a little bit difficult for me to answer that just because I'm not entirely sure where exactly you're coming from, if you're referring to the standard or if you're referring to the burden.

JUDGE DIPPELL: Well, both. I want to know -- that's the follow up. Explain to me how that plays out.

MR. CLIZER: So the burden of proof in these prudency cases is actually a truly fascinating question for me from a legal perspective. I don't want to say it's opened a can of worms, but it's got some very interesting implications. Here's what I'm talking about. Pure statutory black letter law, right, states, here I'm quoting 393.150.2, second sentence. At any hearing involving a rate sought to be increased, the burden of proof to show that the increased rate or proposed increased rate is just and reasonable shall be upon the, and then it lists off all the various types of corporations that can be gas, sewer, electric, et So the black letter law clearly states that cetera. when someone is attempting to increase a rate, the

burden of proof is on the person seeking the increase.

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Now, that would easily apply in an FAC rate change case, right? If Evergy or whenever Evergy comes in and says we'd like to increase our FAC rate, that's the burden that would obviously apply. Could the OPC raise an argument regarding imprudence in an FAC rate change case though under that burden? The policy and procedure of the Commission has been effectively no. Ιf the OPC was attempting to raise an issue regarding prudency in an FAC rate change case, the Commission's general policy has been to say no, we will address that in the prudency review. Well, okay. But does that mean that the actual burden of proof shifts between the rate case where it's clearly by law on the Company and the prudence case? I would argue that you can't shift the burden between these two cases because to do so would effectively be to circumvent the black letter law. position is that a company always has the burden of proving that its rates are just and reasonable. the baseline at which we need to start, but it's not the only consideration. We have a second step. The second step is the presumption of prudence, which is an idea created by the Commission and granted a certain degree of approval by the courts of the state. There has been some pushback, I feel like you're probably aware of

that, we don't need to get into it, which states that a company's decisions are assumed prudent under certain circumstances. Again, affiliated transaction is an example of when that hasn't held true, but I don't want to get too far into the weeds here.

Under the presumption of prudence, the Company is again presumed prudent unless an opposing party can demonstrate a serious instance of imprudence at which case the burden shifts back to the Company to prove the prudence of that decision. So as I see it, Evergy has the burden of proving its rates are just and reasonable. They might be able to rely on the presumption of prudence. But if the OPC is successful in establishing that some imprudence was likely, which is I believe easily accomplished by demonstrating that they called five events when they could have called 15, I don't have 15 fingers, then we've met our burden and it becomes the Company's job to demonstrate why they didn't call the 15 events that they claim their program was designed to allow. I hope that answers the question.

JUDGE DIPPELL: It does. Thank you. So how detailed does the information need to be to show that there was a harm to customers, and the follow up to that is, is it enough to show fuel or purchased power costs would likely have been less or does a specific amount of

1 harm have to be shown?

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MR. CLIZER: You do not have to show a specific amount of harm. That gets really to the idea that it's always the Company's responsibility to show the rates being charged are just and reasonable. That I feel is what you have to take away from the black letter statutory law, because otherwise you're just out in the wilderness. If an opposing party can demonstrate that the Company acted in a manner that was imprudent, that is sufficient. At that point it becomes the Company's job to demonstrate, to prove that its rates were prudent, were just, were reasonable. So to answer the question, it is simply enough to demonstrate the imprudence has occurred rather than demonstrating an exact amount.

JUDGE DIPPELL: And then the last --

MR. CLIZER: Was there a second question

18 | there?

JUDGE DIPPELL: I think you touched on it. It was two related questions.

MR. CLIZER: Okay.

JUDGE DIPPELL: So last question then is, is there law, case law or regulations that identify how or if the Commission can apply Evergy's integrated resource plan to an FAC prudence review? I'm not hearing you,

Mr. Clizer. We've lost your audio. I'll give you just a minute there. We're just pausing for Mr. Clizer to figure out what's going on with his audio here.

MR. CLIZER: It would appear, I think, that there might be a limit to how long that phone call can last or else potentially the machine just failed me.

I'm not sure. But I'm back now.

JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you.

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MR. CLIZER: Can you please repeat your question?

JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes. Is there case law or other law, statutes, regulations that identify how or if the Commission can apply Evergy's integrated resource plan in an FAC prudence review?

MR. CLIZER: I am not aware as I'm sitting right here whether or not there's specific evidence or case law into that. That would be something I would need to do more legal research on. I would however just want to stress that at the end of the day the OPC's position as to this issue is really simply that we want the Company to do better or be better at making its IRP process. If it says -- If its witnesses are stating now that it's unlikely to make these short-term capacity sales, then stop including short-term capacity sales in its IRP or at a minimum include models that don't have

those sales. That is the heart of what we're really asking for.

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JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. And to your knowledge, the Commission hasn't considered this issue in the past with the IRP?

MR. CLIZER: To my knowledge right now, no, subject to additional legal research.

JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Thank you. Were there other Commission questions for Mr. Clizer? Pause just a second in case any of the other Commissioners need to unmute. I believe that concludes the questions for you, Mr. Clizer. Thank you very much.

MR. CLIZER: Thank you, Your Honor.

JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. So I will just mention I was hearing a bit of agreement there between Evergy's statements of what they would do and Public Counsel's statements of what they would accept. So I would encourage you that if you can come to an agreement to resolve that issue, you might think about going ahead and making a formal agreement on that issue as well. If you want the Commission to make a formal decision, then that will be what happens.

Okay. So I said that I was going to address your supplemental testimony motion or objection to supplemental testimony that Evergy submitted, and we did

have this issue early on about how the testimony would proceed and whether Evergy would have the opportunity to submit another round of testimony, and the Commission said no at that time. However, Mr. Luebbert did attach a substantial amount of testimony to his surrebuttal related to the MEEIA case. And I'm not even sure that a majority of that testimony is even relevant in this case. But I think that in the interest of fairness I'm going to allow Evergy to submit its testimony in that case as it has offered. So the motion -- the objection is overruled and Evergy's motion is granted.

Now, with that, again, I'm going to say this is an FAC case. This is not a MEEIA prudence review. So we are not going to argue about the prudence of the MEEIA program. We are going to argue and hear evidence about how that demand response program affects FAC costs. So I don't want you to think that because I'm allowing that testimony in this is turning into a MEEIA prudence review case, because that is not the situation.

Are there any other pending motions or questions before we begin with witness testimony?

MR. STEINER: Judge, this is Roger Steiner.

Just kind of, I believe there is agreement on the IRP issue. The Company has stated that in its future IRP it will make a run with capacity costs and without. If

that satisfies OPC, and it sounds like it will, I don't really think we would need the Witness Messamore to get on the stand and we can go on the record and say that resolves the issue.

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JUDGE DIPPELL: Mr. Clizer, do you need more time to discuss that off the record with your client?

MR. CLIZER: First of all, I would need to run this by my boss as a matter of -- as a practical matter. It's just I don't have the authority to make any decision on my own on this. I would need that to start with. Second of all, I do believe that a resolution could be reached, but I want to make clear that we are talking about resolution of this issue for this case. There are potentially issues related to this, similar to this, or I'm sure some would argue identical to this raised in the MEEIA and we are not settling those issues in the MEEIA. As I believe Staff mentioned in his opening, there might be certain administrative costs that could be disallowed in the MEEIA case for similar reasons. As far as this case goes, I do believe a settlement could be reached. I would prefer, if possible, that that be reached in some kind of formal writing. And while I know this would be of inconvenience to many people who have shown up for this, I personally would be okay with suspending the hearing

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at least temporarily to address that or taking some
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     similar precautions to try and reach a resolution in
    writing that we can get before the Commission as soon as
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    possible.
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: How much time?
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               MR. STEINER: That's fine, Judge. We could
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     take a short break after lunch or we could postpone Ms.
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    Messamore's testimony while we're trying to work this
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    part out.
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. And does that only
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    affect her testimony?
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               MR. STEINER: I believe so, yes.
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               JUDGE DIPPELL:
                               Okay. Well, in that case
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     let's proceed then with Mr. Carlson's testimony and
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    proceed down that line. And when we get ready to take a
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    break for lunch, perhaps we can take an extra long break
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    at that point to let you all have further discussions on
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     that measure.
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               MR. FISCHER: Judge, I do think that John
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    Carlson's testimony does address the capacity sales
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     issue to some extent. I'm not sure if there's anything
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    beyond that that Public Counsel or Staff would want to
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     talk to him about.
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: That's true. Mr. Clizer, I
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    can't hear you.
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MR. CLIZER: I know. I was checking with my
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    witness on something. I apologize for the coughing.
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    have no objection to introducing Mr. Carlson's
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     testimony. I mean, if a resolution can't be reached for
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    whatever reason, and I'm going to butcher her name,
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    needs to speak, it will already be on the record. Ms.
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    Mantle's testimony is going to include both issues
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    obviously. So I'm perfectly fine with having the
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     testimony submitted under the due course here because I
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    believe Mr. Carlson speaks as to both issues.
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Is it possible to begin
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    Mr. Carlson's testimony and save the capacity issue
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    questions for last or is that not going to work with
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    your cross-examination?
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               MR. CLIZER: Unless Staff has specific cross
     for Mr. Carlson, I don't think it will be a problem on
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     this issue.
               MR. PRINGLE: And Staff has no cross for
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    Mr. Carlson.
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Well, in that case I
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    want to go ahead then and proceed and at least get
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    Mr. Carlson set up and on the record, and maybe we will
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     take an earlier lunch instead of going for a couple of
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    hours and breaking. So let's go ahead and get
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    Mr. Carlson sworn in and get his testimony entered and
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that kind of preliminary stuff. Mr. Carlson, there he 1 2 is. I see him on the line. Is your audio working okay, Mr. Carlson? Can you speak for me, say hello? 3 4 THE WITNESS: Yes. Can you hear me? 5 JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes, I can. Thank you. I 6 called Mr. Carlson but he was first on our witness list. 7 I assume that that's the first witness Evergy would like 8 to call. 9 MR. FISCHER: Yes, Judge. Evergy would like to call John Carlson to the stand. 10 11 JUDGE DIPPELL: Mr. Carlson, would you please 12 raise your right hand. 13 (Witness sworn.) JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. If you could go 14 15 ahead then, Mr. Fischer. 16 MR. FISCHER: Yes. 17 JOHN CARLSON, 18 called as a witness on behalf of Evergy, being sworn, testified as follows: 19 20 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. FISCHER: 21 Mr. Carlson, would you state your name and 22 your business address, who you're employed by and in 23 what capacity? 24 My name is John Carlson. I'm employed by Evergy, Inc. I work out of 1200 Main Street in Kansas 2.5

City, Missouri, and my title is Senior Manager of 1 2 Missouri Operations. Mr. Carlson, did you cause to be filed in this 3 proceeding three pieces of testimony which have been 4 marked Exhibit No. 1, your direct testimony, Exhibit No. 5 6 2, your confidential rebuttal testimony, and Exhibit 3, 7 your public version of your rebuttal testimony? 8 Α. Yes, I did. 9 Did you have any changes or corrections that you need to make to any of those testimonies? 10 11 No, I do not. Α. 12 If I were to ask you the questions that are 13 contained in those written documents, would your answers 14 be the same today? 15 Α. Yes, they would. 16 Are they true and accurate, to the best of Ο. 17 your knowledge and belief? 18 Yes, they are. Α. MR. FISCHER: Judge, with that I would move 19 20 for the admission of Exhibits 1, 2 and 3 and tender the 21 witness for cross-examination. 22 JUDGE DIPPELL: Would there be any objection 23 to Exhibits 1, 2C and 3? 24 MR. PRINGLE: None from Staff, Judge.

JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Okay. I will

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1	admit those exhibits.
2	(EVERGY'S EXHIBITS 1, 2C AND 3 WERE RECEIVED
3	INTO EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
4	JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. On our order of
5	cross-examination, we have cross-examination by Staff.
6	MR. PRINGLE: Staff has no questions for
7	Mr. Carlson, Judge. Thank you.
8	JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Is there
9	cross-examination by Public Counsel?
10	MR. CLIZER: No. Thank you, Your Honor.
11	JUDGE DIPPELL: Very good then. All right. I
12	do believe that there are some Commission questions.
13	Are there questions by the Commission? If you're able
14	I have some questions that the Commissioners had
15	given to me earlier in case there were issues; but if
16	any of the Commissioners want to ask questions, go ahead
17	and speak up. Otherwise, I'll go forward with some of
18	the questions I have. I'll try to parse out what might
19	have to do with the capacity contracts.
20	QUESTIONS BY JUDGE DIPPELL:
21	Q. Mr. Carlson, you spoke about the Schedule 11
22	fees; is that correct
23	A. Yes, I did.
24	Q in your testimony. Can you just give us a
25	base explanation of what Schedule 11 is, where it's

found and that kind of information?

A. Yes. So this is a SPP transmission fee that's
applied to the transmission customer side of the
business. So in particular the way Schedule 11 works
is, and I'm speaking broadly here, there are a large set
of transmission upgrades that are occurring within the
SPP transmission footprint and those fees are allocated
to customers, transmission customers, at different
voltage levels of service. So in particular at the
higher voltage levels of service for these transmission
upgrades, those costs get allocated on a load ratio
share basis to transmission customers. I think I used
the example in my testimony if you have load of, say,
100 megawatts and the overall SPP system load is a
thousand megawatts, something to that effect, your load
ratio share would be 10 percent. And in that case you
would have 10 percent of the expenses for those large
regional projects and those upgrades allocated to your
company. This occurs for all transmission customers in
the SPP footprint, and those Schedule 11 fees are
updated as transmission owners update their revenue
requirements for upgrades that they performed. As new
projects come into the queue, SPP has a steady process
to determine which longer term large infrastructure
projects they're going to invest in as a transmission

entity and those get allocated as those projects are
completed. So that Schedule 11 number that is then
allocated to all the transmission customers adjusts over
time.

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- Q. Okay. But on a more basic level, when you say "Schedule 11," you're referring to a schedule of an SPP tariff, operating tariff?
- A. That's right. It is part of the SPP open access transmission tariff. So the schedules are listed. Schedule 11 is one. There are multiple Schedules 1 through maybe 11. I don't recall if there's one -- there might be a Schedule 12 as well that has to deal with other issues. Yes, those are all part of SPP's tariff.
- Q. And that if the Commission needed to refer specifically to that document, where would the Commission find that?
- A. So you can find that on SPP's website. I believe if you go to their home page, if I'm not mistaken, it's under it might be a customer information or market information header at the top of their page and you can scroll down and you'll see SPP tariff there.
- Q. And how does SPP determine Evergy's load share percentage?
 - A. So the SPP looks at the average of the 12

monthly peaks throughout the year for the SPP system as a whole and for each transmission customer within the system. So in our case the calculation is done looking at all 12 monthly peaks. The average of those monthly peaks is our average annual number megawatts of a peak. You divide that by SPP's overall average 12 monthly peak value and that is our particular load ratio share.

Q. And does that -- go ahead.

- A. My apologies. That's done at each Company's level. So we have a load ratio share for Evergy Metro, we have a load ratio share for Evergy Missouri West.
- Q. And does that load ratio share stay the same for the entire year, the entire summer, or does it change by month?
- A. So it changes on an annual basis. SPP calculates the load ratio share. So I'll use 2021 as an example. The load ratio share applied to Evergy Missouri, Missouri West and Evergy Metro for 2021 would be the calculation using 2020 peak load data. So they use an historical lookback one year to determine what the load ratio share will be for the upcoming year.
- Q. Do you know what Evergy West and Evergy Metro's load ratio share were in 2018 and 2019 during this period?
 - A. So I am speaking off the cuff. I don't recall

- the exact numbers. But if I recall correctly, somewhere in the neighborhood of maybe 4 percent for Missouri West and around 7 percent maybe for Metro.
- Q. And you think that was about the same for both years?
 - A. I believe so. There's some slight variance, but I believe that's in the ballpark.
 - Q. Do you have access to that information? Can you verify that?
 - A. Yes, we can.
- 11 0. Later?

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- 12 A. I can try and look it up now if you want to wait or we can follow up.
- Q. You can follow up just if you can get back to me before we adjourn the hearing.
 - A. Yes, Your Honor.
- Q. Does Evergy have an integrated strategy to managing its demand response program with its FAC?
- 19 A. I guess I probably can't speak to that. I
 20 haven't been a part of any. I'm sorry. Are you still
 21 there?
 - Q. Yes. I don't know if it's my connection or yours.
- A. Okay. So I was saying I'm not sure I could speak to that. I haven't myself been involved in any

direct discussions relaying these activities to the FAC.

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- Q. Okay. On a day-to-day basis, how does the demand response team that issues curtailment events interact with the team purchasing power from SPP? Do you know?
- Α. I do know that. So in the summer months, we get together. We have -- At least our plan for last year was we had a standing weekly meeting that would usually occur on a Monday morning. In that meeting, we would discuss what the weather looked like, if we had an indication of load profiles potentially, if we had an understanding of where we thought the power markets might be vis-a-vis these programs, did we think there might be a system peak coming up this month or an annual peak coming up. So these discussions would happen on a Monday. If we thought at that time that there was potential for a program event to be called, if we had a strong sense one way or the other we would typically make that decision at that time, but more likely there would be a follow-up meeting closer to a potential event.

So let's say, for example, on a Monday we looked at weather and maybe potential peaks we saw that Thursday might be an opportunity. Typically what we would do is follow up on a Wednesday with another call,

has anything changed, do we still think that that's a good time to call an event and try and reduce our peaks.

So that's sort of the process we went through last year.

I will say it's sort of a continually evolving process. We're looking at ways to improve, you know, do we meet more frequently. These types of discussions are ongoing. That's how we handled it last year.

- Q. Okay. And you touched on this a little; but just to make sure, explain the process under which decisions are made to issue curtailment events. What is the SPP's purchasing team's role in the activity, if any?
- A. So my group's particular role would be we would help pull in weather forecasts, we have a weather forecasting system. We would to the extent possible look out and make some determination, potential determination of where we thought load might be and look at that data relative to peak data and then meet up with our demand response team led by Brian File and then they would have other inputs. My group's main input would be what are the markets looking like, what does the weather data show us, and then we get together with the team and discuss from their perspective as well.
- Q. If the Commission does agree with Public Counsel that Evergy should have used the DR programs to

maximum amount of their design capability, does Evergy agree with the method and calculations used by OPC's witness to calculate the value of the imprudence and if not, how does Evergy -- what's Evergy's proposed calculation if the Commission finds that that was imprudent?

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So we don't agree with the calculation that Α. OPC has put forward. In particular, with the day-ahead LMPs projection of potential energy savings, I think that from a market perspective is full of potential risk. What the argument is, is that we would decide on a day-ahead basis that there are potential high energy prices the next day and that we were effectively guessing that those are the prices. So I think I used this example in my testimony, my written testimony. would have to decide by 9:30 on Monday that Tuesday at 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, whatever the time is, that there would be high energy prices. And while there may be some benefit sometimes, the SPP market is so fraught with other issues that come up that impact those prices we don't have insight to things like transmission, failures on the system, generation coming off line randomly to include hours. That happens. These are large units with lots of equipment that things can go wrong. You get all kinds of wind impacts. In particular from Iowa

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we get all kinds of impacts from Iowa coming down on our system that impact prices at various times and we may not know about it. There are other transmission type issues that can come up that as a marketing function employee I am not privy to that information on a day-ahead basis. So I would say those are -- that type of analysis has all kinds of potential downfalls. we come up with an alternative way to handle this? don't think I did in my testimony per se. You know, I think the way we've kind of perceived or portrayed this opportunity is that these are incremental benefits aligned with reducing peaks. So we may reduce the peak, which is our key objective in the MEEIA programs, and Company Witness File will discuss that. These are benefits that are sort of extraneous to that. These are the other benefits, if you will.

The main benefit that we've been trying to do with these programs is reduce our peak. If we get these alternative benefits, that's great. We wouldn't not welcome those. But that's not what's driving the programs. So I don't know that we've actually looked at what would be the potential from an energy savings perspective going forward.

Q. But how would the Commission figure that out? What would the Commission need to calculate in order to

determine if you don't agree with how Public Counsel calculated it?

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I guess one way to do that would be to look at those times when we actually called a peak event, the events that we did call over the time period of the FAC, and look at the potential energy savings associated with the LMPs during the times of those events. That might be a way to determine some value. Outside of that, I guess you could look at maybe the average LMP -- So LMP, let me take a step back for those that may not know. That's locational marginal price. Each note in the SPP footprint has a locational marginal price associated with it. Perhaps you look at an average LMP over a certain period of time, a week, a month, and determine were there times when those events -- when an event should have been called given high prices. But again, this is sort of cherry picking and looking back in arrears and picking those hours. Picking one hour or two hours here or there looks good I think looking at the data after the fact; but when you're sitting and trying to determine on a day-ahead basis which hours, those one or two-hour picks, that's hard to do given the complexity of the market. So maybe the Commission looks at more of an average over a certain time period instead of one or two hours that are high over a time period, if

you will.

- Q. Okay. So if Evergy had made those additional curtailment calls, how would that have affected the Schedule 11 charges?
- A. So that would depend on if those calls were made at the exact hour of the peak for that month. So again, the way the Schedule 11 fees is calculated is based on your load ratio share which is the average of your 12 monthly peaks. So we would have to know the exact hour and day let's say in June when the monthly peak occurred and we would have had to call the event on that particular -- at that particular time or over that particular time if it were a four-hour event. Then it could reduce the system peak for that month and then that would again reduce your average 12 monthly peaks because that particular month was reduced as well.

 That's how you would capture or could capture. Again, if you could figure out the exact hour and day of that peak, that's how you would capture that value.
- Q. And do you have that information that you would need to know? I'm sorry. Do you have the information needed to know what load shifts would have been required in order to impact the load share calculation?
 - A. So I'm not sure I follow the question. I'll

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try and answer it. If I don't, please let me know.
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    After the fact, of course, we would know what time
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    periods or when that peak occurred. When you are making
     those decisions to call an event, we have an idea, we
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    have a fairly good idea. I say fairly good. Usually
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    July, late July, early August is when our system peak
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              I say typically. So that time period we have
    occurs.
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    an idea. Now, do we know the exact day or hour, no.
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    have a stronger sense, if you will, of when a system
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    peak would occur. Now, the monthly peaks are totally
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                 In particular, June and September when
    different.
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    you've got changing seasons from spring into summer in
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    June and summer into fall in September, the monthly
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    peaks could be anywhere in the month. So that trying to
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    determine the exact hour and day in those months when a
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    peak occurs is increasingly difficult relative to having
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    an understanding of when the system peak typically
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    occurs, which is that July, August time frame.
19
     that answer your question?
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          Ο.
               I think it does. Thank you.
21
         Α.
               Okay.
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: Hold on just a second. I had
23
    a follow up.
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    BY JUDGE DIPPELL:
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          O.
               So would it be accurate to say that the more
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events Evergy calls the more likely it would be to hit the system peak for that month and save SPP fees?

- A. If you're just looking at number of events, yes. I mean, if we called more events, we would have a higher likelihood. That doesn't mean we'd be likely to, but we would have a higher likelihood of us hitting a peak, yes.
- Q. And what information is provided to the residential and commercial customers as to the details or the parameters of the applicable demand response program prior to them signing up to participate?
- A. I think that question is probably better asked and answered by Mr. File --
 - Q. Okay.

- A. -- as he works directly with the demand response programs.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Just checking then to see if I had any other follow ups. I think you've answered my questions. Are there any other Commission questions from any of the Commissioners who are able?

 I'm not hearing anything. Are there follow up questions based on the questions that I asked? Are there further cross-examination questions from Staff?
- MR. PRINGLE: Yes, Judge.
- 25 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. PRINGLE:

Mr. Carlson, is Evergy currently attempting to 1 Ο. forecast monthly peaks? 2 My group in particular we're not looking to 3 4 forecast monthly peaks. We forecast to the best we can 5 I wouldn't say we're doing that for 6 forecasting monthly peaks. My group has to submit in 7 the daily market our load -- our offer and our 8 generation we bid on our load on a daily basis. We do 9 forecast load, but we're not doing it necessarily with 10 an eye towards monthly peak, if you will. 11 So for now it's just fair to say that's a no, 12 you aren't forecasting monthly peaks? 13 Well, my group. Now, when we get together 14 with the demand response group, we're looking at each 15 month's or each week's load projection and comparing 16 that relative to monthly peaks and/or seasonal peak. 17 From my group on a daily basis, no, we're not looking at 18 it from a monthly peak perspective. 19 MR. PRINGLE: Thank you, sir. Nothing further, Judge. 20 21 JUDGE DIPPELL: Is there further 22 cross-examination from Public Counsel based on my 23 questions? 24 MR. CLIZER: Yes. 2.5 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. CLIZER:

Q. Good afternoon. Yes, it is now afternoon. Good afternoon, Mr. Carlson. You had kind of discussed some of the factors that you look at when you meet with the demand response group kind of to discuss the peak. For example, you discussed looking at the weather. Do you ever review the day-ahead market prices for SPP?

- A. We look at -- The only prices we look at are projected prices that we get out of a particular model that's run by our analytics group for the next week. So those are -- I believe those are realtime prices, but I have to verify that. I don't recall off the top of my head.
- Q. You don't know whether you examined the SPP day-ahead market?
- A. No, my group examines the SPP day-ahead market for sure; but relative to the demand response programs, I don't recall if the pricing data we look at is the realtime price for the day in question or if it's the day-ahead price. I'd have to follow up on that. I just don't recall off the top of my head.
- Q. I'm not sure if this is a question for you or Mr. File. Does that day-ahead market price that you look at factor into the decisions for when a demand response or a curtailment event is called?
 - A. I believe it does, but I'll also let Mr. File

- 1 speak to that as well.
- 2 MR. CLIZER: I have no further questions.
- 3 | Thank you.

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- 4 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. And I apologize, but as
- 5 | I was reviewing my questions, I found one more that I
- 6 | forgot to ask.
 - FURTHER QUESTIONS BY JUDGE DIPPELL:
- Q. Mr. Carlson, that has to do with page 22 of your rebuttal testimony.
- 10 A. If you don't mind, I'm going to get on my
 11 computer here and pull that up as well. Okay. I have
 12 that up.
 - Q. Okay. So you state there or you indicate that Ms. Mantle for OPC that her SPP Schedule 11 adjustments need to be based on the correct years. Can you just explain that?
 - A. Yes. So I believe in the analysis that Ms. Mantle used, if I'm not mistaken, it was some analysis that was pulled from a MEEIA proceeding and Staff Witness Luebbert in that proceeding, and in that proceeding Mr. Luebbert used an incorrect year. So instead of using data that would have applied to this proceeding '17-18, I'm sorry, '18-19, the data he used was from 2017 to 2018. No, I'm sorry. Let me rephrase that. I believe it was he used data from '20 -- it

would have been applied to 2019 and '20. When you 1 2 adjust it for the correct years, then that's this correction that I have made here. 3 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Is there anything 5 further from Staff based on that question? 6 MR. PRINGLE: Nothing from Staff, Judge. 7 Thank you. 8 JUDGE DIPPELL: Is there anything further from 9 Public Counsel? 10 MR. CLIZER: Briefly. 11 FURTHER CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. CLIZER: Mr. Carlson, did you review the surrebuttal 12 testimony of Ms. Mantle? 13 I did. 14 Α. 15 Do you have a copy in front of you? Do you have a copy of it readily available? 16 17 Α. If you give me a second, I can find it. I've got a copy here. I have it. 18 19 On page 2 of the surrebuttal testimony, I 20 direct you to lines 13 and 14. I don't need you to read 21 them out loud. Can you just verify for me that in her 22 surrebuttal testimony Ms. Mantle actually included your 23 updates, your corrections regarding the SPP Schedule 11 24 fees as part of her recommendation?

Yes, that appears to be correct.

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Α.

1	MR. CLIZER: That was all. Thank you very
2	much.
3	JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Is there redirect
4	from Evergy? I'm sorry, Mr. Fischer, I muted you
5	earlier. If you can go ahead and try to unmute.
6	MR. FISCHER: Okay now. Can you hear me now?
7	JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes, thank you.
8	MR. FISCHER: Very good.
9	REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. FISCHER:
10	Q. Mr. Carlson, you were asked some questions
11	regarding your role in I guess the demand response
12	curtailment process when you get together on a Monday
13	morning to talk about it. Do you recall those
14	questions?
15	A. Yes, I do.
16	Q. When you do that on a Monday morning, is that
17	typically in the summertime when you're looking at peak
18	times and what the weather is going to be in the summer?
19	A. Yes, it is.
20	Q. What is your goal when you sit down to? What
21	are you trying to do by looking at those factors and
22	deciding whether to do a demand response event?
23	A. Our goal is to attempt to reduce our system
24	annual peak primarily. Last year we started looking at,
25	you know, is there benefit in maybe reducing the monthly

peaks as well, but it's all been the system peak during
those summer seasons which is when our system peak
occurs.

- Q. Do you typically do that in non-summer seasons?
- A. When you say "do that," do you mean get together and discuss --
 - Q. Yes.

- A. -- these programs? No, we do not.
- Q. Why wouldn't you do that in non-summer periods?
 - A. Well, so right now both Evergy Metro and Evergy Missouri West are summer peaking utilities meaning we set our system peak in the summertime. So for the purposes of this program and also because the program has limits in terms of when you can call events in those four months, those four summer months, that's when we call events, or excuse me, that's when we get together to review.
 - Q. If you were to use the demand response programs to try to maximize reductions in SPP fees, would you need to meet in non-summer months?
 - A. If you wanted to have a broad potential impact on SPP fees, in particular Schedule 11 fees, you know, again, that load ratio share calculation associated with

those fees is a 12-month average peak number. So if you wanted the largest benefit, you'd have to meet outside of those four summer months for sure. For purposes of this, though, you could still if you were able to hit that peak, if we were able to pick that time, that hour, that day, that peak occurred in the summer months you could still have some benefit relative to the Schedule 11 fees.

- Q. You mentioned I think in answer to Judge
 Dippell you discussed how difficult it is to project or
 to hit the monthly peaks, especially in off summer or
 during off peak periods; is that right?
- A. Right. In particular, the June, even some in July and September, it's not easy to pick a peak anyway. We try to do that with these programs. It's not easy to hit the actual annual peak, but the monthly peaks, in particular, if you will, the shoulder summer month seasons, that June and September are even more difficult, yes.
- Q. And would you elaborate on why that's difficult to hit those peaks especially in the off peak periods?
- A. Well, you know, at the risk of stating the obvious, you don't have the heat that's built up in the system like you do in the late July and August. So

typically weather and temperatures are a large factor 1 2 driving up load. As the seasons change, you might have some days when in June you'll have a 90 -- we've had 90, 3 4 90 plus degree days in early June. We've had, my quess, 5 I don't have this data at the top of my head, but my guess is you've had 50, 50 degree days as highs in June. 6 7 And they can waffle back and forth. So trying to pick 8 the exact hour and day when that peak is going to occur 9 is hard to do. The same thing applies to the back end in September when the flip side is occurring. You've 10 11 got some winter days coming in. You've still got some 12 of those hot days from summer. Trying to pick that exact hour can be really difficult. 13

- Q. Of course, you can do that on a hindsight basis I believe you indicated to the Judge, right?
- A. Yes. That's much easier on a hindsight basis, yes.
- Q. But that's not the standard, as you understand; it's reasonableness at the time the decision is made, right?
 - A. That's correct.

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- MR. FISCHER: I think that's all the questions
 I have. Thank you, Judge.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Thank you very much. I appreciate that. Okay. So that brings us then to Ms.

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Messamore. And I think that we'll go ahead then and
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    break for lunch, I know we haven't been going that long,
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    and let you all discuss the possibility of knocking out
    one of our two biggest issues here. How much time do
    you think you might need?
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               MR. STEINER: Maybe until --
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: I'm sorry. Is that
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    Mr. Steiner? You're cutting out.
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               MR. STEINER: This is Mr. Steiner, yes. Let
    me get my video going.
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: Go ahead. You're fine.
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               MR. STEINER: Maybe until 2:00, Judge.
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: Does that sound reasonable,
    Mr. Clizer?
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              MR. CLIZER: Yes.
               JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Well, in that case
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     let's go ahead and take a lunch break until 2:00 and we
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    can return here. Again, this video will stay open.
     can leave and come back or you can just mute yourselves,
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    but I would suggest you have your conversations offline
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     in case it should be broadcast. All right. Let's go
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    ahead then and go off the record. Thank you.
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               (Off the record.)
               JUDGE DIPPELL: Let's go ahead and go back on
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     the record. So we've returned from our lunch/settlement
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negotiation break, and I want to congratulate the
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    parties on putting together a Stipulation and Agreement
    and getting that filed and signed, sealed and delivered
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    all over the course of our lunch break. I hope you also
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    got some lunch. So the agreement like the one before it
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    does title itself as unanimous, but, of course, we do
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    have all of those inactive parties in this case.
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     it's actually only non-unanimous unless nobody objects.
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     But I appreciate that. And I think it's safe to go
     forward with assuming that there will be no objection to
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     that. So that does away with the IRP issue or actually
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     -- Go ahead.
               MR. STEINER: Thanks, Your Honor. I think it
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    would be issues one, two and three would go away.
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: Right. That's as they were
     listed on the issues list filed in the case.
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               MR. STEINER: Correct.
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: Very good. All right.
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    does that take care of then anything to do with Ms.
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    Messamore's testimony?
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               MR. STEINER: Yes, other than I'd like to
    offer it for admission.
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. And we have marked that
    as Exhibit No. 5.
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               MR. STEINER: Correct.
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1	JUDGE DIPPELL: Would there be any objection
2	to Exhibit No. 5? Seeing none. I'll go ahead and enter
3	that into the record.
4	(EVERGY'S EXHIBIT 5 WAS RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE
5	AND MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
6	JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Then I think we're
7	ready then for your next witness. Would you like to go
8	ahead and call your next witness?
9	MR. HARDEN: Thank you, Your Honor. This is
10	Joshua Harden for the Company. We would like to call to
11	the stand Brian File, please.
12	JUDGE DIPPELL: I'm looking. Mr. File, are
13	you oh, there you are.
14	THE WITNESS: I'm here.
15	JUDGE DIPPELL: I can hear you.
16	COMMISSIONER HOLSMAN: Holsman is on.
17	JUDGE DIPPELL: Welcome, Commissioner Holsman.
18	We are just getting ready to swear in Mr. File. If you
19	could please raise your right hand.
20	(Witness sworn.)
21	JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Go ahead with your
22	preliminary matters then.
23	MR. HARDEN: Great. Thank you, Your Honor.
24	BRIAN FILE,
25	called as a witness on behalf of Evergy, being sworn,

1	testified as follows:
2	DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HARDEN:
3	Q. Will you state your name for the record,
4	please?
5	A. Brian A. File.
6	Q. And Mr. File, for whom do you work?
7	A. I work for Evergy, Incorporated.
8	Q. What is your job title and position?
9	A. My title is Director of Demand-Side Management
10	at Evergy.
11	Q. Are you the same Brian File that caused to be
12	filed what is marked as Exhibit No. 4, your rebuttal
13	testimony in this case?
14	A. I am.
15	JUDGE DIPPELL: Hang on just a minute. Mr.
16	Harden, are you and Mr. File in the same room?
17	MR. HARDEN: Yes, we are.
18	JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. We're getting a little
19	bit of feedback. So you're going to have to juggle the
20	mute buttons or
21	MR. HARDEN: Can I see if my headphones make a
22	difference?
23	MR. FISCHER: Brian, I think our headphones,
24	if you take those out, that helped last time.
25	THE WITNESS: So me take my headphones out?

1 MR. FISCHER: Try that. 2 MR. HARDEN: Can I be heard? JUDGE DIPPELL: We can hear you fine, 3 4 Mr. Harden. What about you, Mr. File? 5 MR. FILE: I'm here. Can you hear me? JUDGE DIPPELL: You sound better too. Go 6 7 ahead then. Sorry about that. MR. HARDEN: Thank you. 8 9 BY MR. HARDEN: Are you the same Mr. File who caused to be 10 11 filed in this case rebuttal testimony marked as Exhibit 12 4? I am that Brian File. 13 Α. The same person who also caused to be filed 14 15 what's marked as Exhibit 8, your rebuttal testimony from Case No. EO-2020-0227 and 0228? 16 17 Α. Yes. 18 Ο. As well as your sur-surrebuttal testimony in the same case EO-2020-0227 and 0228? 19 20 Α. Yes. 21 Do you have any corrections or additions to Ο. 22 any of those pieces of testimony today? 23 Α. No. MR. HARDEN: Your Honor, with that I would 24 25 offer what has been marked as Exhibit 4, Exhibit 8 and

1	Exhibit 9 into evidence.
2	JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes. Just to clarify, that's
3	Exhibit 4 is the rebuttal testimony, Exhibit 9 is the
4	sur I'm sorry. Exhibit 8 is the rebuttal testimony
5	in EO-2020-0227 and 0228 and Exhibit 9 is the
6	sur-surrebuttal testimony in that other case as well.
7	Are there any objections to Exhibit 4? Seeing none. I
8	will admit that.
9	(EVERGY'S EXHIBIT 4 WAS RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE
10	AND MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
11	JUDGE DIPPELL: Is there any objection to
12	Exhibits 8 or 9?
13	MR. PRINGLE: Yes, Judge. I'll continue to
14	stand on my earlier objection though it was overruled.
15	JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Any other
16	objections? I will overrule your objection and admit
17	those items into evidence.
18	(EVERGY'S EXHIBITS 8 AND 9 WERE RECEIVED INTO
19	EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
20	MR. HARDEN: Thank you, Your Honor. With
21	that, I would tender Witness File for cross-examination.
22	JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Is there
23	cross-examination by Staff?
24	MR. PRINGLE: Yes, Judge. Before I begin my
25	cross, I just wanted a quick point of clarification from

your earlier direction when Mr. File's MEEIA prudence 1 2 review testimony was allowed in. Was part of your direction to have us not cross Mr. File based on that 3 testimony, simply to use it as give yourself a clear 4 5 picture of what's on between the two cases? JUDGE DIPPELL: Well, if there is 6 7 cross-examination that you need to do based on that 8 testimony that deals directly with the issue in this 9 hearing, which is the demand response calls, and so 10 forth, then yes, you can go forth with that 11 cross-examination, but I don't want to get into a 12 general discussion of the prudence of the implementation 13 of the MEEIA program. Does that make sense? MR. PRINGLE: That does, Judge. That helps me 14 15 a lot. Thank you. CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. PRINGLE: 16 17 Ο. Good afternoon, Mr. File. 18 Α. Hello, Travis. How are you? Pretty good, sir. How about yourself? 19 Ο. 20 Α. Good, thanks. 21 All right. So I just have a few questions for Ο. 22 you, Mr. File. Would you agree with me that Schedule 11 23 costs stem from the implementation of demand response 24 programs? Can you rephrase that question? I want to 2.5 Α.

make sure I answer it correctly.

- Q. Yeah. The Schedule 11 costs, Mr. Carlson spoke about them earlier. Those costs, they arise from the implementation of demand response programs, correct?
- A. I don't believe the answer to your -- The answer to your question is no, they don't stem from demand response programs.
- Q. All right. And then would you agree with me that the demand response programs are MEEIA programs?
- A. They are approved and operated as a MEEIA program, correct.
- Q. Thank you, sir. And then would you agree with me that the demand response programs are funded through the demand-side investment mechanism?
 - A. That is correct.
- Q. Thank you, sir. Now, do you have your FAC surrebuttal testimony in front of you?
 - A. I think so. Let me pull that over.
- Q. When you get a chance, please turn to page 4, line 7 and 8. Just let me know when you're there.
 - A. I am.
 - Q. And just follow along with me. There you state Evergy's demand response programs are designed for the purpose of reducing annual system peak load; is that correct?

A. Correct.

- Q. Now, did Evergy call demand response events that were coincident with the Evergy Metro and Evergy West respective system annual peaks in 2018 and 2019?
- A. We accomplished calling events that impacted system peak load in 2018 and 2019.
 - Q. How many events did you call?
- A. We called two events in 2018 for both programs and there's a third event for demand response event. It was really a test event. So we don't count that one, but it was a call on customers to see how they could perform. And then in 2019, we did the same with demand response incentive where we had a test event and two events. In 2019 thermostat, we had five events per our stipulation agreement.
- Q. Now, even with those events called, didn't Evergy have the ability to call more events to ensure that the system annual peak was reduced?
- A. The tariffs allow, I think I've said in my testimony, tariffs allow for 10 demand response incentive events and our contractual agreements for thermostat allow for 15 but that does not necessitate that those all needed to impact the system annual peak.
- Q. Okay. Thank you. Also just wanted to confirm that those events you listed out earlier, the test event

1	and the two events, those events were called during the
2	system annual peak, correct?
3	A. They were called to impact the system annual
4	peak, correct.
5	Q. Okay. And if a demand response event is
6	called coincident with the respective system annual
7	peak, is it possible that there could be a new system
8	annual peak on a different date?
9	A. Yes.
10	MR. PRINGLE: Thank you very much, Mr. File.
11	I have no further questions.
12	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
13	MR. CLIZER: Your Honor, you're on mute.
14	JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you, Mr. Clizer. Are
15	there questions from Public Counsel?
16	MR. CLIZER: Yes, briefly.
17	CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. CLIZER:
18	Q. First of all, good afternoon again, Mr. File.
19	A. Good afternoon, Mr. Clizer.
20	Q. I just want to really quickly nail down
21	exactly how many events, because this has been slightly
22	confusing to me. So for the 2018 summer months, how
23	many curtailment programs, which is specific to the
24	large industrial customer events, were called?
25	A. Two.

Okay. And then for 2018 for the thermostat 1 O. 2 customer, so the commercial residential program, how many events were called? 3 For the 2018 summer? 5 Ο. Yes. 6 Α. Yeah, two also. 7 All right. And so for 2019, the curtailment O. 8 large industrial how many were called? 9 Again, I'm excluding the test event that I Α. mentioned briefly before; but excluding that, two. 10 11 Okay. And then last one obviously 2019, the Ο. 12 thermostat commercial residential program, how many events were called? 13 14 Α. Five in 2019. 15 MR. CLIZER: Thank you. I just wanted to get that perfectly clear. That was actually all the cross I 16 17 had. Thank you very much. 18 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Thank you. Are there 19 any questions from the Commissioners? At this time, I 20 have a bunch of questions that have been given to me. 21 But if there are any other Commissioner questions before 22 I begin that? I'm not hearing any. So bear with me, 23 Mr. File, because of technical difficulties and 24 everything I've sort of compiled questions from several

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different sources.

1	THE WITNESS: Sure.
2	JUDGE DIPPELL: Sothese might be a little out
3	of order.
4	THE WITNESS: No problem, Judge, no problem.
5	JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you.
6	QUESTIONS BY JUDGE DIPPELL:
7	Q. Let me just start with can a utility company
8	have or design a demand response program independent of
9	their approved MEEIA program?
10	A. Utilities in Missouri specifically or just
11	utilities in general?
12	Q. Yes.
13	A. Utilities specifically in Missouri. There can
14	be programs that are outside of MEEIA programs. I think
15	there's even another utility in Missouri that runs a
16	program or two that are not underneath the MEEIA
17	statute. Evergy's programs are all underneath the MEEIA
18	statute and rules.
19	Q. And what benefit does the Company gain to
20	design its DSIM program within a MEEIA?
21	A. The original intention of the MEEIA statute,
22	although I did not draft it but as I've talked with
23	folks that were part of that process, was ultimately to
24	allow Evergy to value demand-side investments the same

as supply side investments. So there's inherently some

economics behind the things we do in energy efficiency that would be counterproductive for the way our business model is set up. So this law was intended to allow us to keep those on an equal playing field.

- Q. Let me -- Again, I'm just going to kind of go back to basics.
 - A. Sure.

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- Q. We talk a lot -- The testimony talks a lot about calling an event. What exactly does that mean to call an event?
- A. Sure, sure. And I think with Witness Carlson you talked a little bit about the process to some degree. I'll hit on that just a little bit and then talk a little bit about, you know, the actual tactical part about how it gets done, if that was your question.
 - Q. That's good, yes.
- A. We engage with our power marketing group to talk about what would be impactful in terms of an event based on the data that Mr. Carlson presented that he brings to the meeting, what's going on with load forecasts, what's going on with wind forecasts, what's going on with weather forecasts. We try to match that with what our asset that we have both commercial, industrial and residential and talk about the impacts there. The things that we bring to the table

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additionally, right, we understand, you know, how that weather might impact the ability for our customers to respond. You think about a thermostat. You think about you're going to get more demand reduction from a hot day than you are from a not as hot day. No matter what the price is of electricity, the price and weather are highly correlated but they don't always -- aren't inextricably linked, right. There can be some differences there. We talk about all those things. We talk about what other tariff requirements we have. the summer of 2019, for example, we talked about the commitment that we had to have five events for thermostat and so we wanted to make sure we were being diligent with meeting those requirements. So when we meet together we talk about that. Then we follow the process that John talked a little bit about. We use our inputs, we talk about a decision process, and then we ultimately decide on and would this be a good time to try to mitigate that system annual peak and identify what times and days of that. So assuming that we did decide to call an event, then we go through an execution phase where we send out notifications to all of our commercial and industrial customers that they shall perform according to their agreement related to reducing their load during a specific period of time usually

three to five hours typically and then we also go through a process that we engage with our thermostat vendors who then set up a protocol that they send signals to those thermostats. These are all two-way communicating thermostats. So those will receive a signal through their wi-fi connectivity that they will go into a saving mode during a period of typically two hours that we call thermostat programs. So there's a whole bunch of minutia after that about how do we make sure people are getting the message, how do we make sure they're going to follow through on the C&I side, how do we make sure that the system is communicating to all the proper devices and measuring monitoring afterwards, but generally speaking that's how the process leads up to that call.

- Q. Well, let's go ahead and talk about some of that minutia really quick. So what information is provided to the residential and the commercial customers as to the details or parameters of the program prior to them signing up?
- A. Sure. So it may be probably better to talk distinctly differently because it is a pretty different process for the two different programs. So I'll start with the demand response incentive program. That's what it was called during the 2018 and 2019 period. We've

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since kind of changed its name to be called business demand response. If I ever slip up or if you hear both, that's why. They are very similar programs but different in terms of the naming convention there. So on the demand response incentive program, we go out and actually recruit customers. Usually that involves an in person one-on-one kind of initial conversation about what this program is, why the utility thinks it's valuable and how we hope that they would find value in participating, right, and there's definitely certain customers that have more, quote, unquote, flexible load so that they can shift their load from one period of when it's our system peak to an off peak period. explain the value to them and we ultimately walk through an economic calculation with them showing them the amount they would be paid and how that would work depending on the amount of kw they can sign up for. That's an important part where we go out to customers, the number of kw they can curtail or they can be a part of the program with. So we'll go out and talk to customers about what equipment or processes or mechanisms they can put into place to reduce kw during that period of time. And a lot of times that will take some engineering calculations where we'll estimate what that kw that they can reduce will be and we'll come up

with a number that we'll put into a contractual agreement ultimately with that customer that says here's the parameters of the program, here's what you're signing up for in terms of your kw reduction, here's how we will notify you, make sure we have all your contact information correct, here's the time period of the season June through September and engage with those customers. So by the time they sign that agreement, they have the agreement and they have a plan in place with people and personnel to deliver that C&I reduction during those periods of time. It's very important to us when we call on someone that they have a plan they know and they know how to perform in those events.

- Q. Let me interrupt you just a second and further expand on that. With those customers, they know the potential number of call events that you're going to do. Do they know the maximum length of that call event and do they have the ability to opt out of a call event?
- A. Yes, yes and yes. So that was a triple yes question. You know, inside of their contract will be some of those terms, as well as we refer to the tariff which has those parameters involved in there. So ultimately we want to make sure that they're going to perform and in this case in demand response incentive in 2019 there's a penalty if they decide to opt out. So

they will -- You know, we can't go over there and literally make them -- this isn't a program we go over there and mandatory shut their stuff off, right. They are participating based on economic incentives. If they decide not to do what they've signed up for, then we assess a penalty at the end of the season.

- Q. Okay. And then how is that different for the other program?
- A. Sure. The residential thermostat and business thermostat program is a program that's more of a mass marketing program so not as much one-on-one touch as in the C&I program, just order of magnitude. We have a few hundred C&I participants whereas --
 - Q. What's that acronym?

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A. Commercial and industrial participants for the demand response incentive program. Those go together. We have a few hundred of those. Whereas for the residential thermostat program during this period of time we probably signed up 20,000 or so of those thermostats. So it's not that one to one. It's more of a mass marketing approach. We use traditional channels to engage those customers whether marketing via our website, via mailers, via emails to engage them to participate and we, you know, effectively create a funnel as with any of our programs to try to bring

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people in to ultimately participating from awareness to, you know, targeting marketing, to engagement, to ultimately to signup, and those customers then go through an online process cost typically, the majority, because that's a more way or they can call if they see something they prefer to sign up that way where we will identify, we have to ask a few qualifying questions whether or not they have wi-fi, for example, because it's a connectivity of us being able to call, and then the type of HVAC system that they have can impact the device that we would supply to them. So we ask a few qualifying questions. We make them aware of what the program is, right, that we'll be calling on you during peak summer times in order to help reduce peak load. In 2018 and 2019, we used the phraseology of rush hour rewards. That seemed to resonate with people. They know what rush hour traffic is here. We're trying not to have them use as much HVAC during that rush hour time So we'll call peak events that will adjust their settings on their thermostat during those periods of time. So they agree to all those kind of terms and conditions as we explain that to them. It isn't quite as explicit just in terms of

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and conditions, but they aren't, you know, called out in the way we have a one-on-one conversation with every single person like we do in the C&I side. So it's an online form typically that they sign that has those terms and conditions. Ultimately they get into the program and either we go to their house and install if they requested that based on their, you know, lack of interest in doing it themselves or we have channels where they can sign up to us to ship them a thermostat and they could install the thermostat themselves, which we call DIY, do it yourself, and a lot of folks have done that in our Cycle 2 program. Sorry for letting me ramble, but I do like talking about these programs. I'm not sure if I'm going too far or not far enough. Help me out. I appreciate the offer.

- Q. It's good to have the details. So first of all, how long are those contracts valid? Is this a year-long program or longer?
- A. Yeah. So it really depends on where we are on the MEEIA cycle. So in demand response incentive if you think about how that cycle played out in 2018 and 2019, 2018 was the last year of our cycle that we were approved for at that time. So all contracts were going to end at the end of 2018. If they were signing up in early 2018, they were really signing up for a one-year

agreement because the cycle was going to end. They might have signed up at the beginning of the cycle. It's possible they would have had a three-year agreement. Until the end of the cycle is effectively as long as we can sign up someone for. In, 2019 we had an extension. So we got one extra year on the end. So all those contracts were one-year long.

- Q. Okay. And then do they -- So we talked about if the commercial customers or the big industrial customers if you're going to call an event you contact them in some method to tell them that you're going to do that. What about the residential customers and those big customers too in the interim? Do they just sign a contract and never hear from you again or is there some kind of ongoing communication reminding them that they're part of the program?
- A. Yeah. No, I'm glad that you asked that. It's important for us in the long run to keep these participants in the program. We went through the effort to recruit them to be a part of this program, and the value lies in the long-term interaction with them and the long-term value of having that kw reduction. So we do a couple things.

One, after we have them engaged and before the season starts, we send a communication to those

customers, say hey, it's -- we usually send it May-ish time frame, hey, the demand response season is coming up, the rush hour reward season is coming up June through September, be reminded this is the program that's provided you this thermostat and your ability to help Evergy mitigate our peaks and you can expect to receive some events during the summer to mitigate our system annual peak. I don't know if we use those exact words but something to that degree.

And then during the season when we actually do call events for the thermostat program, there's a notification on the app the customers have with the thermostat as well as on the device. If they click through, they can see where it's in a rush hour rewards mode or saving mode. Depending on which device you have, it says something to that effect. And then an important part that we find is kind of the third step, which is after the season is over, these customers receive a payment for participating in the program to remind them hey, you helped us manage our system peak, thank you for being a part of this program and here's an extra payment. So we'll send an email and/or a hard copy letter to those customers to let them know.

Q. Okay. Very good. Let's see. On page 4 of your rebuttal testimony you mention a couple of tariff

sheets in the middle of the page there?

A. Uh-huh.

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- Q. Are those numbers accurate, 2.09 and 15.09?
- A. I don't have those tariff sheets in front of me. I guess subject to check I think our intention was they were meant to be the tariff sheets for the demand response incentive program that were effective during that period of time. Like I mentioned before, we do have a new program that has different tariff sheets that may have got confused there. That was the intention that those were meant to be.
- Q. But you don't have those tariff sheets attached to your testimony, correct?
- A. I don't believe to this testimony. I may have done that in the MEEIA testimony, but I'd have to look at that also.
- Q. Okay. I may be asking later for the Commission to take notice of those tariff sheets.
- A. Okay. Thank you. I apologize about that, Judge.
- Q. No, that's fine. I want to make sure that we have the correct information and that it's the whole information is in there. So when does peak demand normally occur?
 - A. System annual peak that we're targeting; is

that your question?

- O. Yes.
- A. Yeah, I think Mr. Carlson alluded to this a little bit before, but generally speaking it's the last couple weeks of July or the first couple weeks of August over time we see that those are the peak, system annual peak days or hours.
- Q. And you kind of touched on this a little bit but I'm going to ask it again. What specific information do you look at and where do you find that information to determine your forecasting -- when you're forecasting peak demand?
- A. Uh-huh. So there's a couple things. I'll try to make maybe a little clarification on what we said before, right. So when the calendar year starts, we have an idea of what we think the system annual peak is going to be just based on 30 years of history we look back. That actually shows up in the integrated resource plan. I know we're not talking about that in this particular case any more, but that is a part of how we look at what our peaks are expected to be every year. So we can use that as a datapoint even before the season starts to say okay, here's a number that we think for each jurisdiction may be the system annual peak.

And then as we come into the season, we have a

couple more datapoints that we try to watch. 1 2 Specifically one, the data that John Carlson's group 3 provides to us and says what does our system peak look like for this week. They get a weekly outlook on what 4 they think our peaks will be for this week. 5 It has all of the factors that John sort of discussed. And then as 6 7 of recently, what we've been able to obtain as we 8 continue to kind of get better with this process is that 9 then we try to find the best most recent peaks of 10 information about what peaks we hit recently within the 11 season, right. So if it's August 15, you know, what was 12 our July peak or what was our peaks from before, and 13 those are still estimates at that point in time because the last settlement has to go out. That's over my head 14 15 on they do all that on the transmission system. 16 are estimates -- It's another datapoint for us to look 17 at.

Q. Okay. And do you think that the factors that Mr. Carlson talked about and this information that you've talked about, is that what you think should be considered in deciding when to call an event?

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A. Yeah. I mean, we probably have not been super, what's the right word, clear on the whole process, but I think at the end of the day it kind of boils down to a couple three things, right. One we

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haven't mentioned at all except for a little bit in my testimony is there is an operational need for demand response, right. So if there is some sort of issue on the system and, you know, we don't get into this case ever that I'm aware of, but that we need to have demand response otherwise we're going to have systems with reliability on our overall system, right. That is a number one thing we're going to always be looking at. SPP has alert levels that they set out that we watch for. And if they get to a certain alert level, this would be an asset that we would call. That's a clear call to action if we get to that point, get that request.

The second one again is are we going to mitigate that system annual peak as derived and what the purpose of the program. So we really try to derive to see when all this data can come together to figure out when is the best date that we think that will be.

Again, we have a pretty narrow window of when we think it can be and we've attempted to continue to get better and better. It is still the unknown of what's tomorrow going to bring, right, in terms of load, weather, wind production, all of those things. So it is not as simple as an exact science, but it takes the discussion and discernment skill of the folks that we have to try to do

that the best we can.

- Q. And I'm not trying to simplify it too much, but how does reducing customer load impact Evergy when it has excess capacity?
- A. How does system -- can you -- I apologize. Can you say the question one more time?
- Q. How does reducing customer load impact Evergy when it has excess capacity? This may be a moot point now that you've settled your settlement now that I'm looking at it, but maybe I'll just ask it more generally. How does reducing customer load impact Evergy on the whole? What benefits does Evergy get from reducing customer load?
- A. Yes. So maybe back to the whole construct of what MEEIA is for us and how we've developed it and how we decide to deploy programs, this program set is put into our integrated resource plan as a resource option, as an asset, right, and it gets compared in that integrated resource plan process to determine if this provides the lowest net present value of revenue requirements. And so when we effectuate and implement our programs effectively according to what the plan is, we are modifying future resource needs and assets that will help us keep customers' rates low. So at the end of the day, that's kind of the higher purpose of what we

do and that shows up in demand response, that shows up in energy efficiency and the programs that are approved in the MEEIA process.

- Q. Okay. So you talked about how the number of events that you actually called with Public Counsel.

 Are those events listed in your testimony specifically like by date and hour?
- A. I believe for sure that the thermostat events are called out in the MEEIA testimony that was admitted today, I believe. The other events from 2018 may have been alluded to as numbers, but I don't recall for sure if we put times and dates on those in any part of the actual testimony. Of course, we can follow up with that if needed. I don't know that I could call to address specifically.
- Q. Okay. I would actually like you to follow up on that if you can look and make sure, point us to where in that MEEIA testimony and then provide the other dates and times. And along with that do you know what the conditions were on the dates that those events were called?
 - A. By conditions do you mean --
- Q. Well, the other factors that we've talked about like that you would look at. Do you know how those factors compare to each other or to a normal

another day when you didn't call an event?

A. Sure. We can for sure go back and get what the temperature was that day compared to the average or we can look at kind of what the load expectation was for that day or maybe even what wind production was from the SPP look in the backwards looking. I think this is an important point that I think you're pointing on here, right, is that a lot of the work from OPC and Staff is all backwards looking, right, that you knew 100 percent what happened and so therefore you can say this was the right day or that was the wrong day. I think it's important to kind of think about it as you're going in you don't know a lot of those factors. We still continue to kind of refine in on when is the best day to call.

My short answer to your question I guess is, yes, we can go back and look all that stuff up, but I don't believe it's on the record at this point.

- Q. I'm not trying to look backward. I'm more trying to understand specifically what makes a good scenario to call. Why would you decide to call on a particular day and not on another? That's the kind of thing. Go ahead.
- A. If you don't mind, I'll maybe elaborate just a little bit farther. One of the things I kind of

mentioned that we look at what we feel like the peaks are going to be coming into the summer. We have an integrated resource plan that gives kind of a forecast and a load research group that gives a forecast. I think they're called a research group. And they help us kind of have a bearings around how close are we going to be to this number that we expect to be as the peak for this summer. And so we typically use that if we feel like the forecasted peak this week out is within 5 percent of that range, that gives us a pretty good indicator of what might be a good event to call.

There's obviously lots of potential other factors that we've discussed but that's another one that I thought I'd at least mention here.

- Q. Okay. And on page 8 of your testimony, let me see if I can find it, I think you talked about what customers might do, and Mr. Fischer alluded -- well, actually maybe it was the opposite. Mr. Clizer may have in his example of how many times customers would accept the calls, but I think in your testimony you talk about what customers would do if they were called several times. Do you have any -- Has the Company done any studies or anything about the behavior of their customers?
 - A. Yes. I think you're talking in particular in

terms of the number of events called?

Q. Yes.

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- We do lots of kind of gauging of customers' Α. interactions and satisfactions with programs which happy to report are all satisfactory, and maybe just it's worth noting in the MEEIA construct if you're not familiar, all of our programs get evaluated every year. We have something called evaluation, measurement and verification after every year where all of the parties get together and there's a third party that looks back at our programs and reviews was there impact from our programs, what was the processes that we used and what was the customer satisfaction for the programs that we used. Those third party reviews that. Staff actually has an auditor that reviews the third party. And then we present those results to the Commission as part of how are we doing in the MEEIA construct. All that to say when we're doing our programs -- I lost my train of thought there. I was talking about EM&V. Can you say the question again one more time?
- Q. Well, let me back up and just ask it better, because what I was getting at was on page 8 of your testimony of your rebuttal it says if a customer were to start having their air-conditioning adjusted regularly during the hottest times of the day like 20 times a

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summer or even everyday as suggested by OPC, the entirety of the program would change. And then you go on to say the customers would likely require different compensation, the participant pool would decrease significantly and you go on to give an example and you say my educated guess is that most people would do something different. Is that all this is is an educated guess or do you have some Company materials to back up what you think customers, how the customers would behave?

Thanks for helping hone me in there on Α. Sure. that question. Two things. One, in the testimony a little bit farther down about rows on page 10, 16 through 19, we talk a little bit about customers' participation in events, differences between 2016, 2017 and 2018. And a trend that we saw in terms of participation in events as a function of number of events. So that's a datapoint that we have used here. Additionally, a datapoint that was not brought up here but was part of that stipulation that Mr. Fischer referred to in our opening about calling five events, a second line of that was that we were to report to our DSM advisory group about the number of opt-outs and the participation during those five events. So we had submitted that to our DSIM advisory group I believe it

was in November 2019, which showed a somewhat similar trend that as we got a higher frequency of events those opt-outs or participation amounts increased.

- Q. Okay. Thank you. Okay. So if the Commission does agree, I asked Mr. Carlson the same question, if the Commission does agree with Public Counsel that Evergy should have used the DR programs to the maximum amount of their design capability, do you agree with the method and the calculations used by Public Counsel's witness to calculate the value of what we would be finding to be imprudent?
 - A. No.

- Q. And so how would Evergy propose that that amount be calculated? What method and calculation would Evergy say would be the correct?
- A. So kind of answer that in a roundabout sort of question, but the ultimate answer I believe is there is no easy estimate way to do that number, right, and so what Staff and OPC have both tried to do is come up with a logic answer but they've missed a few things and made many assumptions. They tried to make it easy. Inside of that easy they made assumptions and they've missed some variables, a couple examples. For example, in terms of the energy price calculation, there's no, what's the right word, consideration of two things.

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One, if load was shifted outside of that period, right, so if people didn't use that energy during the period that they're talking about in the way our programs are designed, typically that energy is used in a different period, right. Maybe that other period is differently priced but it's still used in a different time. Right? So that's something that you would maybe want to consider in part of this calculation.

A second part of that calculation that wasn't considered is the customer's retail energy price, right. So how that customer's retail energy price is during that period of time makes a difference in this whole value calculation in terms of what is the Company's value difference versus when they are using this energy or not and how that might flow through a rate case or flow through ongoing fees. So two examples of things that could have been considered. A third is I don't believe that the Staff or OPC asked us any questions about did the events that we did call have any impact on all of these fee changes, right, and so there was no netting out of any things that we did impact. just the assumption that we had zero impact was their analysis from what I could tell. All of those things start to call into question in my mind why my original answer was no, I don't believe that's the right way to

calculate it.

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- Q. Okay. So you told me why you don't think theirs is the correct way. Do you have any way that you think might be the correct way?
- So let me kind of maybe answer your question but, you know, in my seat where I sit, right, we are trying to reduce system annual peak, and there is an SPP benefit for us to do that, right, as well. It's a dual benefit. If we hit the system annual peak, then that by the nature of the math was the peak for one month, right, because that was the system annual peak. So there is a number that we could calculate that we created value for for that month that we called the event and hit the system annual peak. Beyond that, right, all those other things are estimates backwards looking of you should have called this day. Well, we hit this button but very important about when you hit that button and how that actually impacts what it could When you look backwards, you're always just making assumptions about we would have or could have done these things.
- Q. Okay. One more clarification here. Just a second. So we talked about when the customers sign up for the programs and you said what all they were given. Let me just make sure I have this in the record. Are

they given the specific parameters, for example, how many times they may have to be called to participate in the program?

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- Q. Okay. So you believe with the contracts and the further communications with the customers both on the industrial side and on the residential side that they understand that they may be called upon to reduce their power for the total number of events in the contract?
- I believe they understand that those number of Α. events are what's in the contract. I think the difference, the nuance there, and I've said this a little bit in this testimony and some other MEEIA testimony, the nuance is the expectation is we're going after the system annual peak and that we're trying to mitigate that. We set that customer, when we use words like rush hour rewards, right, when the proposals of some of the other parties say that we're going to call multiple other times for other reasons, right, maybe it's price arbitrage or different things, that is not the expectations we have set with customers. They're very aware of the legal nature of it, but the expectation is set based on what our intention is and what the MEEIA program intention was.

1	JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Thank you.
2	Commissioner Rupp, I believe you had some additional
3	
	questions.
4	COMMISSIONER RUPP: Great. Thank you, Judge.
5	I appreciate it. I apologize I had to pop into a FERC
6	Order 2222 meeting. So if you covered this, I apologize
7	for being repetitive.
8	QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER RUPP:
9	Q. But my question is, I heard you talking about
10	your commitment to the five events. I know you had the
11	maximum number of 15 in the summer and then you had the
12	maximum of 10 for the industrial. Was there an
13	agreement in anything for the minimum number of events
14	that would be called?
15	A. For the summer of 2019, when we entered into
16	that Stipulation and Agreement sorry. Hi, Mr. Rupp.
17	Good afternoon.
18	Q. Good afternoon.
19	A. The requirement was just we will call five
20	events. It didn't use the word minimum, and it didn't
21	talk demand response incentive, just thermostat.
22	Q. The agreement said you will call five or not
23	at least five or is that you will call five?
24	A. Yeah. Subject to check, I'll look back, but I
25	believe that's what the specific language was and I

think Mr. Fischer used it on his opening slide.

- Q. Thank you for clarifying. And then so did the program meet your program goals, your energy, your demand goals and everything for the specified years?
- A. Yeah, we called the events. We were able to reduce peak load during those period of time. We were able to learn some things from the events in terms of opt-out percentage I talked a little bit with the Judge in the last question. So we feel like that was success and that was what the intention what Staff and stakeholders was requesting of us in that stipulation. To my impression, that was what the intention was and I feel like we met that.
- Q. Without calling the maximum number of events that you could, you feel that the program met its program goals?
 - A. Correct.

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- COMMISSIONER RUPP: Okay. Thank you. That's all I had, Judge.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you, Commissioner. Are there any other Commissioners that had additional questions? I'm not hearing any. Is there further cross-examination based on those questions from the bench from Staff?
 - MR. PRINGLE: Yes, Judge. Thank you.

FURTHER CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. PRINGLE:

- Q. Mr. File, I want to just go back to

 Commissioner Rupp's question about the five events. So

 when an agreement says will call five events, to Evergy
 that means you only call five events?
- A. I think we read it as literal what the requirement was and wanted to make sure we would meet that. I think as the relationship goes with Brad Fortson and other folks, if there's something that needs to be deviated, we would talk with them about what reasons might be, but that's how we interpret our agreement from earlier that year.
- Q. Thank you, sir. And also earlier in a response to Judge Dippell's questioning, hitting the system annual peak would decrease SPP Schedule 11 fees for that one month, correct?
 - A. That is correct.
- Q. So wouldn't it be reasonable to also think that calling events in the other three months to try and hit those months' peaks would provide an event greater decrease to SPP Schedule 11 fees?
- A. Right. I think the answer to your question is yes, that the other months do have SPP fees associated with what the peak is, correct.
 - Q. Thank you, sir. And then also were there days

that Evergy expected relatively high SPP market prices but Evergy did not call a demand response event?

- A. I think if you look back at the data, which folks did, that's what we have right now is the backwards looking data, you can always find a day that maybe the price was really high, but going into the event we did not see it sufficiently that we were going to call it for that reason. Again, ultimately as we talked about in 2018 and 2019, that wasn't ever designed as the purpose for the program. It was for the system annual peak.
- Q. Okay. So then Evergy did call DR events each day that it expected relatively high SPP prices?
- A. We did not call events based on SPP prices as the primary objective, correct.
- Q. Okay. But you did call DR events when you expected a relatively high SPP price; if that was an expectation, it was called?
- A. In 2018 and 2019, we focused primarily on system annual peak and meeting our stipulated agreement for number of events in 2019 specifically.
- Q. Okay. Did any of those days coincide with a high SPP price?
- A. Subject to check, we'd have to go back and look at what the definition of high is and what that was

relative to day ahead. I believe there's an opportunity to look back at that. That was what I was trying to call out before with the Judge that there might be some more parts of the equation to look at.

- Q. Okay. Right now you're just not sure if those were high prices that day?
- A. I did not cross-reference. I believe Ms.

 Mantle put that in her testimony about the days and hours. Maybe Mr. Luebbert did too in the MEEIA case their high price days. From the last I looked, they didn't all cross over regularly. We had many more hours than what the days of events we called, which was two and five. So I think there was probably a little bit of overlap in my brief recollection, but I did not go through every detail.
- Q. Okay. Well, then also there was a lot of talk about customer expectation around how many events would be called. When customers sign up for demand response programs, they don't know how many events they're going to have to take part in, correct?
 - A. That is correct.

Q. So the customers, they do know that it could be upwards of 10 to 15 can be called depending upon the demand response program? Sorry.

THE COURT REPORTER: Wait a minute. Mr.

Pringle, can I have the question one more time, please?

BY MR. PRINGLE:

- Q. Yes. That question was but customers do know that there can be upwards of 10 to 15 events called when they sign up? Roughly I think that was the wording.
- A. And my answer is yes, that is communicated in the agreements formally. There's other expectations set as part of the discussion about what the program is used for, but we formally communicate the agreements in the tariffs.
- Q. And then you cited back to your testimony about there was a study had to do with a 6 percent drop in participation as event numbers went up, correct?
 - A. I did.

- Q. Does the Company have anything else besides that study to I guess that has them convinced that more events is not what customers want?
- A. So the other datapoint I refer to, which I don't believe has been in this case which was the results from the 2019 five events that we called that was presented to our DSM advisory group, which we saw a similar trend in terms of participation and opt-outs of events.
 - Q. Was that also roughly 6 percent?
 - A. I don't remember that percent off the top of

my head.

- Q. Then also you spoke about valuing demand and supply side resource equally. Mr. File, you're pretty familiar with the MEEIA statute, correct?
- A. I've spent a fair amount of time looking at it for sure.
- Q. So also you're aware that the statute also talks about that energy or demand savings beneficial to all customers in the customer class in which the programs are proposed regardless of whether the program is utilized by all customers; you're aware of that, correct?
 - A. I'm familiar with that statement, yes.
- Q. So would calling more events potentially have benefited non-participating customers incrementally more?
- A. If we call more events, it may or may not have.
 - Q. But you'll admit there is a possibility?
- A. It could or it could not. I think one thing we haven't mentioned obviously when you're doing day-ahead pricing arbitrage, you can lose in those scenarios, right. You can win or you can lose, right? So there is an opportunity for it may and you could also not hit your peak or not the right time and it could be

1	zero. I just wanted to clarify also.
2	Q. And then finally, Mr. File, so going back to
3	energy cost issues, do you agree that energy cost issues
4	and the Schedule 11 fees in this case stem from issues
5	raised by Staff in the MEEIA prudence review based on
6	the implementation of the demand response programs?
7	A. Can you rephrase that question? Sorry.
8	Q. Yes. The issues with Schedule 11 fees and
9	energy costs, those issues, they arise from issues that
10	Staff pointed out in the MEEIA prudence review regarding
11	the implementation of the demand response programs?
12	A. I think that this whole process, as I
13	understand it, started in the MEEIA prudence review and
14	was brought up by Staff originally there, if that's kind
15	of I think your question.
16	MR. PRINGLE: Yeah, that's what I'm looking
17	for, sir. Thank you, Mr. File. Let me see if I had
18	anything else. That is it, sir. Thank you.
19	THE WITNESS: Thank you. Thanks, Mr. Pringle.
20	JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Is there further

MR. CLIZER: Yes, Your Honor.

24 FURTHER CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. CLIZER:

Public Counsel?

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Q. One of the questions you were asked by Judge

cross-examination based on questions from the bench from

Dippell regarding the concerns that the Company had a	s
to what would happen if more events were called	
discussed opt-outs. You would agree with me that the	re
was a limit to the number of times customers could	
actually opt-out during this program?	

- A. Are you speaking directly of the thermostat program, of the C&I program?
- Q. I apologize. Let me be clear. I am speaking specifically to the residential thermostat program which at the time was called the programmable thermostat program.
- A. Uh-huh. We do monitor if people are generally participating as we do in our results there. But at the end of the day, we are not limiting their number of opt-outs.
- Q. So you do not agree that customers were limited to one opt-out per month under the terms of the program in effect during this prudence review period?
- A. Yeah. There is no -- Partly what I guess I'm saying is there's no formal repercussion at the moment for that particular situation.
- Q. That's not what I'm asking. Would you agree that customers under the terms of the tariff were prohibited from opting out more than once a month?
 - A. Subject to check, do you have the tariff in

front of you that I could look at? I apologize. 1 2 I have a copy of the canceled tariff. Your ability to look at is going to be a little difficult. 3 Yeah. Α. 5 JUDGE DIPPELL: Which -- Mr. Clizer, which 6 tariff page are you looking at? 7 MR. CLIZER: It's a little bit tricky because 8 I'm looking at the canceled tariff which is under mine I 9 have No. JE-2016-0151, tariff page 1.93 -- sorry, 1.94. 10 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. 11 BY MR. CLIZER: 12 Tariff filing No. JE-2016-0151, Tariff Sheet 13 No. 1.94. JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Now I missed your 14 15 question. Go ahead, Mr. Clizer. 16 MR. CLIZER: I asked my question. I got my 17 I was going to say later on I was going to ask 18 the Commission to take official notice of the active tariff sheet. I don't need to further press that 19 20 question right now, if that makes sense. The tariff 21 will speak for itself is what I'm saying. 22 JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes. Okay. 23 BY MR. CLIZER: 24 All right. So next question. There was a conversation that kind of talked about what exactly the 25

Company looks at when deciding when to call a demand response program. I'd like to ask specifically what does the Company look at when deciding to call a demand response program for economic reasons as it's spelled out in the tariff?

- A. We would look at prices that we feel that the market would be showing in the next few days. And if those indicated that they would make an economic reason to call, factoring in retail price, factoring overall load conditions, all of the things that Mr. Carlson alluded to, that's when we -- if we did look at for an economic reason.
- Q. Well, then my next question is, during this prudence review period 2018-2019, summer months particularly, did the Company call any events for economic reasons?
- A. We focused on system annual peak reasons and stipulation requirements as our reasons to call events in 2018-2019.
- Q. So I take it the answer to that question would be a no?
 - A. Correct.

- MR. CLIZER: Thank you. That's all my questions.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Is there redirect

from Evergy?

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MR. HARDEN: Yes, there is. Thank you.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HARDEN:

- Q. Just three pretty short questions here.

 Mr. File, you were asked whether or not in 2018-2019 in Evergy's calling events to reduce annual system peak whether or not in those events there was also a reduction of Schedule 11 SPP fees and if there was, did it make sense to seek those Schedule 11 SPP fees more than once on a monthly basis. Would it be possible to simultaneously reduce your Schedule 11 fees and at the same time reduce Evergy's ability to impact and reduce its system annual peak load?
- A. Yes. So if I'm thinking along what you're asking, there could be a reason why if we were trying to get the June system or the June monthly SPP peak that we call all ten events or call enough events where customers have less and less aptitude to try to curtail in July or August in some future months. So there is definitely a correlation there in terms of how that could interact.
- Q. In response to Mr. Pringle's question about the impact of Schedule 11 fees due to hitting a monthly peak, is it true that assuming that the Company did that that it wouldn't see the benefits of doing that until

the next year?

- A. Yeah, my understanding of how that calculation works, Mr. Carlson is more of the expert there, but there is a one-year lag in how the fees are recovered. They look back at the prior year and then put the fees on the following year.
- Q. Would it be true to say that somewhat regardless of what Evergy does with its demand response events that if all other SPP customers drop their load, then Evergy's load ratio share wouldn't change?
- A. Yeah. If I understand again the calculation correctly, you know, just by sheer math, if everybody else's loads are changing and ours are changing, there's a potential interaction there that could leave ours to be the same. That would change from year to year, I believe.
- MR. HARDEN: All right. Thank you. I have no further redirect.
 - JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Thank you.
- 20 MR. FISCHER: Judge --
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes, Mr. Fischer.
- MR. FISCHER: -- I don't mean to jump in here,
 but I do have a reference for you for your question that
 you asked where you could find the events in the record
 and I wanted to clarify that with Mr. File before he

left the stand, if that's all right. 1 2 JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes, please. FURTHER REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. FISCHER: 3 Mr. File, if you go to Schedule BF-S1 page 12 5 or 33 of your surrebuttal -- or of your rebuttal in the 6 MEEIA case. 7 JUDGE DIPPELL: I'm sorry. Which case was 8 that, Mr. Fischer? MR. FISCHER: Well, it's the testimony that we 9 10 asked to be supplemented in the rebuttal in the motion, 11 and it's designated in this case as Schedule BF-S1. 12 JUDGE DIPPELL: Is that what I marked as Exhibit 9? 13 14 MR. FISCHER: I believe that's right, yes. 15 BY MR. FISCHER: If you go to page 12 of 33 there, does that 16 17 have the events one through five that happened in 2019 18 for the residential program? I'm making sure I'm in the same place with you 19 20 here. I don't have --21 First of all, it was originally paginated page Ο. 22 11. 23 Α. Okay. I do have that marked where we show 24 event number one July 18, 2019, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. 25 That's the part you're talking about?

- Q. Yes, exactly. That was also on my opening slide, I believe, those same dates.

 A. Correct, correct.
 - Q. Then you also gave me information which was in answer to the Judge's question I think yesterday about the other events. Do you recall that memo? Do you have that available to you? Would you -- go ahead. I'm sorry.
 - A. About all of the events for the two-year period?
 - O. Yes.

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- A. I do have that available.
- Q. Could you read that? I think those answer the Judge's question.
 - JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes. Go ahead and read that if you have it.

THE WITNESS: Sure. So for 2018, for the programmable thermostat program we called events on June 28 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. and August 6 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., and for the DRI program, not including the test event, we called in 2018 an event on June 28 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. and August 6 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. and those were the 2018 calls. In 2019, we called the programmable thermostat program on July 18 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., July 19 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., August 6 from

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4:00 to 6:00 p.m., August 7 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.,
 1
 2
    August 12 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. And those were the
 3
     five events for programmable thermostat in 2019. And on
 4
    DRI, we called a test event and two events.
                                                  The event
 5
     on July 18 was from 2:00 to 5:00, and the event on
 6
    August 7, I may have not had this one down on the exact
 7
    dates, I apologize, or exact times. I believe that was
 8
     2:00 to 4:00 p.m., and that may have been adjusted based
 9
     on conditions at that time as I recall on that second
10
    demand response event of 2019.
               MR. FISCHER: Thank you, Mr. File. Does that
11
12
     answer your question, Judge?
               JUDGE DIPPELL: Most of it. I think I was
13
    also asking about the conditions that surrounded those,
14
15
    but that gets me part way there.
16
               MR. FISCHER: Thank you for letting me jump
17
     in.
18
               JUDGE DIPPELL: I also wanted to clarify again
19
    about the tariff sheets that you cited. So you cite the
20
     tariff sheet for Evergy Metro as Sheet No. 2.09 which is
21
     titled General Rules and Regulations Applying to
22
    Electric Service Demand Response Incentive. And for
23
    Every West you cite to 15.09. My very capable helpers
24
    have looked it up and believe that for West it should be
     Sheet No. R-86, and I would like, Mr. Fischer, if you
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1	could verify that and if that is not the case then if
2	what's in the testimony is the correct, if you can
3	provide us a copy of that tariff sheet.
4	MR. FISCHER: I'm going to call on my team in
5	Kansas City to help me with that.
6	MR. CLIZER: Your Honor
7	JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes. Mr. Clizer.
8	MR. CLIZER: I just want to make sure it's
9	clear that the test period for this prudence case has a
10	separate set of tariffs than what are currently in
11	effect.
12	JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes.
13	MR. CLIZER: Okay.
14	JUDGE DIPPELL: That the tariff sheets that
15	were in effect at the time are the ones that we are
16	interested in.
17	MR. CLIZER: Right. As I understand it, I
18	just want to make sure that I'm on the same page, do you
19	have those as Tariff Filing JE-2016-0151?
20	JUDGE DIPPELL: I'm afraid I don't have the
21	tariff filing number. I have actual pages from the
22	tariff.
23	MR. FISCHER: Judge, could we file that as a
24	late-filed exhibit? Would that be the way to do that?
25	JUDGE DIPPELL: For now unless we can get it

1	before the end of the hearing.
2	MR. FISCHER: Okay. Thank you.
3	JUDGE DIPPELL: I want to get that straight
4	before we end.
5	MR. STEINER: Judge, this is Roger Steiner.
6	So you think it should be R-86 for Sheet 209? I wasn't
7	clear.
8	JUDGE DIPPELL: No, I'm sorry, for the other
9	one, the one that's cited as 15.09.
10	MR. STEINER: That's the one that you think is
11	wrong?
12	JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes.
13	MR. STEINER: Okay. It will probably be a
14	late-filed exhibit because we'll have to look at the
15	tariffs that were in effect at this time. I don't have
16	those right now.
17	JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. We'll keep track and
18	make sure we get it in.
19	MR. STEINER: Thank you.
20	JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Now, were there
21	any additional cross-examination questions based on
22	Mr. File's reading of those event dates or our tariff
23	discussions? I'm just going to
24	MR. PRINGLE: Nothing from Staff, Judge.
25	JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Thank you. All right.

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Then I think that does conclude Mr. File's testimony for
 1
 2
    now.
               MR. FILE: Am I able to step down effectively?
 3
 4
               JUDGE DIPPELL: You are able to step down; but
 5
     as I said, just in case the Commission has more
 6
    questions for you after we've heard from Ms. Mantle, I
 7
    would appreciate it if you could be available during the
 8
    hearing at a relatively short notice.
 9
               THE WITNESS: Yeah, for sure. Thanks for your
10
     time. Appreciate it.
11
               JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Okay. I think on
12
     that note we'll take a little break and come back then
    with -- Was that the end of Evergy's witnesses? Yes.
13
    Okay. So we'll take a little break and then return and
14
15
    begin Staff's witnesses. So let's return at 3:35.
16
    Let's go off the record.
17
               (Off the record.)
               JUDGE DIPPELL: We're back on the record after
18
19
    our short break. And we are ready for Staff to call its
20
     first witness.
21
               MR. PRINGLE: Thank you, Judge. A few things
22
    because of all the action that has gone down already
23
     today.
             First I just want to draw everyone's attention
24
     to what was premarked as Staff Exhibits 106C and 107P.
    Due to the approval of the stipulation with the Sierra
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Club and their excusal from this case, we won't be
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 2
     entering either one of those into the record. They only
    had to deal with those issues and they are done.
 3
               JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Thank you for that.
 5
    And then also Staff's first witness, Mr. Fortson, he was
 6
    here to testify and answer questions based on the first
 7
     three issues that were resolved this afternoon.
 8
     that, rather than putting him on the stand I would just
 9
     like to move to enter his direct and rebuttal into the
    record which is 101C, 102P and 103.
10
11
               JUDGE DIPPELL: I'm sorry. Those exhibits you
12
    were moving to put in the record?
13
               MR. PRINGLE: Yes. Yes, Judge.
14
               JUDGE DIPPELL: That was all of Mr. Fortson's
15
     testimony?
16
               MR. PRINGLE: That is correct, yes. He was
    here to take the stand for the issues that were resolved
17
18
     this afternoon.
               JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Hold on just one
19
20
     second, please. Would there be any objection to
     Exhibits 101 Confidential, 102 Public and 103?
21
     Seeing none. I will admit those exhibits.
22
23
               (STAFF EXHIBITS 101C, 102P AND 103 WERE
    RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
24
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               JUDGE DIPPELL: I was trying to check just to
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make sure that there weren't still some Commission
 1
 2
    questions for Mr. Fortson. I know his testimony was
    basically on that other issue, but he is familiar with
 3
 4
     some of the concepts, and so forth, that the Commission
    was interested in, but I haven't heard that there are
 5
 6
     still any questions remaining. So for now we can go
 7
    ahead if counsel agrees that they didn't have any
 8
    cross-examination and that his testimony all involved
 9
     the issues that have been settled. Is that -- Is there
10
     any objection to moving on to the next witness?
11
               MR. FISCHER: I think that would be a good
     idea, Judge.
12
               JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. All right then.
13
    going to ask that Mr. Fortson still remain available in
14
15
     case the Commission does still have some questions for
16
    him. Let's go ahead and move on to the next Staff
17
    witness.
18
               MR. PRINGLE: Thank you, Judge. At this time,
19
    Staff calls J Luebbert.
               JUDGE DIPPELL: Mr. Luebbert, I see -- Are you
20
21
     able to hear me?
22
               THE WITNESS: I can. Can everybody hear me?
23
               JUDGE DIPPELL:
                               Yes.
24
               THE WITNESS: Unfortunately I don't have the
    ability to -- I don't have a web cam. So I just have to
2.5
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1 be audio. 2 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. We can handle that. Please raise your right hand. 3 4 (Witness sworn.) JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. You can go ahead 5 6 with your preliminary questions, Mr. Pringle. 7 MR. PRINGLE: Thank you, Judge. 8 J LUEBBERT, 9 called as a witness on behalf of the Staff, being sworn, testified as follows: 10 11 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. PRINGLE: 12 Good afternoon, Mr. Luebbert. 13 Good afternoon. Α. 14 Ο. Please state and spell your name for the court 15 reporter. J Luebbert, L-u-e-b-b-e-r-t. 16 Α. 17 Ο. By whom are you employed and in what capacity? I'm associate engineer for the Missouri Public 18 Α. Service Commission. 19 20 Did you cause to be prepared the surrebuttal 21 testimony of J Luebbert which has been premarked as 22 Exhibits 104C and 105P? 23 Α. Yes, I did. 24 Do you have any additions or corrections you Ο. 2.5 need to make to your surrebuttal testimony?

1	A. I do not.
2	Q. If I were to ask you the questions contained
3	in Exhibits 104C and 105P, would your answers be the
4	same today as those contained herein?
5	A. Yes.
6	Q. Are these answers true and connect to the best
7	of your knowledge and belief?
8	A. Yes.
9	MR. PRINGLE: Thank you, Mr. Luebbert. At
10	this time, I move to enter Staff Exhibits 104C and 105P
11	into the record.
12	JUDGE DIPPELL: Would there be any objection
13	to Exhibit 104, which is a confidential exhibit, and
14	Exhibit 105, which is the public version of that exhibit
15	surrebuttal testimony of J Luebbert? I see no objection
16	so I will enter those into the record.
17	(STAFF'S EXHIBITS 104C AND 105P WERE RECEIVED
18	INTO EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THIS RECORD.)
19	MR. PRINGLE: Thank you, Judge. And at this
20	time I tender Mr. Luebbert for cross-examination.
21	JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Do we have any
22	cross-examination from Public Counsel?
23	MR. CLIZER: No. Thank you, Your Honor.
24	JUDGE DIPPELL: Evergy?
25	MR. HARDEN: Yes. Thank you, Your Honor.

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. HARDEN:

- Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Luebbert. How are you?
- A. I'm doing well all things considered. This is a strange environment, but I think I'm doing all right.
- Q. I'm with you 100 percent. So my name is
 Joshua Harden. I'm legal counsel for the Company. I've
 got a couple of questions here for you. Starting off,
 would you agree that your recommended disallowance or
 disallowances based on the day-ahead locational -- the
 day-ahead LMPs and the Schedule 11 fees that those are a
 kind of energy savings that would pass through the fuel
 adjustment clause?
 - A. Had the savings been realized, yes.
- Q. Okay. Would you agree that under the costeffectiveness test or standard, which we understand that
 you take issue with in this case, but under that
 standard would you agree that Evergy's implementation of
 its MEEIA programs has been a success?
- A. Can you point me to the cost-effectiveness standard that you're talking about?
- Q. Well, let me ask you. Maybe. If you look on -- This is what I can do is point you to page 5 of Brian File's rebuttal testimony where he talks about the Company's performance under the cost-effectiveness test. And I guess I could kind of rephrase the guestion to ask

- if you agree with that testimony that under that standard the Company has been successful?
 - A. So just so I'm clear, and you're going to have to bear with me because --
 - Q. No problem.

- A. -- this has gotten confusing at this point.

 Are we talking about the rebuttal testimony in this case or the rebuttal testimony in the MEEIA case?
- Q. That's a really good point. I think I'm talking about the rebuttal testimony in this case.
 - A. Okay. And you said page 5, correct?
- Q. Let me check. Right, right. Yeah, the question there on page 5 the Q&A was, was Evergy successful in achieving the desired objectives that formed and guided the design of the demand response programs. Do you have a disagreement with under that cost-effectiveness test that Mr. File describes that the Company was successful?
- A. I would say that the cost-effectiveness support that he's referring to there relies on an assumed avoided capacity cost value that has not been realized.
 - Q. Sure.
- A. And part of that is due to the implementation of the program.

	Q.	Okay.	-	I'm going	y to	start	off	kind	of	basic
and	build	up.	Ιŀ	nope you	don'	t mind	l tha	t.	Just	a
coup	le sor	rt of	a p	prelimina	ary t	hing.	Wou	ld y	ou a	gree
that	, for	examp	ole	, the cos	st of	Everg	ıy's	prog	ramn	nable
ther	mostat	prog	gran	m is not	reco	vered	thro	ugh	its	fuel
adju	stment	clau	ıse	mechanis	sm?					

- A. The cost of the programmable thermostat program is not recovered through the FAC, correct.
- Q. Right. And would you agree that the MEEIA demand response programs, and again this is a basic question, I apologize, but do you agree that the MEEIA demand response programs can be designed in different ways with different incentive structures, notice requirements, level of curtailment as examples?
 - A. Yes.

- Q. Okay. And do you agree that the MEEIA programs are capable of being designed in ways that prioritize certain objectives, for example, avoided cost of capacity or reliability or energy savings?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Now, on page 8 of your surrebuttal testimony starting on line 6, you provide Evergy decision makers have not fulfilled their responsibility to derive tangible financial benefits that mirror the claimed avoided capacity costs. Did I read your

testimony correctly there?
A. You're going to have to give me a second to
get there.
Q. Absolutely. Take your time.
A. Which surrebuttal testimony and which page and
which line?
Q. This would be your surrebuttal testimony in
this case, I believe, and it's on page 8.
A. Okay. I've got the document. Give me a
minute to get there.
Q. Yeah, no problem.
A. What line specifically?
Q. That's a good question, because I don't have
it.
MR. HARDEN: Sorry, Judge. I should have had
the line ready.
THE WITNESS: That's all right.
JUDGE DIPPELL: Take your time.
BY MR. HARDEN:
Q. Well, you know what, instead of doing this,
let me kind of skip to the point here. Okay. So do the
LMP, your recommended disallowance are based upon sort
of arbitrage in that the day-ahead LMPs and the

disallowances mirror or equal the avoided capacity cost

reduction in Schedule 11 SPP fees. Okay. Do those

24

value?

- A. Just to be very clear in my answer, I don't recommend any disallowance as it relates to the FAC prudence review which is this case. My recommended disallowances are more accurately reflected or more appropriate for the EO-2020-0227 case which is where I recommended those disallowances.
 - Q. Okay.
 - A. Sorry. Can you ask the question again then?
- Q. Yeah. Well, I'm trying to think of a way. So what I'm trying to get at here is in one point of your testimony it says that it calls for the Company to find tangible financial benefits for the customers that mirror what the Company's claimed avoided capacity cost values are. Subject to check, can you -- would you agree that that's your basic position?
- A. What I stated, and I think I found the point that you're looking for, is that the Evergy decision makers have not fulfilled their responsibility to derive those tangible financial benefits that mirror the claimed avoided capacity cost, yes.
- Q. Gotcha. Yes. Okay. So your position is they have not done that, but for -- you believe that there should be a disallowance of -- huge amount of echo all of a sudden.

A. Yeah, I got that on my end too.

- Q. Sorry. -- that there should be a day-ahead -- that there should be a disallowance for day-ahead LMP prices and a reduction in Schedule 11 SPP fees?
- A. What I've identified within the context of the MEEIA case are areas that Evergy failed to even attempt to derive benefits that they could have by implementing their demand response programs and the failure to attempt to achieve those benefits was imprudent.
- Q. Gotcha. So let me ask you, do you disagree that the primary design objective of Evergy's MEEIA programs was to reduce annual system wide peak load?
- A. The objective -- The way I read the tariff the objective is to decrease system peak load, but I don't know that the annual system peak load is the only objective that that program was designed for but it appears that that was the only objective that was sought to potentially achieve, and whether or not that was achieved or not I'm still not in total agreement on.
- Q. Okay. Please correct me if I'm wrong. It doesn't sound like you were disagreeing that it was Evergy's primary design objective of those programs. I don't want to obviously put words in your mouth. Is that incorrect?
 - A. I would say that is what Mr. File has stated

as the primary objective in his testimony.

- Q. Okay. Thank you. Let me ask you, so you in numerous places, kind of a theme behind your testimony, is that the Company should have sought and did not and did not receive, quote, tangible financial benefits for customers. Can you provide how quickly customers under this standard must recognize tangible financial benefits in your opinion?
- A. Yeah. That's a good question I'm glad you've asked. The issue that I've taken with these programs, specifically the demand response programs, is that they're only approved or they're only -- the measured lives are only for the period of time that the cycle is approved for. So in this case for Cycle 2, 2018 and 2019 is the only period, and that's the period that's subject to the MEEIA prudence review, is the only period that those programs are going to achieve demand reductions. And in this case Evergy failed to derive those benefits for customers within that time period and that's why I've recommended the disallowance.
- Q. Sorry. So is the answer one year? I mean, they're approved every year, right?
- A. Can you -- I guess can you clarify that? You said they're approved every year. What do you mean by that?

Q. Well, so everytime that there's a MEEIA cycle, and maybe it's not every year, maybe it's longer than that, I honestly don't know, how often are the MEEIA programs approved?

- A. So far my recollection is that it's been for the most part three-year cycles and there's been some exception in there.
- Q. Okay. So it's your position that in order for there to -- that customers must receive tangible financial benefits within that three-year period?
- A. I think my response would be that if customers don't receive tangible financial benefits from demand response programs within that time period that they never will absent additional payments in subsequent cycles and therefore those benefits can't really be attributed to this period.
- Q. Okay. Would you disagree that a reduction in annual system peak loads may provide customers with benefits into the future beyond three years; is that accurate?
 - A. Can you restate that?
- Q. Sure, sure. So do you disagree that a reduction in annual system peak loads may provide customers with benefits in the future more than three years, more than three years into the future? Does that

make sense?

- A. Well, I guess I'll say this that Mr. File makes a valid point that if Evergy were to reduce its system peak load, it's annual system peak load, that it would provide some benefit to ratepayers that are based upon their reduction in that month's reduced peak for the SPP Schedule 11 fees.
 - Q. Okay.
- A. But as to the capacity need, customers are not saving the cost to build supply side generation to meet SPP resource adequacy needs.
- Q. Is Staff's position that Evergy has not in any way at all reduced costs of day-ahead LMP or Schedule 11 SPP fees through the implementation of its MEEIA programs to date somewhat regardless of how lacking you think that implementation may be?
- A. I have not made any claims regarding the other MEEIA programs in this case other than the demand response programs. So I guess to answer your question, I think it is fair to say that the other programs aside from the demand response programs may have had some of those effects.
- Q. Would you agree that capacity is not built evenly every year; that some years there's more capacity built than other years?

- A. I'd say yes, historically capacity additions of supply side resources have tended to be, I think the term that's used most frequently is lumpy additions.
 - Q. Now, on page -- you know what. I'm not even going to go on the DR issue, because that requires too much referring back to the testimony. Well, on page 11 of your surrebuttal testimony you refer to a customer's ability to override an event if they don't like it, they don't like the temperature. Is that accurate? I believe I'm referring to page 11 of your surrebuttal testimony in this case.
 - A. Give me just a moment to get there.
- Q. Yeah, you bet.

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- A. You said page 11?
- Q. Yeah, line 6 it looks like. You just point to the fact that a customer can override?
- A. Is that in this case or the other one? I'm not seeing --
- Q. You know what. You're right, you're right.
 You're 100 percent right. It's in the other one. So
 it's Schedule JL-S5, yeah.
 - A. Okay. You said line 6?
- 23 Q. Yes.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Okay.

A. What's your question?

- Q. First that I accurately identify your testimony.
- A. I apologize. I realize that it gets confusing going back and forth between the two. I'm trying to be really cognizant of that fact.
- Q. I appreciate it. So would you agree that calling -- Would you agree that calling of additional DR events could, in fact, affect customer behavior, for example, their inclination to override an event?
 - A. It could.
- Q. Okay. So kind of by logical extension, would you agree that calling additional DR events could affect customer behavior in a manner that makes it more difficult for the Company to reduce annual system wide peak load?
 - A. Can you repeat that? I apologize.
- Q. Sure. Would you agree that calling additional DR events could affect customer behavior in a manner that makes it more difficult for the Company to reduce annual system wide peak load?
- A. It's possible, but I haven't seen evidence that shows that that is actually the case in Evergy's service territory.
 - Q. The Company's witness Mr. File provides a

1 chart on page 13 of his rebuttal testimony in this case. 2 It's identified as Figure F1 which purports to show the demand response value comparison between a single DR 3 4 event and multiple events. Are you familiar with that chart? 5 6 If you'll give me a moment to just -- to get 7 there, I'd be happy to answer your question. Could you 8 give me the page number again? 9 Ο. Yes. Page 13. 10 Α. Page 13. 11 I think it was also in Mr. Fischer's opening O. 12 as well. 13 Okay. I'm there. Α. 14 Ο. Okay. So you're familiar with that chart; 15 you've seen it in his testimony before? 16 Α. Yes. 17 Okay. Now, I understand you take issue again 18 with the cost effectiveness as a measuring yardstick, 19 but do you agree with the idea that demand response 20 events are subject to the law of diminishing returns? 21 Do I agree that demand response events are 22 subject to the law of diminishing returns? 23 Q. Yeah.

Can you be more specific on what those returns

24

25

might be?

The more demand response events that 1 O. Sure. 2 you call, the less impact that they have. Would you agree with that statement? 3 I don't think that this chart demonstrates 5 that. 6 Okay. Would you agree with the statement 7 absent the chart? 8 Α. That the more events you call that the impact is minimized? 9 10 0. Yes. 11 I think my answer previously was it might be. 12 It may not be as well. Do you have any experience in predicting 13 14 day-ahead locational marginal prices? 15 Α. I do not. 16 Would you agree with Evergy's witness Mr. File 17 that it is easier to identify the annual system peaks 18 with greater accuracy than to identify monthly system 19 peaks? 20 I don't think the difficulty of a task 21 precludes the Company from attempting to achieve the 22 outcome. 23 Ο. Okay. So do you believe that it's more difficult or not the same level of difficulty or less 24

difficult?

- A. I think that Evergy employs a number of people whose job is to predict the Company's load on a given day and that Evergy has at its disposal not only the data but the institutional knowledge that it could use to attempt to do so.

 Q. Do you have any experience in predicting
- Q. Do you have any experience in predicting either monthly or annual peak load?
 - A. No, I do not.

- Q. Do you agree that day-ahead LMP prices can be affected by entirely unforeseen events unrelated to weather like transmission outages?
- A. Yes. I guess I would also note that the economic benefit of calling demand response events to have an economic benefit from looking at those day-ahead prices was something that was mentioned by Mr. File.
- Q. Okay. We will go back to the data response.

 And I think that you bring that up on page 3 of your surrebuttal testimony you point to the data response from Company that identifies day-ahead LMPs and Schedule 11 fees as an economic incentive to call demand response events; is that correct?
 - A. What page did you say? I'm sorry.
 - Q. Page 3. Not in this case.

 JUDGE DIPPELL: Just to clarify which

25 testimony that is.

1	MR. HARDEN: It's surrebuttal testimony I
2	believe in this case.
3	THE WITNESS: So I think just taking a glance
4	at it it may be the other case if it's page 3.
5	MR. HARDEN: Thank you.
6	THE WITNESS: So it would be the 0227
7	surrebuttal that I wrote.
8	BY MR. HARDEN:
9	Q. You infer from that data response that the
10	Company knew of such economic incentives from additional
11	DR events but simply failed to call such DR events
12	despite an economic incentive to do so; is that correct?
13	A. You mentioned that I inferred something. Is
14	there something specific that you're looking at on that
15	page?
16	Q. Well, no. I think you just made the exact
17	same inference a couple minutes ago that the Company had
18	And if you don't make that inference, I mean, let me
19	know.
20	A. I guess can you repeat it then?
21	Q. Sure. You infer from this data response that
22	the Company knew of such economic incentives from
23	additional DR events but simply failed to call such DR
24	events despite having that economic incentive to do so?

A. So what I -- Specifically what I stated is

that the Company recognized the event, or the potential for those economic incentives, and then failed to even attempt to achieve those benefits.

- Q. Is it possible that the Company identified benefits which were incidental to the calling of demand response but didn't intend to suggest that its management of those DR events be driven by such incidental benefits?
 - A. I'll have to ask you to repeat that again.
- Q. Sure. Is it possible that the Company identified the benefits, those benefits which were incidental to the calling of demand response events, but did not intend to suggest that the management of those DR events would be derive by those incidental benefits?
 - A. Yes, it's possible.

- Q. Thank you. Now, you determined the specific opportunities, I'm using your words there, upon which you calculated your recommended disallowance by looking at historical day-ahead LMP market data and historical SPP Schedule 11 fees; is that correct?
 - A. Can you restate that?
- Q. Sure. You determined the specific opportunities upon which you calculated your recommended disallowance by looking at historical day-ahead LMP market data and historical SPP Schedule 11 fees; is that

correct?

- A. I estimated the impact of the failure to attempt to achieve those benefits.
- Q. Based upon that historical data and those historical Schedule 11 fees; is that correct?
- A. Again, the impact or the impact estimate was based on historical data, but the decision not to attempt to achieve those benefits did not look at historical data.
- Q. Gotcha. So I understand that you're not a lawyer, but I want to read you Section 393.1075.3 which is a MEEIA statute. It shall be the policy of the state to value demand-side investment equal to traditional investments in supply and delivery infrastructure and allow recovery of all reasonable and prudent costs of delivering cost-effective demand-side programs. Subject to check, did I get that statutory language right?
- A. Yes. Subject to check, it sounds similar to what's there.
- Q. Okay. So in Case No. E0-2015-0240 and 0241, the Commission approved a Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement between the parties, including Staff as a signatory; is that correct?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Okay. And in the Report and Order that came

out of that case 0240 and 0241, the Commission provided 1 2 on page 12, and I believe that this was sent around the 3 other day, so I hope you have a copy of it, in the surrebuttal. 4 5 If you give me a moment, I can pull it up. 6 This is the Report and Order? 7 O. Yes. 8 Α. Okay. And this is -- I think the file name 9 was Report and Order 3-2-2016; is that right? I'm not sure. I'm looking at --10 Ο. 11 Let me open it and I'll see if the title is Α. 12 the same as what you're looking at. 13 Ο. Sure. 14 JUDGE DIPPELL: What is the title of the one 15 you're looking at, Mr. Harden? 16 MR. HARDEN: I'm actually not looking at it. 17 I just wrote that in my notes. I'm sorry. It's the 18 Report and Order from that case. 19 JUDGE DIPPELL: And which case again? 20 MR. HARDEN: EO-2015-0240, 0241. 21 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Just wanted to double 22 check. 23 BY MR. HARDEN:

that I'm interested in which is --

And subject to check, I can read the paragraph

24

- A. Okay. I think I've got it. Give me the page number.
 - Q. 13. It reads the amended MEEIA plan also provides an important collaborative process to address new and underserved customer markets and to identify cost-effective energy and demand savings to achieve possible 200 gigawatts of additional savings programs here 2017, 2018. Did I read that correctly?
 - A. I believe so.

- Q. Now, as part of that Report and Order, the Commission approved this Stipulation and Agreement which has also been provided. And on page 2 of that Stipulation and Agreement, I believe it's under Section 3, it provides -- well, there's disagreement among the signatories on how the plan costs and benefits should be determined. The signatories agree that the plan is expected to provide benefits to all customers, including customers who did not participate in the programs. Did I read that correctly?
 - A. I believe so, yes.
- Q. Okay. This expectation, which is articulated in the Stipulation and Agreement, was based upon those programs being cost effective as defined by and calculated pursuant to the MEEIA rules; is that correct?
 - A. So that expectation my understanding is based

	10 2020 0202, VOI. II
1	on an expected avoided capacity cost that was provided
2	by Evergy within that case.
3	Q. Okay.
4	A. Whether or not that avoided capacity cost was
5	ever subsequently realized by ratepayers is another
6	question entirely.
7	Q. Okay. Can you point to any transcript or
8	proceeding or discussion where the expectation
9	articulated in Section 3 of that Unanimous Stipulation
10	and Agreement was defined as tangible financial benefits
11	as opposed to cost effective?
12	A. Where the expectation as stated in this
13	document was stated as a financial a tangible
14	financial benefit?
15	Q. Right.
16	A. I'm not aware.
17	Q. Okay. Do you know of any statute, rule or
18	Commission order that sets forth a definition of
19	tangible financial benefit?
20	A. I'm not certain.
21	Q. Okay. Do you know of any statute, rule or
22	Commission order that sets out tangible financial
23	benefit as the standard by which the MEEIA program or

MR. CLIZER: Your Honor, this is Clizer with

its management should be assessed?

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the OPC, I'm hesitated to do this, but I'd kind of like 1 2 to object at this point because I do not see the relevance of this line of questioning as it's been going 3 on for awhile in relationship to the FAC case. 4 seems to be predominantly geared towards the prudency of 5 6 the MEEIA program at this point and seems to have been 7 that way for awhile. How is this related to the FAC? 8 JUDGE DIPPELL: Mr. Harden, would you like to 9 respond? 10 MR. HARDEN: Sure. At the very beginning, and 11 I will also give everybody a little bit of good news 12 that I'm done with my cross-examination and that was it. 13 But --14 JUDGE DIPPELL: Go ahead with your answer, 15 please. 16 MR. HARDEN: Okay. The very first question 17 that I asked all of these are based upon the assessment 18 that by the failure of Evergy to attempt to maximize 19 day-ahead locational marginal price cost, as well as 20 Schedule 11 SPP fees that those are energy -- that those 21 would be energy savings. Energy savings I'm assuming, 22 you know, so all of them relate back to the FAC to the 23 degree that Mr. Luebbert said on question number one 24 that all of those would flow through the FAC mechanism. That's the best I've got. 25

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JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. I will overrule the
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     objection and allow it. Do we have a pending question
    or had he already answered your question?
 3
              MR. HARDEN: He has. Thank you very much,
 4
    Mr. Luebbert.
 5
 6
               THE WITNESS: Thank you.
 7
               JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Are there any
 8
    Commissioner questions before I begin on the compilation
 9
    of questions I have?
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              MR. CLIZER: Your Honor, the OPC would like to
11
    do cross.
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              JUDGE DIPPELL: I'm sorry. I had you in the
    wrong order.
13
              MR. CLIZER: Oh, wait. No, you're right.
14
15
    apologize. I forewent my cross. I don't know what I'm
16
     saying. I thought the order was wrong too. I
17
    apologize. That's my mistake.
18
              JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. It's all right.
19
    getting to be late on a long day. So if we're back, I
20
    didn't see any Commissioner questions. I do have a
21
     list. Go ahead. Mr. Harden, did you have something?
22
              MR. HARDEN: I'm sorry. We were under the
23
     impression that OPC had waived cross.
24
               JUDGE DIPPELL: They did, they did.
2.5
              MR. HARDEN: What's happening now?
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MR. HARDEN: Okay, I gotcha.

JUDGE DIPPELL: -- on behalf of the

Commission.

2.5

MR. HARDEN: Thank you.

JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. So let me get myself gathered up here.

QUESTIONS BY JUDGE DIPPELL:

- Q. Mr. Luebbert, I apologize if any of this gets repetitive or no longer applicable, but let me just start. Mr. Harden pointed you to originally, and we got kind of sidetracked, to page 3 of your surrebuttal testimony in this case where you say on line 15 while some of the potential benefits that Evergy failed to attempt to achieve would have flowed back to customers through the respective Company's fuel adjustment clause the decisions or lack thereof in some instances were the result of Evergy's implementation of the MEEIA programs and it goes on. But by that original part of that statement you're saying that some of these benefits that might have accrued if they had made the full -- if they'd maximized the capacity of the DR program, those are costs that would flow through the FAC, correct?
 - A. I'm sorry. You mentioned maximizing the

capacity of the DR programs. Can you --

- Q. Well, if they had -- I'm sorry. If they had -- If Evergy had made all the potential calls that it could have instead of just the ones that it did, there may have been -- the Commission may find that there were benefits that could have flowed back through the FAC, those would have been costs that would have gone through the FAC?
 - A. Yes.

- Q. Okay. I'm sorry if I butchered that.
- A. No, that's fine. If I can clarify. My recommendation to include these disallowances within the context of a MEEIA prudence review is partially because the demand response program costs are recovered through the DSIM and the programs are implemented imprudently, and so therefore I would say an adjustment is more appropriate through the DSIM than through the fuel adjustment clause.
- Q. Okay. Thank you. I'm reviewing my questions here. So bear with me on the silence. Okay. So were you present, were you listening to Mr. Carlson's testimony?
 - A. I was.
- Q. And did you hear him discussing possible ways to calculate if the Commission should find Evergy's

actions imprudent possible ways to calculate that imprudence? Were you hearing that?

- A. I was listening. If you could refresh me on what he said, I would much appreciate it.
- Q. Well, he talked about some averages. He talked about looking at the calls that were made.
- A. Yeah, I do recall that and I guess -- sorry.

 I'll let you ask your question.
- Q. Well, I'm not wanting you to go back and look at hindsight. We're not wanting to do that. We're trying to get an idea of how to calculate the amount of the imprudence and what method should be used to do that. So if the Commission determines that it was imprudent for Evergy not to use the demand response programs to the maximum amount of their design capability, what method would you recommend the Commission use and what would that calculation be?
- A. I would recommend that the Commission -- I guess first and foremost I would recommend that the Commission make that finding within the context of a MEEIA prudence review, and then after that I provided an estimation for those costs.
- Q. Okay. And just can you give me a short recap of your method that you used in that calculation?
 - A. Yes, I can. If you'll give me just a moment,

I'm sure you've had similar experiences but I just got booted from my remote desktop. So if you'll give me a moment to get back on, I will try to give you the thousand foot view.

- Q. That would be great. And take your time and I will try to gather myself up as well. For those that aren't aware, the Commission has remote desktop that it uses for its employees to work remotely and every now and then we get kicked off of it. So I'm sure

 Mr. Luebbert was trying to find documents through his work computer.
- A. Okay. I'm guessing when you're asking about the estimation you'd be asking about the estimation of those costs that have been raised within the context of this case only, correct?
- Q. Correct. Well, I mean, I'm most interested in the context of this case. I'm not interested in the context of the MEEIA case, if that's -- I understand they might have some crossover. Did that clarify or did that make it worse?
 - A. It clarifies but only to a certain extent.
- Q. Well, give me your answer as related to the first half of that as it's related to this case.
 - A. Okay. So I guess I would --
 - Q. Are you still there?

- Yeah, I'm here. I'm trying to get my workbook 1 Α. 2 to open and it's not cooperating very well. That's fine. 3 Ο. I had just gotten booted again from remote Α. 5 desktop. 6 Ο. Well, let's move on. Let's move on from that 7 one. Let me just ask you some basic questions and maybe 8 this will answer it along the way. 9 Okay. Α. 10 First, when does peak demand normally occur? 11 It depends on the time period in which you're Α. 12 So a system can peak on a daily basis, it can lookina. 13 peak on a weekly basis, a monthly basis and even an 14 annual basis. 15 And what factors should the Company be looking Ο. 16 at in projecting or forecasting that peak demand? 17 Α. What factors should they be looking at to forecast that peak demand? 18 19 Ο. Yes. 20 There are a few kind of off the top of my 21 head, but the points that Mr. Carlson made regarding how 22 a peak is forecasted seem reasonable to me. And if you 23 would like more detail than that, I can certainly give
 - Q. That's fine. And along with that then, what

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you more.

factors should be considered in deciding when to make the curtailment call?

- A. So in my view, Evergy should be optimizing the benefits that it can derive from the implementation of the demand response programs to financially benefit its ratepayers and maximize those financial benefits.
- Q. Okay. So this is worded a little awkwardly but I'm going to give it a try. Power purchased when usage needs exceed Company generation is purchased power, correct?
 - A. Can you repeat that?

- Q. Yeah. Power purchased when usage needs exceed the Company generation is purchased power, correct?
 - A. That is my understanding, yes.
- Q. During peak demand, power prices are generally higher; is that correct?
 - A. I'd say that's a fair representation, yes.
- Q. So when a utility's power needs exceed its generation during peak demand period, a utility with a demand response program can call an event and thereby reduce the amount of expensive power it must buy, correct?
- A. I believe so. So I guess can I clarify, because I think part of this needs to be caveated with the fact that on a daily basis Evergy is both selling

all of its generation into the SPP and purchasing all of the energy necessary to meet its load back. So to the extent there was a netting there, then I think my answers are still in line.

- Q. Okay. Thank you for that clarification. So Evergy's demand response programs that allow it to call an event in which it will cycle participating customers' air-conditioning units temporarily to reduce demand during peak periods would in that regard allow it, if there's a net difference like you're talking about, reduce its purchased power costs?
 - A. All else being equal, yes, I believe so.
- Q. And do you agree with Ms. Mantle's opinion that Evergy should have called more curtailment events?
- A. Given the design or the -- sorry. Let me stop and rephrase that. Given the way that the incentive structure was designed by Evergy, yes, they should have called more demand response events than they did.
- Q. And did you hear the dates of the events that Mr. File testified to earlier?
 - A. I did.

- Q. Do you have any disagreement with those dates?

 Does that sound like the dates that you were familiar with?
 - A. Well, and this probably goes back to my

testimony in the MEEIA prudence review case, there's some confusion around those dates. First, I know I filed testimony in that case which stated that it was unclear whether or not they had met that threshold because there was some information that was provided to the EM&V evaluators that differed from the dates that Mr. File has provided and then there was also some data requests from a previous case which may not have been updated to reflect additional events that would have been called. So I guess the answer is I'm not certain at this point.

- Q. Okay. That's fair enough. Do you have any knowledge of what the particular conditions were like temperature, weather, that kind of things happening in the market for those days that events were called; is that the kind of thing that you've looked at?
- A. No. I'll say I don't, but I will say that it's concerning to me and to Staff that that type of information isn't readily available for the Company to be able to explain. You know, they're operating programs with budgets of millions of dollars, and the fact that they don't have a protocol in place to say this is when we will call something is pretty deeply concerning.
 - Q. Do you have additional dates that you believe

Evergy should have made calls?

A. I believe Evergy should have utilized the information that it had in the institutional knowledge of its employees to attempt to maximize the benefits from calling events. I will not sit here and tell you that I could predict based off the information available to me what those dates would have been.

JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. All right. I think that may be all of my questions. Let me look really quick and make sure I didn't miss some.

BY JUDGE DIPPELL:

- Q. Oh, just another kind of general question.

 Can a utility company have or design a demand response program independent of an approved MEEIA program?
- A. Yes, and Evergy prior to getting I believe getting Cycle 2 approved did operate a program, I believe it was called Empower which was a curtailment program which was outside of the scope of a MEEIA program.
- Q. And what benefits do you see that the Company has to design a program within a MEEIA program rather than offering it as an independent one?
- A. First and foremost, they get to recover the costs of that program very quickly through the approval of a demand-side investment mechanism. Second most or

secondly they get a sizable earnings or chance at a sizable earnings opportunity through the approval of the program. I don't believe they would have that same structure in place outside of a MEEIA.

- Q. Okay. I apologize for skipping around, but I've got just a couple more. You may recall the Company witness Mr. File asking about -- or was asked about the number of demand response events called. Can you determine or recall if the number of five events was the necessary number to meet the cost effectiveness of one for the program? Did that make sense?
- A. I would say that Evergy had the ability to derive more benefits for its ratepayers by calling more events with an attempt to target certain time periods and failed to do so. And by deriving additional benefits, it would have made the program if nothing else more cost effective.
- Q. Okay. If the number of events was increased to more than five, then would -- you're saying that the demand response program would have -- would it have an even greater cost-effectiveness factor?
- A. The way that -- sorry. I apologize. I'm going to kind of explain this more fully. The way that Evergy designed the programs resulted in a large portion of the cost of the program to be paid out up front with

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1
    minimal additional cost to call events for the demand
 2
    response incentive program to be paid to those customers
     that achieved savings during an event and little, if
 3
     any, incremental cost to call additional events for the
 4
     thermostat program. So to the extent that you could
 5
     call more events at little to no cost and achieve
 6
 7
    additional financial benefits for your ratepayers, it
 8
    would be more cost effective.
 9
               JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. I think that's all the
10
    questions I have. We are coming up on five o'clock
11
    pretty quickly. So I'm going to ask the attorneys just
12
    how much more they think they have for Mr. Luebbert.
    Will there be substantial further cross-examination from
13
    Public Counsel?
14
15
               MR. CLIZER: I have what I hope to be a rather
     small amount. I genuinely hope that I can get it done
16
17
     fairly quickly.
18
               JUDGE DIPPELL: Evergy, what's your estimate?
19
               MR. HARDEN: Very little.
20
               JUDGE DIPPELL:
                              Okay. Will there be
21
     substantial redirect from Staff?
22
               MR. PRINGLE: I wouldn't say substantial.
23
    will be -- I think it will be shorter than the line of
24
    questioning so far, but I do have a few redirect
    questions.
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JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Well, let's go ahead then with -- I was debating about taking a break and reconvening but it's getting late and we're all getting tired. So let's get as much done as we can and then break for the day. So let's go ahead with further cross-examination from Public Counsel.

MR. CLIZER: Thank you, Your Honor. FURTHER CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. CLIZER:

- Q. Good evening, Mr. Luebbert. I'm going to try and keep this as quick as possible so we can all get home today at a reasonable time. First of all, you were asked a question by the Commission as to what factors should be considered when deciding whether to call a demand response program. In your answer you said something to the effect of maximizing financial benefits. Do you recall that?
 - A. Yes.

- Q. Are you familiar with the tariff sheets of the demand-side programs that were in effect during this prudence review period?
 - A. I am.
- Q. Are you familiar with the fact those tariff sheets refer to the ability of Evergy to call demand response program events for economic reasons?
 - A. Yes, and I believe I stated as much and quoted

those sheets within one of the rounds of my testimony in one of the cases that we're talking about today.

- Q. Well, I won't ask too much further on this just to simply say would calling a demand response event for economic reasons be an example of how they could have maximized financial benefits?
 - A. It certainly would have increased it.
- Q. And you were here -- Were you here during the testimony of Brian File or I should say Evergy witness Mr. File earlier today?
 - A. I was.

- Q. Did you recall him testifying how Evergy did not call any demand response program events for economic reasons?
 - A. I do.
- Q. And is that kind of an example of what you're saying that they failed to maximize those financial benefits?
- A. Yes. And frankly they haven't failed to maximize it. They've failed to even attempt to maximize it.
- Q. My other issue, and frankly you already kind of did a good job of cleaning this up, there was a conversation regarding purchased power and you went back and clarified and explained that Evergy is buying all

the energy that it provides to its consumers on a daily 1 2 basis. Do you recall that? 3 Α. Yes. So any time where the cost of that energy that 5 they're buying is positive and it costs them money to 6 purchase it, would you agree that a reduction in the 7 amount of energy they're buying is going to reduce their 8 cost? 9 To the extent that the cost of an incremental Α. demand response call does not exceed that, I would say 10 11 that is true. The other thing that you would have to be 12 careful to look at would be what the impact might be in another hour, but that is an analysis that I would 13 14 expect to have been done. 15 MR. CLIZER: That's it for me. Like I said, I'll keep it short. 16 17 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you, Mr. Clizer. 18 Evergy, do you have further cross-examination? 19 MR. HARDEN: I just have one question. 20 FURTHER CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. HARDEN: 21 I believe that in response to a question that 22 you asked, Judge, the issue of incremental costs of 23 calling additional events came up. Mr. Luebbert, are

you basing that conclusion of what the incremental costs

of calling additional events would be on, are you basing

24

that off of any studies or data responses or what are
you basing that off of?

- A. Can you be more specific to which program?
- Q. Well, I'm going to say DRI and the thermostat program.
- A. No, the answer differs between the two.

 That's why I asked for the clarification. For the demand response incentive program, I'm basing my statement that the incremental cost of an additional event is small in comparison to the overall cost of the program based off of the contracts that Evergy signed with the participating customers. As far as the thermostat program goes, I'm basing that off of the customer agreement that Evergy has with the customers that receive it and a thermostat free of charge and then they're paid a flat annual sum for participation and no additional incentives to participate in additional events --
- 19 | 0. Okay.

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- A. -- up to that maximum.
- MR. HARDEN: Okay. Thank you. I have no further questions.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Mr. Pringle, do you think you can do it in 6 to 15 minutes?
- 25 MR. PRINGLE: I'm feeling good about 10. I

think I can do it in 10. 1 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Well, in that case, 2 we'll continue on. Go ahead with your redirect. 3 MR. PRINGLE: Thank you, Judge. REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. PRINGLE: 5 6 Mr. Luebbert, over the course of your 7 testimony we've kind of made it clear the intermingling 8 of these prudence reviews and I just really want to 9 clarify your disallowances. How many disallowances have 10 you proposed for the FAC prudence review? For the FAC prudence review, I have not 11 12 recommended any disallowances. I believe that the 13 disallowances I recommended in the MEEIA prudence review 14 case are more appropriate in that case and will 15 alleviate much of this confusion that I think is 16 unnecessary. 17 And then I want to go back real fast to where 18 we were talking about statutory language earlier in 19 cross-examination. You are familiar with the MEEIA 20 statute? 21 Α. I am. 22 And you are -- You were present when I was Ο.

cross-examining Mr. File?

23

24

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Q. Do you recall when I asked about the portion

of the statute where it states recovery for such programs shall not be permitted unless the programs are approved by the Commission, result in energy or demand savings and are beneficial to all customers in the customer class in which the programs are proposed regardless of whether the programs are utilized by all customers. Do you recall that?

A. I do.

- Q. Now, I'm going to ask you the same question I asked Mr. File. Would calling more events have benefited nonparticipating customers incrementally more?
- A. Targeting events in a way that would have provided additional benefits to all ratepayers would also incrementally benefit non-participants more than if that had not been the case.
- Q. And do you see the Company having an obligation to maximize those benefits?
- A. Absolutely. Ratepayers funded these programs with the expectation that Evergy would derive as much financial benefit as possible from the programs at a minimal cost, and Evergy failed to maximize those benefits despite the fact that they could have achieved or at least attempted to achieve additional benefits without impacting dramatically the program costs.
 - Q. And speaking of benefits, Mr. Luebbert, do you

recall during your cross-examination by Mr. Harden the deemed and perceived benefits discussion?

A. Yes.

- Q. Are those deemed and perceived benefits based on proxy avoided capacity costs?
- A. Yes. So within the context of requesting a MEEIA application be approved, the Company provided some proxy avoided costs, and specifically avoided capacity costs, as estimates of savings. The problem is that Evergy hasn't implemented the demand response programs in a way that ratepayers have been able to realize actual savings that come even close to those proxy estimates. And so to the extent that we're talking about a prudence review, and I'm going to say this in the context of a MEEIA prudence review, because I'm not recommending anything in this case. But in the context of that case, we should be looking at the actual benefits and the actual costs.
- Q. And you also talked a lot about the implementation. Can you elaborate more on how important a proper implementation is?
- A. Yes. So I think that's why we're here today is we've got a couple of programs that Evergy got funded by ratepayers, they got paid a handsome earnings opportunity or expand to potentially get a handsome

earnings opportunity for implementing the programs and then failed to implement the programs in a way that really benefits the customers the most that it can and that is -- That's why implementation of the program is so important. Had Evergy designed the programs in a way that, you know, it was a small up front incentive to customers and then each time they were going to pay or each time they were going to call an event they would have to pay an exorbitant amount, that would have driven up program costs and I don't think we'd be here today arguing that they should have done that. What they did is they designed two programs that a majority of the costs were sunk costs in the beginning and then failed to call events up to its self-prescribed maximum to derive benefits.

- Q. And then speaking more about the MEEIA costs, would you agree that the MEEIA costs such as program costs, throughput disincentive and even earnings opportunity are recovered immediately and contemporaneously by the Company?
 - A. Yes, yes, I am.

- Q. And the benefits customers receive are deemed and perceived and never actually quantified to know what the realized benefits actually are?
 - A. Through the EM&V process, that is true. The

benefits that are looked at in the EM&V process are
deemed and, in fact, the avoided capacity cost value
that the EM&V evaluator looks at is provided by Evergy
as a given.

JUDGE DIPPELL: Mr. Pringle, I'm going to interrupt you there for a minute. Can we get back to the FAC instead of the MEEIA prudence?

MR. PRINGLE: Yes, yes, I'm transferring -- going back to more about the events themselves right now, Judge.

JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Thank you.

BY MR. PRINGLE:

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- Q. And then going back to a little more of Mr. File's testimony earlier, Mr. Luebbert, do you recall the discussion between Mr. File and Commissioner Rupp on the Cycle 2 extensions that included language of the Company calling the five events in 2019?
 - A. I do.
- Q. And was it your understanding that five was a max?
- A. No, and actually quite the contrary. So throughout that proceeding it was recognized that Evergy was calling fewer and fewer events as the program years went on. And realizing that the potential benefit based on the cost structure was there, we pushed for a minimum

and that's what I would view that five events as is a minimum number of events recognizing the fact that the contracts that Evergy had in place and the customer agreement that they had in place already prescribed maximums.

- Q. Then so you would agree that with five Staff was actually trying to encourage the Company to achieve even greater ratepayer benefits through more events?
 - A. Yes.

- Q. And it's likely that had the Company called even more events ratepayer benefits would have been even greater?
- A. Ideally Evergy would already have protocols in place that would seek to maximize benefits through called events. Unfortunately I'm not sure that that was the case, but it doesn't alleviate the need for Evergy to try to target those periods of time when the benefits could have been realized. And those are why I recommended the disallowances that I did recognizing that there was the potential if you can reduce the system peak in a given month you could provide a benefit of a reduced Schedule 11 SPP fee.
- Q. Again, those were disallowances not in the FAC prudence review but disallowances in the MEEIA prudence review?

1	A. Right. And they've been I'd say somewhat
2	carried forward into this case.
3	Q. And to kind of just wrap up here,
4	Mr. Luebbert, to the best of your knowledge, what
5	happens to costs that are identified in an FAC prudence
6	review?
7	A. Costs that are identified in an FAC prudence
8	review?
9	Q. Yes.
10	A. I guess go ahead.
11	Q. For the disallowances in a proposed FAC
12	prudence review.
13	A. Well, if an adjustment was ordered within the
14	context of an FAC prudence review, those adjustments
15	would be reflected within the FAC.
16	Q. Then what happens to costs identified and
17	adjustments made through a MEEIA prudence review?
18	A. Those adjustments would be reflected as an
19	adjustment to the DSIM.
20	Q. And the demand response issues we've been
21	discussing today in the context of the FAC prudence
22	review, why would they be better addressed in a MEEIA
23	prudence review?
24	A. Well, I think the first reason is that this
25	all goes back to the implementation of the program and

the program cost being recovered through the DSIM. 1 Тο 2 the extent that the implementation was imprudent, those changes should occur through the DSIM. That said, if an 3 4 adjustment occurs through the FAC, that might lead or 5 it's likely to lead to an additional round of just where 6 we are today in that we may have to raise the same issue 7 within a general rate case as well. 8 Q. So handling this in the FAC prudence review 9 we'd run the risk of confusion? I think that's at least in my mind been made 10 Α. 11 pretty clear today. 12 MR. PRINGLE: Thank you, Mr. Luebbert. 13 no further redirect, Judge. 14 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Thank you very much. Ι 15 believe then that that ends your testimony for today, 16 Mr. Luebbert. I hope that you will be available tomorrow as well in case we have additional questions 17 after Ms. Mantle testifies. 18 19 THE WITNESS: I'll be available. 20 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Is there any other 21 housekeeping matters before we adjourn? What we will do 22 is adjourn for tonight and return at nine 9:00 in the 23 morning. 24 MR. FISCHER: Judge --

JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes, Mr. Fischer.

25

1	MR. FISCHER: I don't know if this is
2	housekeeping or not, but because we've settled the IRP
3	issue and if the Commission can take official notice of
4	a stipulation and an order, I think I could reduce my
5	cross of Lena Mantle to just a handful of questions and
6	you might be able to wrap up the whole thing. Whatever
7	you want to do.
8	JUDGE DIPPELL: Well, are you talking about
9	wrapping up tonight?
10	MR. FISCHER: I was, but I understand we're
11	getting late.
12	JUDGE DIPPELL: No, I'm going to say no to
13	that idea.
14	MR. FISCHER: All right.
15	JUDGE DIPPELL: I think our new technology and
16	everything else to do with the way we have to handle
17	things gets pretty tiresome. I think we would be better
18	with fresh minds in the morning.
19	MR. FISCHER: I understand.
20	JUDGE DIPPELL: So we'll
21	MR. STEINER: Judge
22	JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes, Mr. Steiner.
23	MR. STEINER: I had one issue. You wanted
24	the clarification on the Metro West Tariff Sheet 1509 if
25	that should be Tariff Sheet R-86?

1	JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes.
2	MR. STEINER: And that is correct, it should
3	be R-86.
4	JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Very good.
5	MR. STEINER: Thank you.
6	JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you for getting back to
7	me so quickly. Okay. So the procedure we will do is we
8	will log out tonight, log back in tomorrow. I would ask
9	that you all be logged on by 8:45 so if we have any
10	technical issues or procedural issues that we need to
11	take care of before we go on the record at 9:00 we can
12	do that.
13	MR. CLIZER: Your Honor
14	JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes, go ahead.
15	MR. CLIZER: I'm not going to ask for this
16	to be done right now tonight. Obviously I'd like to get
17	home. Can we take up the issue of taking judicial
18	notice or admission of notice of the tariff sheets
19	tomorrow morning? I was going to do that.
20	JUDGE DIPPELL: Sure.
21	MR. CLIZER: I feel like I'd like to get that
22	out of the way.
23	JUDGE DIPPELL: Yeah, we can do that before we
24	begin the testimony, that's fine.
25	MR. CLIZER: All right. That was all. Thank

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     you.
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               MR. FISCHER: Judge, from a technical
     standpoint could I ask do we just log in on the same
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 4
     invitation that we had today or will there be a new one
 5
     sent out?
               JUDGE DIPPELL: I believe that there will be
 6
 7
     -- that it will be the same.
 8
               MR. FISCHER: Okay.
               JUDGE DIPPELL: If I find out different after
 9
10
     this, I will email you all.
11
               MR. FISCHER: Thank you.
12
               MS. KEELY: Judge, it's Jackie. It is the
            It should be the same invite for both days.
13
     same.
14
             JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Thank you. And I want
15
     to say thank you to my assistant Jackie Keely for
16
     handling sort of the technical behind the scenes and to
17
     the Commission's IT staff, specifically Jay Hoffman,
18
     who's been in the background all day today making sure
19
     that we run smoothly. And I appreciate you all bearing
20
     with the technology. And if there's nothing else, I
21
     don't see anything further, we can go ahead and adjourn.
22
     We can go off the record. We'll see you all tomorrow
23
     morning.
24
             (Off the record.)
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