# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Fourth Prudence Review	)	
of Costs Subject to the Commission-Approved	)	
Fuel Adjustment Clause of Evergy Metro, Inc.	)	Case No. EO-2022-XXXX
d/b/a Evergy Missouri Metro	)	

#### STAFF'S NOTICE OF START OF FOURTH PRUDENCE REVIEW

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and for its Notice of Start of Fourth Prudence Review, respectfully states to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"):

- 1. The tariff of Evergy Metro, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri Metro ("Evergy Missouri Metro"), f/k/a Kansas City Power & Light Company ("KCP&L") provides as part of its fuel adjustment clause ("FAC") that "prudence reviews of costs subject to this FAC shall occur no less frequently than every eighteen months." This tracks the language of both Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-20.090(11) and § 386.266.5(4) RSMo.
- 2. Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-20.090(11)(B), in part, provides: "The staff shall file notice within ten (10) days of starting its [rate adjustment mechanism] prudence review." It also establishes the following schedule of dates by which certain events are to take place keyed off of the date Staff initiates its prudence review:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Evergy Missouri Metro Tariff P.S.C. MO. No. 7, Original Tariff Sheet 50.30 (Applicable to Service Provided December 6, 2018 and Thereafter).

Time from start of Staff prudence review to event	Event
Within 180 days	Submission of Staff recommendation to Commission regarding Staff's examination and analysis
Within 190 days	Request for hearing
Within 210 days	Commission Order, if no hearing requested

- 3. Staff plans to conduct a prudence review of the costs and revenues associated with Evergy Missouri Metro's FAC for the period January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. This review period corresponds to the 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> sequential accumulation periods and their associated recovery periods<sup>2</sup> for Evergy Missouri Metro's FAC.
- 4. Staff initiated this prudence review of the costs and revenues associated with Evergy Missouri Metro's Commission-approved FAC on September 1, 2021. Staff plans to file its recommendation and report on its review of this prudence review period of January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, by Monday February 28, 2022, within the 180 day requirement of the rule. This is Staff's fourth prudence review of Evergy Missouri Metro's FAC. Staff filed its recommendations and reports to the Commission for prior prudence reviews of Evergy Missouri Metro's FAC as follows:

Review Number	File Number	Review Period
1	EO-2017-0231	September 29, 2015 through December 31, 2016
2	EO-2019-0068	January 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018
3	EO-2020-0263	July 1, 2018 through December 31, 2019

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> AP 12's recovery period falls outside of this prudence review period, as AP12's billing months are October 2021 through September 2022.

- 5. In each of Missouri Evergy Metro's general electric rate cases where the Commission has approved Missouri Evergy Metro to have or continue to have a FAC, the accumulation periods have remained the same—two six-month accumulation periods each year, January-June and July-December.
- 6. The following table identifies Missouri Evergy Metro's Commission-approved FAC tariff sheets which were applicable for electric service provided to its customers during the review period January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021:

December 6, 2018 through June 30, 2021		
Original Sheet No. 50.21		
Original Sheet No. 50.22		
Original Sheet No. 50.23		
Original Sheet No. 50.24		
Original Sheet No. 50.25		
Original Sheet No. 50.26		
Original Sheet No. 50.27		
Original Sheet No. 50.28		
Original Sheet No. 50.29		
Original Sheet No. 50.30		
4th Revised Sheet No. 50.31		
5th Revised Sheet No. 50.31		
6th Revised Sheet No. 50.31		

- 7. Staff initiated its fourth prudence review of the costs and revenues associated with Missouri Evergy Metro's Commission-approved FAC on September 1, 2021. Staff plans to file its recommendation to the Commission regarding the Staff's examination and analysis in this case by February 28, 2022.
- 8. Staff may change its examination approach during this review, and in future prudence reviews as well, based on the particular circumstances existing at the time of the review. The Staff's Energy Resources Department is responsible for this

prudence review. The Staff plans to file its recommendation at the conclusion of its prudence review covering the following topics:

#### **Section 1 - Standard of Prudence**

A. The standard requires documentation and includes other Commission principles as appropriate.

#### Section - 2 Audit Scope

- A. Presently Known Areas To Review
  - 1. Missouri Evergy Metro's Total Book Costs of Fuel Consumed in Missouri Evergy Metro's Generating Units
  - 2. Missouri Evergy Metro's FAC Cost Recovery from Customers (Revenues)
  - 3. Costs and Revenues Associated with Missouri Evergy Metro's Fuel Hedging Program
  - 4. Purchased Power Energy Charges, Including Applicable Transmission Fees
  - 5. Southwest Power Pool Variable Costs
  - 6. Emission Allowance Costs and Revenues
  - 7. Off System Sales
- B. Tests/Investigations to Address/Discover Other Significant Items Impacting Fuel and Purchased Power Cost Recovery Amount
  - 1. Comparison of Base Fuel Components and Amounts to Claimed Cost Components and Amounts
  - 2. Plant Outages
  - 3. Heat Rates
  - 4. Fuel, Freight and Transportation / Purchase Power Contracts

#### Self-Commitment of Certain Generation Facilities

WHEREFORE, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission hereby provides notice that it started its fourth prudence review of the costs and revenues associated with Missouri Evergy Metro's Commission-approved fuel adjustment clause on September 1, 2021, for the review period of January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, and that it plans to file its recommendation regarding the Staff's examination and analysis in this case by February 28, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

### /s/ Kevin A. Thompson

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Attorneys for the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 1st day of September, 2021.

/s/ Kevin A. Thompson