

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Application of)
Great Plains Energy Incorporated for)
Approval of its Merger with) File No. EM-2018-0012
Westar Energy, Inc.)

NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE

COME NOW, Evergy Metro Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri Metro (“Evergy Missouri Metro”) and Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West (“Evergy Missouri West”) (collectively, the “Company”)¹, and for their Notice of Compliance (“Notice”) to the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”), state as follows:

1. Pursuant to Condition 5 of the Merger Commitments and Conditions identified in Exhibit A to the *Stipulation and Agreement* (“Agreement”) filed in this docket on January 12, 2018, as approved by the Commission’s *Report and Order* dated May 24, 2018, Evergy Missouri Metro and Evergy Missouri West hereby notify the Commission of their compliance with the following element of Condition 5:

Each agency is required to provide documentation to KCP&L and GMO to verify how expenditures were incurred.

Community Action Agencies are required to file annual reports with KCP&L and GMO on how funds were expended. KCP&L and GMO shall file a condensed report of the agencies individual annual reports with the Commission, Staff and OPC. Any additional information is left to the agencies’ discretion (e.g., estimated additional homes weatherized because of the expenditures).²

2. Attached as **Exhibit A**, please find a report summarizing the information required by the above-cited portion of Condition 5.

¹ Effective October 7, 2019, Evergy Missouri Metro adopted the service territory and tariffs of Kansas City Power & Light Company (“KCP&L”) and Evergy Missouri West adopted the service territory and tariffs of KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company (“GMO”).

² See *Report and Order*, Exhibit A, Condition 5, pp. 1-3, issued May 24, 2018.

WHEREFORE, Evergy Missouri Metro and Evergy Missouri West request that the Commission take notice of the information herein.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Roger W. Steiner

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**Attorneys for Evergy Missouri Metro
and Evergy Missouri West**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been emailed or mailed, postage prepaid, this 1st day of June 2021, to all counsel of record.

/s/ Roger W. Steiner

Attorney for Evergy Missouri Metro and Evergy
Missouri West

EM-2018-0012 Merger Condition 5 – Report Summary

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Community Action Agencies are required to file annual reports with Evergy Missouri Metro and Evergy Missouri West on how funds were expended. Evergy Missouri Metro and Evergy Missouri West shall file a condensed report of the agencies individual annual reports with the Commission, Staff and OPC. Any additional information is left to the agencies' discretion (e.g., estimated additional homes weatherized because of the expenditures).

The entities involved per the Stipulation and Agreement are:

- United Services CAA (CAA of Greater Kansas City)
- Community Action Partnership of Greater St. Joseph (“CAP St. Joe”)
- Community Services, Inc. (“CSI”)
- West Central Missouri CAA
- Missouri Valley CAA
- Community Action Partnership of North Central Missouri.

All entities received \$50,000 in July 2018, 2019 and 2020. All parties to the case agreed that CSI would receive \$100,000 each year and cover the area that was formerly covered by CAP St. Joe.

To facilitate the compilation of the required report in Condition 5, Geoff Marek, OPC, provided eight questions as guidelines for information to be furnished by the Community Action Agencies (“CAA”).

Those questions are:

- 1.) Were you successful in spending down the annual allocated funds?
- 2.) What did you spend the funds on—please provide details
 - a. Weatherization training and certification of agency personnel?
 - b. Discretionary funds for health and hazard for on-site units (that may or may not be otherwise passed over)?
 - c. Outreach efforts?
 - d. Utility weatherization account?
 - e. Hardship fund for on-bill payments?
- 3.) Can you provide quantification of benefits achieved via the funds (e.g., five more homes, one full time job, etc.....)?
- 4.) What would you say are the current strengths your agency possesses?
- 5.) What would you say are the current weaknesses your agency experiences?
- 6.) What are the current threats that your agency faces?

- 7.) What are the current opportunities for your agency to perform its service better-and how can this collaborative or its members help enable that?
- 8.) Do you believe that utility-funded weatherization funds would be better spent with more discretion by your agency? That is, would they be more effectively utilized in the same manner as the “Evergy-merger funds” or as they currently are—adhering to the Missouri Weatherization guidelines. Please explain.

The following is the condensed report of the answers from the 5 entities receiving these funds from Evergy.

1 – Two agencies spent 100% of the funds while two agencies were at a spend level of approximately 50%, with one agency only spending 20%. Two agencies of the agencies that spent less than 100% report having several jobs lined up this summer. The 2019 report had three agencies spending 100% and two at 30%.

2 and 3 – Two full time crew members were added and one key office assistant was retained. One agency increased training. The agencies assisted over 40 homes and 5 furnaces were installed. There was one asbestos removal project and several plumbing repair projects. One agency stresses that they complete significant sheet rock work to avoid deferring homes. Four agencies utilize various forms of media for outreach while there was only one agency having very limited outreach. One agency uses local radio for its *Energy Saving Tip*.

4 – The main theme is all have dedicated, qualified, knowledgeable and energetic staffs and Evergy funds have allowed for pay raises in some cases. One agency started a new program for seniors.

5 – This year the pandemic was treacherous. A lack of resources to be able to more adequately reach out to the community to create awareness of benefits available was a hinderance. One agency reported no personnel to focus on resource and grant development. One agency has not been unable to fill three vacant crew positions. The agency proclaimed they could be producing double the amount of work if they could fill these positions. Recent needs assessment data indicate a strong desire to see more services in transportation, housing, and food insecurity efforts. Also, paperwork requirements and miscellaneous rules are too stringent. Even though there has been more success this year retaining staff, the low wages are still a weakness.

6 – Prices and availability of resources. Inflation has caused prices to sky rocket and the direct result has slowed workflow process. Due to the lack of technology some of our residents possess it is difficult to obtain most of the information needed to process their application since we are not able to meet them in person. Staff vacancies are a threat. One agency reported that most of their applications come from Municipal Townships that receive their energy from Evergy.

7 – The Federal Guideline changing the availability of the Weatherization Program to those who haven’t had it in the last fifteen years is a huge opportunity to open up those homes that were weatherized from September 1994 to June 2006. One agency implemented a Healthy Homes Program and all inquiries and applicants to one program also go to the Weatherization Program. Because of Covid-19 vaccinations, and opening up of activities and events, we anticipate being able to meet with groups in person again, thus increasing our outreach efforts. Allow each agency to also use the funding from EVERGY with Municipal Companies that receive their power from Evergy which would allow more assistance to more people. Housing stability and its ramifications in our rural environment can and should be a focus of ongoing use(s)

for these funds. Eliminate the 25% landlord contribution required by DNR. Eliminating the words low-income from advertising/outreach materials. While there are income guidelines for people to qualify, many people that do not believe they are low-income or do not participate because on the connotation that comes with that statement. We find that this is especially true for our senior population.

8 – Very unanimous feeling about using all funds like how the Everygy funds can be spent to have more flexibility. One agency reports that if the funding could be expanded to allow us to service residents in need of a roof repair we could do a lot more for them. With roof repair we could also expand into solar panels for the residents we service. The agencies all expressed their gratitude for these funds.