

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

In the Matter of the Application of Evergy)
Metro, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri Metro)
and Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a) **File No. EU-2020-0350**
Evergy Missouri West for an Accounting)
Authority Order Allowing the Companies to)
Record and Preserve Costs Related to)
COVID-19 Expenses)

ORDER DIRECTING EXPEDITED FILING

Issue Date: November 2, 2020

Effective Date: November 2, 2020

On May 6, 2020, Evergy Metro Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri Metro and Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West applied for an accounting authority order to govern costs and financial impacts associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

On July 1, 2020, the Commission set an evidentiary hearing on September 30-October 1, 2020. On September 9, 2020, the Staff of the Commission, on behalf of the parties, filed a *List of Issues, List and Order of Witnesses, Order of Opening Statements, and Order of Cross-Examination*, pursuant to the procedural order in this case.

On September 28, 2020, the Commission suspended the procedural schedule and continued the hearing to accommodate settlement discussions. On October 8, 2020, some of the parties filed a *Non-unanimous Stipulation and Agreement*, which was later subject to objection by the Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) and the National Housing Trust (NHT). On October 15, 2020, NHT requested a hearing. On October 28, 2020, the Commission set an evidentiary hearing on November 12-13, 2020.

On October 23, 2020, Midwest Energy Consumers' Group (MECG), on behalf of the parties, filed a *List of Issues, List and Order of Witnesses, Order of Opening Statements, and Order of Cross-Examination*.

In addition to noting the limited availability of two witnesses, the October 23 filing omits an issue that had been listed as Issue 1(a) in the September 9 filing. Identified as an "OPC/MECG/[Sierra Club] Issue," the issue statement provides: "Is the resulting economic impact material within the scope of the Uniform System of Accounts?"¹

Also on October 23, 2020, counsel for MECG advised the regulatory law judge by e-mail, copied to counsel for all parties, that "the actual list of issues is identical to what was previously filed in this case," with the exception of the references to witness availability.

The Commission will direct MECG, OPC and Sierra Club to advise the Commission whether Issue 1(a) is among the issues that party contends the Commission should determine in this case. In addition, the Commission will provide a deadline for response, if any, from other parties.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. No later than 1 p.m. November 5, 2020, MECG, OPC and Sierra Club shall advise the Commission as described above.

2. Any response to the October 23, 2020 *List of Issues, List and Order of Witnesses, Order of Opening Statements, and Order of Cross-Examination* shall be filed no later than 1 p.m. November 5, 2020.

¹ *List of Issues, List and Order of Witnesses, Order of Opening Statements, and Order of Cross-Examination*, p.1 (Sept. 9, 2020).

3. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Jana C. Jacobs, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo (2016).

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 2nd day of November, 2020.