

Public Version

Exhibit No.:

Issue: SPP Markets; Unplanned Load
Changes

Witness: John R. Carlson

Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony

Sponsoring Party: Evergy Missouri West

Case No.: ER-2023-0444

Date Testimony Prepared: October 31, 2023

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE NO.: ER-2023-0444

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

JOHN R. CARLSON

ON BEHALF OF

EVERGY MISSOURI WEST

CONFIDENTIAL

Kansas City, Missouri

October 2023

1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

3 A: My name is John R. Carlson. My business address is 1200 Main, Kansas City, Missouri
4 64105.

5 **Q: By whom and in what capacity are you employed?**

6 A: I am employed by Evergy Metro, Inc. and serve as Senior Manager – Market Operations
7 for Evergy Metro, Inc. d/b/a as Evergy Missouri Metro (“Evergy Missouri Metro”), Evergy
8 Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West (“Evergy Missouri West”), Evergy Metro,
9 Inc. d/b/a Evergy Kansas Metro (“Evergy Kansas Metro”), and Evergy Kansas Central,
10 Inc. and Evergy South, Inc., collectively d/b/a as Evergy Kansas Central (“Evergy Kansas
11 Central”) the operating utilities of Evergy, Inc.

12 **Q: On whose behalf are you testifying?**

13 A: I am testifying on behalf of Evergy Missouri West. For the purpose of this testimony, I
14 will refer to Evergy Missouri West as “Evergy Missouri West” or the “Company”.

15 **Q: What are your responsibilities?**

16 A: My primary responsibilities include oversight of Evergy’s Market Operations. This
17 includes daily submittals to the Southwest Power Pool (“SPP”), including generation and
18 load, and the procurement of natural gas for generation assets.

1 **Q: Please describe your education, experience and employment history.**

2 A: I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Architectural Engineering from the University
3 of Kansas in 1997. In 2004, I received a Master of Business Administration from the
4 University of Chicago Booth School of Business. I joined KCP&L in 2006 as an Energy
5 Consultant in the Delivery Division. My responsibilities included managing all facets of
6 the customer relationship for KCP&L's large industrial customers and developing
7 solutions that met the customer's needs, as well as demand response and energy efficiency
8 opportunities. In 2007, I became Manager of Market Competitiveness where I was
9 responsible for developing and implementing non-regulated products and services for
10 residential, commercial and industrial customers. In 2010, I moved to the Supply Division
11 at KCP&L and started work as an Originator of wholesale power transactions. Since 2017
12 I have been in market operations and manage the group responsible for submitting assets
13 and load to the SPP daily.

14 **Q: Have you previously testified in a proceeding at the Missouri Public Service**
15 **Commission ("MPSC" or "Commission") or before any other utility regulatory**
16 **agency?**

17 A: Yes. I have testified before the MPSC.

18 **Q: What is the purpose of your direct testimony?**

19 A: The purpose of my testimony is to address how unplanned load changes by Nucor are
20 addressed in the Stipulation and Agreement ("Stipulation") between the Company,
21 Commission Staff and Nucor in File No. EO-2019-0244. In addition, I will discuss how
22 the real-time ("RT") and day-ahead ("DA") SPP markets effect the balancing relationship
23 as contemplated in the Stipulation.

1 **II. NUCOR STIPULATION**

2 **Q: Please provide an overview of Paragraph 7.d. of the Stipulation?**

3 A: Paragraph 7.d. of the Stipulation outlines how the Company will identify if additional
4 SPP-related costs resulting from unexpected operational events occurred. These costs
5 could be incremental costs to non-Nucor customers or to the Company. In particular, the
6 Stipulation states:

7 If actual Nucor load experiences a 25% deviation from the expected Nucor
8 load for more than 4 hours and that load change is not reflected in the GMO
9 day-ahead commitments, GMO will quantify the balancing relationship
10 between the hourly and day-ahead prices to identify the effect of the
11 unplanned load change to apportion any additional SPP balancing charges
12 and will incorporate the effect attributed to Nucor into the tracking of Nucor
13 costs. If the effect of this relationship increases costs to non-Nucor
14 customers, the amount will be reflected in a subsequent FAC rate change
15 filing and the portion attributed to Nucor will be identified with supporting
16 work papers and removed from the Actual Net Energy Cost prior to the
17 calculation of the FAC rates.

18 **Q: Walk us through the process of tracking deviations from forecasted Nucor load?**

19 A: Nucor’s hourly RT load is compared to its forecasted hourly DA load, and if the RT load
20 deviates from the DA load by more than 25%, positive or negative, then that hour is noted.
21 If there are more than 4 hours of more than 25% deviation from the forecasted load then
22 the Company starts tracking the cost, comparing costs in the DA and RT SPP Market,
23 starting in the 5th hour. The Company starts with the 5th hour because there is no “event”
24 until there is more than a 4-hour deviation by more than 25%.

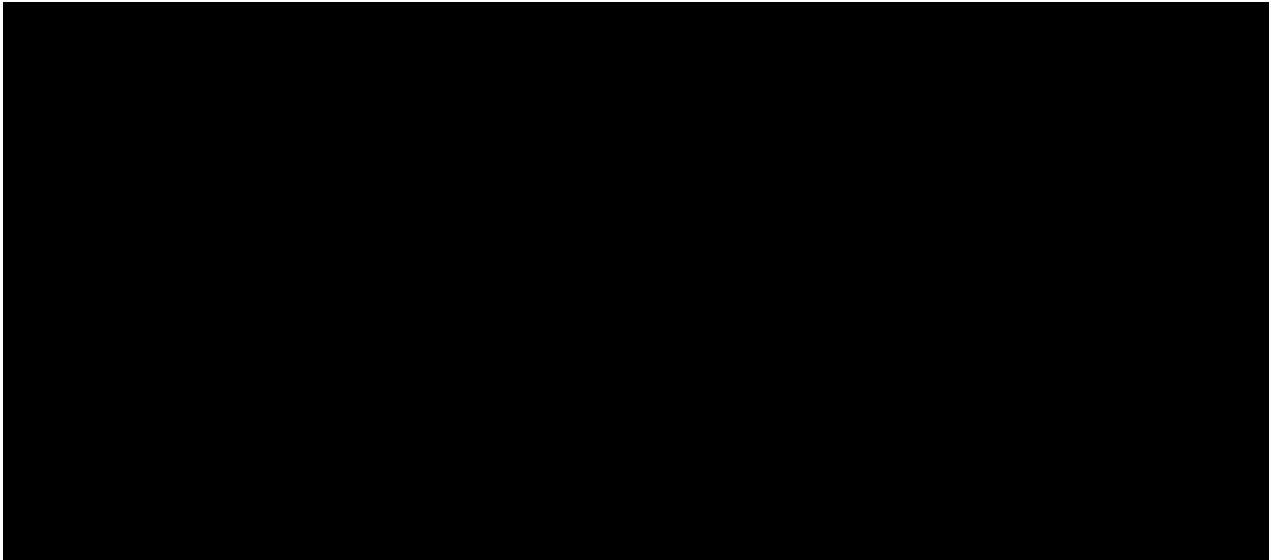
25 **III. THE SPP MARKET AND THE BALANCING RELATIONSHIP**

26 **Q: What does the Stipulation language mean by the balancing relationship between the**
27 **hourly and DA prices and SPP balancing charges?**

28 A: This language addresses the interplay between the DA and RT markets and the SPP charges
29 for market participant load. Market participants bid in their load in the DA market on a

1 daily basis and are charged a DA price based on their load node locational marginal price
2 (“LMP”). The market participant’s load expense is trued-up in the RT market depending
3 on the actual load and the RT load node LMP. If the RT load was higher than the DA bid
4 for a given hour, and the RT LMP was higher than the DA LMP for that same hour, then
5 the market participant would be charged incremental load expense by the SPP Market. For
6 Nucor, the actual load expense is compared to the expense if the forecast had been perfect
7 (the DA forecast multiplied by the RT LMP). See the example below.

8 **



10 **

11 In this example, the column labeled ”Actual MW” are the RT load megawatts (”MW”) for
12 Nucor for the specified hour (”Usage HR”). Likewise, the ”Forecast MW” column is the
13 DA forecasted Nucor load. Once there are more than 4 hours of more than 25% deviation
14 then the dollar impacts are tracked. In hour 20 the forecast load (DA) was **■** MW
15 and the actual (RT) load was **■** MW. With this being the 5th hour of greater than
16 25% deviation, the Company starts tracking the costs. See below for the calculation
17 (rounding has occurred with the Forecast and Actual MW).

1 Nucor operations impact = DA expense + RT true-up – Perfect forecast (no Nucor
2 impact)

3 (1) DA expense = DA LMP x Forecast MW
4 = \$**[REDACTED]**/MW x **[REDACTED]** MW
5 = \$**[REDACTED]**

6 (2) RT true up = RT LMP x (Actual MW – Forecast MW)
7 = \$**[REDACTED]**/MW x (**[REDACTED]** MW – **[REDACTED]** MW)
8 = - \$**[REDACTED]**

9 (3) Perfect forecast = DA LMP x Actual MW
10 = \$**[REDACTED]**/MW x **[REDACTED]** MW
11 = \$**[REDACTED]**

12 Nucor operations impact = (1) + (2) - (3)
13 = \$**[REDACTED]** + (**[REDACTED]**) - \$**[REDACTED]**
14 = \$**[REDACTED]**

15 In the above example, the Company purchased more MW in the DA market than was
16 needed for Nucor’s actual load in the RT market. The extra MWs purchased in the DA
17 were sold back to the market at a lower price, thus causing an additional expense of
18 **[REDACTED]** due to Nucor operations. The opposite occurred in hour 21, the 2nd hour of
19 the tracked deviation. In this hour the extra MWs were sold back to SPP at a higher price
20 in the RT market, creating an incremental benefit from Nucor operations.

21 **Q: Does this flipping from benefit to detriment, shown previously, occur frequently?**
22 **A:** Yes. While the difference between the Forecast MW and the Actual MW for Nucor impact
23 the cost calculations, the constantly changing SPP market is a large factor as well. The

1 generation mix and transmission system within the SPP are in a constant state of flux, so
2 LMPs are constantly adjusting as well, resulting in some hours being a benefit and some
3 hours being a detriment.

4 **Q: So, there can be benefits to non-Nucor customers when Nucor's actual load deviates**
5 **from its forecasted load?**

6 A: Yes.

7 **Q: Does the Stipulation state that the Company should only identify the effect of**
8 **unplanned load changes if they impact non-Nucor customers in a negative way?**

9 A: No. The Stipulation states the Company will identify the effect of any unplanned load
10 changes to apportion any additional SPP balancing charges to Nucor. If the effect is an
11 increase in costs to non-Nucor, then an adjustment will be made to reduce the FAC costs.
12 However, this doesn't mean that the Company shouldn't also track those times when the
13 unplanned load changes reduce non-Nucor costs.

14 **Q: How has the Company identified the effects of unplanned load changes from Nucor?**

15 A: The Company has tracked all of the effects of unplanned load changes from Nucor. That
16 is to say, both positive and negative effects have been tracked.

17 **Q: How would you summarize your testimony?**

18 A: The Stipulation states that when Nucor's load deviates from its forecasted load by 25% for
19 more than 4 hours those events need to be tracked. Starting with the 5th hour of an
20 operational event, the Company has tracked the hourly impact of Nucor's RT load
21 deviation from its DA forecast. Due to the dynamics of the SPP market, Nucor's load
22 deviation can have a positive or negative impact on non-Nucor customers, all of which
23 have been tracked by the Company.

1 Q: Does that conclude your testimony?

2 A: Yes, it does.

