

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

In the Matter of Evergy Metro, Inc. d/b/a Evergy)
Missouri Metro’s Notice of Intent to File an) File No. EO-2023-0369
Application for Authority to Establish a Demand-)
Side Programs Investment Mechanism)

In the Matter of Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a)
Evergy Missouri West’s Notice of Intent to File an) File No. EO-2023-0370
Application for Authority to Establish a Demand-)
Side Programs Investment Mechanism)

**EVERGY MISSOURI METRO AND EVERGY MISSOURI WEST
PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

COMES 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” or “Evergy”) and, for their *Proposed Procedural Schedule* (“Proposed Procedural Schedule”) the Company respectfully states as follows:

PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

1. Staff, OPC and Evergy were not able to agree to a joint procedural schedule. The Company recommends that the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”) adopt the following Procedural Schedule:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Date</u>
Evergy Application	April 29, 2024
Rebuttal	June 28, 2024
Surrebuttal	August 1, 2024
List of Issues	August 21, 2024
Position Statements	August 29, 2024
Hearing	September 9-12, 2024
Brief	October 4, 2024
Reply	October 18, 2024
Requested Commission Order	December 1, 2024

RATIONALE FOR ADOPTING EVERGY'S PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

2. The structure of the schedule above is an adjustment from the MEEIA statute timeline of 120 days from filing to Order but is consistent with the Company's previous three MEEIA filings. The Company's application will contain the details of its MEEIA Cycle 4 programs. Staff and other parties will have approximately two months to conduct discovery and prepare responsive testimony. The Company then responds to this testimony in surrebuttal testimony. Since the Company has the burden of proof to convince the Commission to approve its MEEIA Cycle 4 programs, it is appropriate that the Company have the "last word" in testimony.

3. In recent cases, the Company has not had the last word since some parties have chosen to wait until the filing of surrebuttal testimony to weigh in on their recommendations. This practice has placed the Company at a significant disadvantage in being able to address testimony that is really responsive to the Company's direct testimony. Staff has proposed a schedule similar to the one in Ameren's MEEIA Cycle 4 docket where it and other parties file their own "direct" testimony explaining its vision of what MEEIA Cycle 4 programs should be approved by the Commission. Direct testimony from other parties will only add complexity and increase the number of issues that the Commission must address. The filing of simultaneous direct, rebuttal and surrebuttal results in needless multiple filings of testimony that complicate the record.

4. While Ameren Missouri's first and amended procedural schedule in its current MEEIA case provides for all parties to submit direct testimony, the Company notes that Ameren Missouri and the Company's MEEIA Cycle 4 filings are very different. Ameren Missouri filed its full application on March 27, 2023, and it filed an amended application on January 25, 2024 – a period of 10 months elapsed. Stakeholders will actually have seen an application from Ameren Missouri twice before providing direct testimony in that case, whereas the Company's application will not have been reviewed by parties prior to its filing at not even close to the same level of detail

to Ameren Missouri's application. Therefore, the Company's proposed procedural schedule and articulated position that direct testimony in its case should be excluded should not be compared to Ameren Missouri's jointly agreed procedural schedule that includes direct by all parties.

5. The Company is requesting a December 1, 2024 order so that it has enough time to implement the Commission's order by January 1, 2025 which is when existing programs expire.

WHEREFORE, the Company submits this Proposed Procedural Schedule to the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Roger W. Steiner

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**ATTORNEY 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 hand delivered, emailed or mailed, postage prepaid, to all counsel of record in this case on this 26th day of January 2024.

/s/ Roger W. Steiner

**Counsel for Evergy Missouri Metro and
Evergy Missouri West**