

Economic Development in Rural Communities

MEEAC Meeting
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Economic Development
evergyed.com



ABOUT EVERGY

KEY FACTS

Number of Customers

1.6
MILLION

Number of Employees

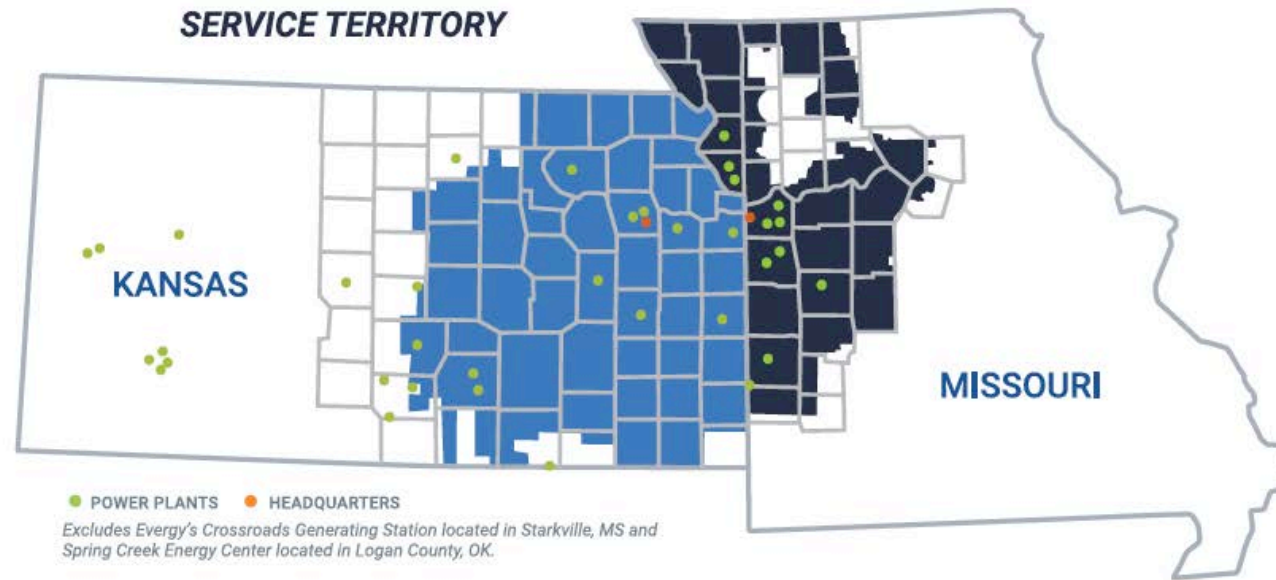
APPROX.
5,000

Miles of Power Lines

MORE THAN
51,000

Energy Produced

13,000
MEGAWATTS



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evergy Economic Development
evergyed.com



MISSION STATEMENT

As a leading and trusted energy partner, the mission of the Evergy Economic Development team is to **attract new companies, retain and expand existing customers, and *make strategic partner investments***, resulting in the creation of new load growth while increasing shareholder value and improving the quality of life in the communities we serve.



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WHY COMPANIES SELECT THE REGION

LOWER SHIPPING AND DISTRIBUTION COSTS

The Evergy service territory is the most geocentric in the nation.

LOW OPERATING COSTS due to efficient utilities

DYNAMIC WORKFORCE SUPPLY

ABUNDANT BUILDING AND READY-TO-DEVELOP SITES



SITE OF CHOICE for advanced manufacturing, aerospace, energy, business and professional services and IT

ONE OF THE HIGHEST CONCENTRATION OF ENGINEERS IN THE U.S.



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CHALLENGES IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

- Lack of Available Sites/Buildings
- Workforce “Challenges”
- Only Looking “Outward” for New Growth
- Trying to ‘go it alone’



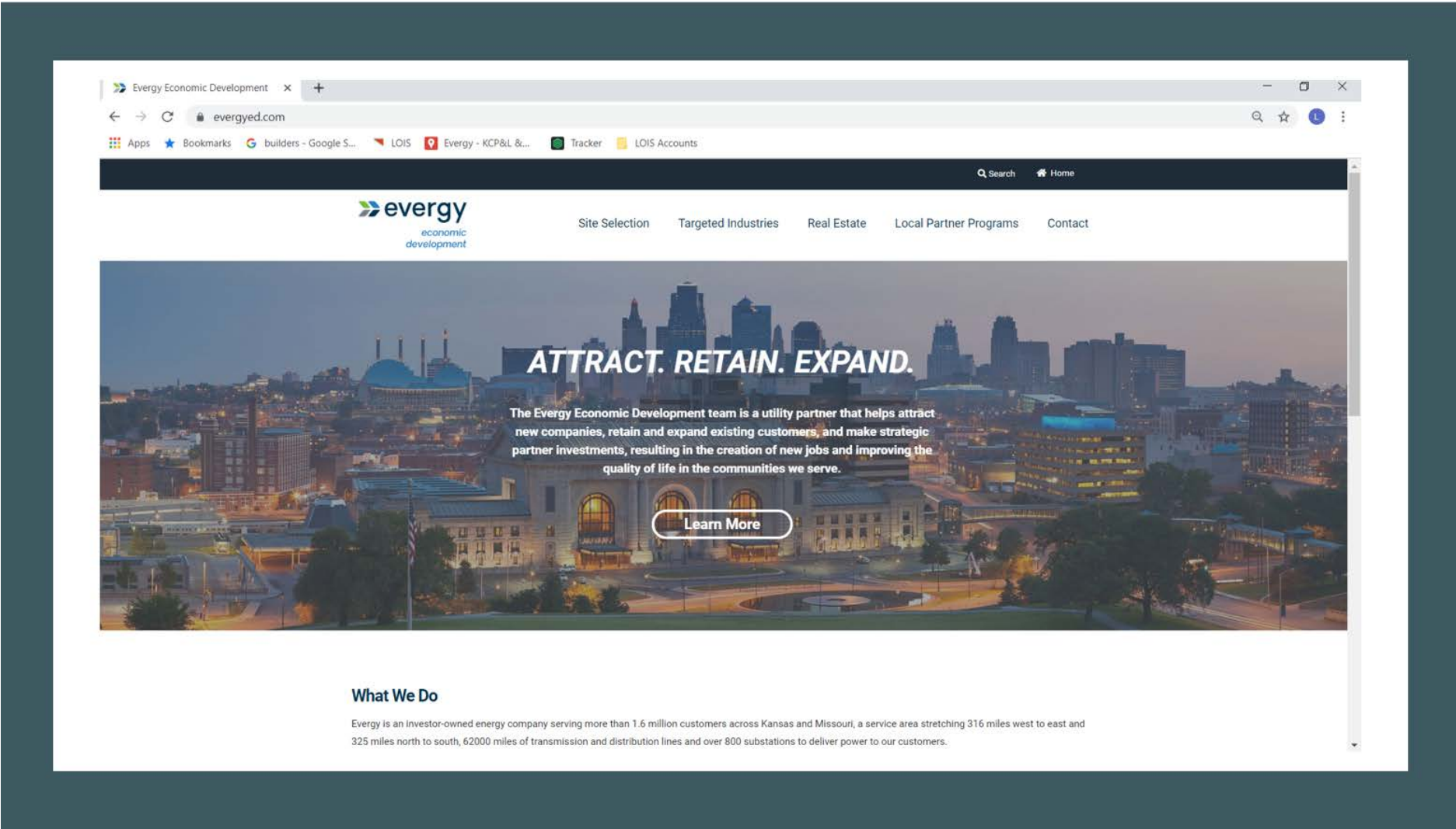
OPPORTUNITIES IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

- Community Readiness
- Future Workforce Training and Attraction
- Existing Business Focus and Entrepreneurism
- Regionalism



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How Does Evergy Work With Rural Communities?



www.evergyed.com



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Working with Customers in Rural Communities

Economic Development Rider - 5-year discounted rate for new or expanding non-retail customers.

- 200/300 KW/Multiple shifts
- Incentives
- Additional year for rural areas with stranded infrastructure

Revenue Justification - Buy down the cost of needed infrastructure upgrades based on projected new revenue

Making Connections-

- State or Local Economic Development Organizations
- MEEIA



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Working with Rural Communities

We team with **local and regional partners** located in **Evergy's** service area to offer tools that help ensure economic development success and strengthen your community.



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TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK

The Evergy Economic Development team in partnership with the **Johnson County Missouri Economic Development Corporation (JCEDC)** were able to put the Local Partner Program to work for the **City of Warrensburg** to help land a \$110M Dollar Tree distribution facility.

The 1.2 million square-foot distribution facility is the first tenant to occupy Brady Commerce Park on Highway 13.



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TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK

Laying the groundwork incorporated the EDC's collaboration with Evergy, which included:



Funded and participated in the **Community Preparation Mock Site study**



Provided funding for the **50 Highway Corridor Study**, which resulted in the need for **new industrial sites**



Continued involvement on the **Infrastructure Development Task Force**



TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK



Facilitated **two strategic planning sessions**



Funded the development of a **New Website**



TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK



Utilized **Evergy Revenue Justification** to help offset cost of needed infrastructure



Secured an **Economic Development Rider** for Dollar Tree



MEEIA new construction lighting project last year and into early 2019 that totaled over 6.6 million kWh in savings (and about 680 kW in demand)



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TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK

- 150–200 inbound/outbound trucks per day
- 375 new jobs within three years
- Adjacent land available ready for future development



DOLLAR TREE®



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THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?



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