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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STATE OF MISSOURI

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING

In the Matter of Evergy)
Missouri West, Inc., d/b/a)
Evergy Missouri West's Request) File No.
For Authority to Implement) ER-2024-0189
a General Rate Increase)
for Electric Service)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Sedalia City Hall

Council Chambers

200 S. Osage Avenue

Sedalia, MO

VOLUME 5

RON PRIDGIN, Presiding

DEPUTY CHIEF REGULATORY LAW JUDGE

MAIDA J. COLEMAN

JASON R. HOLSMAN

GLEN KOLKMEYER

JOHN MITCHELL

COMMISSIONERS

Reported by: Kimberly Roberts

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A P P E A R A N C E S

For the Public MR. ERIC VANDERGRUFF
Service Commission: Public Service Commission
Staff Counsel Department
200 Madison Street
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

For the Office of MR. JOHN CLIZER
Public Counsel: Department of Commerce and
Insurance
Office of the Public Counsel
200 Madison Street
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

For Evergy: MR. ROGER W. STEINER
Corporate counsel
1200 Main Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64105

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 (Proceedings commenced at 7:00 p.m.)

3 JUDGE PRIDGIN: On the record,
4 please. Good evening. Welcome to this evening's
5 local public hearing. The Missouri Public Service
6 Commission has set this time for a local public
7 hearing to give members of the public a chance to
8 comment about the Evergy general rate case
9 increase that's filed under ER-2024-0189.

10 The Commission regulates the rates charged
11 by public utilities in Missouri to ensure those
12 rates are just and reasonable. The Commission
13 also regulates the quality of service and safety
14 of public utilities.

15 There are five commissioners. They are
16 appointed by the governor and confirmed by the
17 Senate. The commissioners employ a staff of
18 engineers, accountants, attorneys, financial
19 analysts and other specialists in the field of
20 utility regulation.

21 I'm Ron Pridgin. I'm the regulatory law
22 judge assigned to preside over this hearing. With
23 me in person this evening is Commissioner Coleman
24 and Commissioner Holsman. Also seen on WebEx is
25 Commissioner Kolkmeyer and Commissioner Mitchell.

1 The commissioners have not made any
2 decisions in this case yet, and they cannot answer
3 your questions because this case is still pending.
4 I would like to get entries of appearance from
5 counsel please beginning with Evergy.

6 MR. STEINER: Yes, this is Roger
7 Steiner, and I'm an attorney for Evergy Missouri
8 West. My contact information has been provided to
9 the court reporter.

10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Steiner,
11 thank you. On behalf of the Commission staff,
12 please.

13 MR. VANDERGRIFF: I'm Eric
14 Vandergriff representing the Public Service
15 Commission. My information is with the court
16 reporter.

17 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. And
18 on behalf of the Office of Public Counsel, please.

19 MR. CLIZER: John Clizer on
20 behalf of the Office of Public Counsel. My
21 contact information is with the court reporter.

22 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Clizer,
23 thank you. Are there any intervenors here that
24 wish to enter an appearance? I hear none.

25 The process this evening will be for me to

1 call the names who are on the signup sheet. I'll
2 call them in the order that they appear. When I
3 call your name, please step up to the podium, and
4 I will place you under oath. If you do not wish
5 to swear, you may state so. You may simply affirm
6 your testimony.

7 I would ask that everyone please limit
8 their comments to five minutes so that everyone
9 has a chance to speak this evening. I will simply
10 ask you to state and spell your name so the court
11 reporter gets it in the record correctly, and then
12 I'll ask you to proceed with your comments.
13 That's when your five minutes will begin.

14 Are there any opening remarks from the
15 commissioners before we begin to take testimony?
16 Ms. Coleman.

17 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: Thank
18 you, Judge. Good evening, everyone. Thank you so
19 much for coming out this evening. As Judge
20 Pridgin mentioned, we commissioners don't have the
21 ability to answer any questions. We are in an
22 information seeking mode, and we want to hear what
23 you have to say to understand any concerns that
24 you may have. We thank you for your interest and
25 your attention this evening. Thanks for being

1 here.

2 COMMISSIONER HOLSMAN: Thank you
3 for coming tonight. We know that there's a lot of
4 other places you could be, and the fact that
5 you're here shows how important this is to you.
6 This is our third hearing in a row. We started in
7 Saint Joe. We were in Lee's Summit last night,
8 and tonight we're in Sedalia, and then tomorrow
9 night we will have a virtual WebEx hearing. So
10 what you have to say matters, and we appreciate
11 you taking the time to let us know your feelings
12 so thank you.

13 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Commissioner,
14 thank you. Are there any commissioners on WebEx
15 with any opening remarks, Commissioner Kolkmeier,
16 Commissioner Mitchell?

17 COMMISSIONER KOLKMEYER: Yes,
18 sir. This is Commissioner Kolkmeier. I just want
19 to thank everyone for coming out and giving us
20 their thoughts this evening. Thanks again.

21 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you.
22 Commissioner Mitchell.

23 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Thank
24 you, Judge, and just to reiterate this is a
25 process by which the commissioners hear from the

1 ratepayers, and what you have to say is important.
2 So we are happy to be here and to hear what you
3 have to say.

4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Commissioner,
5 thank you. We will now proceed with taking
6 testimony. The first name on the list is Tim
7 Allegri if you'll come forward and be sworn,
8 please.

9
10 TIM ALLEGRI
11 Called as a witness herein, being first duly sworn
12 by the Judge, testified on his oath as follows:

13
14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Would you state
15 and spell your name for the record, please.

16 MR. ALLEGRI: My name is Tim
17 Allegri, T-I-M, last name A-L-L-E-G-R-I.

18 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. What
19 are your comments to the Commission, sir?

20 MR. ALLEGRI: Okay. Thank you
21 for this time. The rate increase frivolously
22 targets all Missouri West customers. This
23 campaign for a rate increase shakes down thousands
24 upon thousands of Missourians who are either low
25 income, disabled, retired, those with limited

1 financial resources, those who don't benefit from
2 roughly 18 percent pay increases over a two-year
3 period of time.

4 But anyway in the May 30th commission order
5 it insinuates the average residential utility bill
6 of EMW customers is \$100 a month. So earlier on
7 in this there was some questions and answers
8 talking about 17 percent, \$17.52. The fact is we
9 were notified that it's a \$17.52 per month
10 increase.

11 Where does that \$100 average number come
12 from? That's basically what's being alleged. For
13 those people who actually received notification of
14 this meeting or if they did not, because they're
15 not paper customers or paperless billing, that was
16 an honest error on behalf of the Commission, by
17 the way seriously, but it's just not right to
18 allege that and to give that erroneous
19 information. The record should note that the
20 average customer's bill is not \$100 a month as
21 we've been informed.

22 What sacrifices is Evergy making at the
23 executive pay level? What are they sacrificing,
24 advertising? When my wife and I receive our
25 Evergy bill in the mail and see how much we're

1 charged, all we can envision is the ridiculous
2 commercials honestly that Evergy runs. How much
3 waste are customers required to fund in that
4 regard? It's like I'm going to get my energy from
5 somebody else. What are the chances? It's not
6 very real, but the impact to Missourians is huge.
7 It's not \$17.52 a month. If you need a loan, let
8 me know.

9 In the PSC complaint EC-2024-0015 the
10 abuses and bullying of Evergy are voluminous, and
11 their staff of attorneys is voluminous. The
12 following reference items within EC-2024-0015 is
13 evidence -- and this is public information. It's
14 online. They sought to needlessly acquire land
15 from residents and sued landowners in Lafayette
16 and Johnson County.

17 Through the Landowner Coalition in that PSC
18 complaint Evergy withdrew their lawsuits, and some
19 landowners have been unable to recoup their
20 attorney's fees as required by statute, and I
21 know, you know, the commissioners we're not
22 imminent domain but, yeah, you are.

23 Will any portion of the rate increase be
24 used to return dollars to those victims of
25 Evergy's error in that Public Service Commission

1 complaint is the question. Furthermore, how will
2 businesses being impacted by this rate increase?
3 Where is their voice here? How were they
4 notified? When business costs go up, they
5 actually pass those costs on to consumers. So
6 we're going to pay 17 percent. That's not even a
7 real number in this regard. That impact is
8 missing from your calculations. So the real cost
9 to the Missouri taxpayer, every taxpayer, low
10 income, retired, disabled, et cetera, is unreal.
11 When you're making 515 million dollars a year,
12 that's pretty brutal to pass it on to the little
13 guy, but that's the way it is I guess.

14 MR. GOSSETT: One minute, sir.

15 MR. ALLEGRI: So we never got
16 the notice in the mail me or a neighbor of mine.
17 He was here this evening. We found out because of
18 a case the EC-2024-0015 that there was something
19 going on, and we contacted the PSC. They said,
20 yeah, there's supposed to be a notification coming
21 out. We never got it, but I'm here today because
22 I found out through John reaching back out to my
23 wife who sent an E-mail to him. So John's the PSC
24 fellow sitting right here by the way for you guys
25 who ain't here.

1 So those people who have paperless
2 billing maybe didn't get notification because you
3 guys reach out -- if somebody wants to come up
4 here and grab these. How much time have I got?

5 MR. GOSSETT: Four seconds.

6 MR. ALLEGRI: So there's
7 information that supports that you did notify
8 people via online, but perhaps those people who
9 are paperless did not receive the notification.
10 That's the gap in what happened I believe, and
11 businesses weren't notified.

12 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. I'm
13 sorry, Mr. Clizer.

14 MR. CLIZER: Are you attempting
15 to offer evidence?

16 MR. ALLEGRI: Yeah, well, not
17 really just how the billing process works. So if
18 you are not an Evergy customer, you don't know,
19 but you can go online. Here's multiple copies.
20 There's five copies. If you don't know the user
21 experience of a customer with Evergy, you don't
22 know what it is. So they post the bill on line.
23 If you access your bill online, you can see how
24 much you owe, and then for the 7-1 billing period
25 it has the attachments, and one of them is the

1 notification of the 17 percent rate increase.

2 MR. CLIZER: Thank you, sir. I'll
3 move to admit this item.

4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: We will call it
5 Exhibit Number 1.

6 MR. CLIZER: Thank you.

7 JUDGE PRIDGIN: It's admitted.

8 (Exhibit Number 1 was marked for
9 identification and admitted into
10 evidence.)

11 MR. STEINER: So what is Exhibit
12 Number 1? I haven't seen it. Okay. So, Mr.
13 Allegri, you get electronic bills, is that what
14 you're saying, not paper?

15 MR. ALLEGRI: I am paper.

16 MR. STEINER: You are paper?

17 MR. ALLEGRI: I am paper.

18 MR. STEINER: Exhibit 1 is a
19 bill you received?

20 MR. ALLEGRI: It's not a bill.
21 It's not a bill. It's the user experience on the
22 website. So did you notify me? Technically I
23 would say you did notify me because the bill was
24 sent to me online; however, if I'm automatic pay
25 and paperless, it's totally understandable that

1 that particular type of customer did not receive
2 notification which explains why five people showed
3 up in Saint Joseph, 20 to 30 in Lee's Summit and
4 however many are here tonight and no businesses.

5 MR. STEINER: Thank you.

6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very
7 much, Mr. Allegri. The next name I have is Jesse
8 Green. If you will come forward and be sworn,
9 please.

10

11 JESSE GREEN

12 Called as a witness herein, being first duly sworn
13 by the Judge, testified on his oath as follows:

14

15 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you.
16 Please state and spell your name for the record.

17 MR. GREEN: Jesse, J-E-S-S-E,
18 Green, G-R-E-E-N.

19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir.
20 What are your comments?

21 MR. GREEN: Well, let's start
22 with I can work the heck out of some cows, but I
23 don't know how I'm going to be talking up here
24 today. So in 1983 as my research understands it a
25 kilowatt hour average price was 7.2 cents. In

1 2024 in Missouri as I understand it a kilowatt
2 hour average is 13 and a quarter cents. That's an
3 85 percent increase, and we're now looking at
4 13.99 percent more.

5 The reason I use 1983 it's the year I was
6 born. I thought it was a good year. It turns out
7 the soybeans price in the year 1983 was eight
8 dollars. Soybeans today are \$10.40. That's a
9 mere 30 percent increase.

10 You're probably wondering why I'm comparing
11 this to grain prices, and I'll get to that. Corn
12 in 1983 was \$3.20. Corn today in town is \$3.75,
13 17 percent. Farmers are fairly similar to Evergy
14 as we're regulated. We've got the Chicago Board
15 of Trade, USDA speculation. It all beats down on
16 us so we're regulated so to say. We've gotten
17 better at what we do becoming better managers to
18 provide for America. Why hasn't the energy sector
19 gotten better? Why haven't they gotten better
20 management? Is it because they haven't had to?
21 Is it because they can just keep coming and asking
22 for more or is it because responsible spending has
23 never been done? From my understanding if we did
24 13 percent like we spoke of earlier -- 13 cents
25 and we added a 13.99 percent increase, that would

1 put us on average as Missourians Everygy Missouri
2 West at a 15 cents per kilowatt hour average.
3 From my research from my understanding that puts
4 us twelfth highest out of 52 states. Arkansas,
5 Kansas, Illinois, Oklahoma are all cheaper than
6 good old MO.

7 Notification of hearing that was as I
8 understand it a disaster. I never got notified.
9 I am also part of the fiasco that went on on 13
10 Highway. Fiasco we shall call it.

11 Wasteful spending. We have info from the
12 PSC that's always been available how to save
13 energy. Where's Everygy's info how to save money?
14 Let's quit running the trucks all day. Well,
15 we've got to make sure they're cool over the lunch
16 hour. Let's stop wasteful spending. How many TV
17 commercials do we need? We know they're not
18 cheap.

19 MR. GOSSETT: One minute, sir.

20 MR. GREEN: Last but not least
21 the false advertisement of the \$100 average bill.
22 17 and some change that's all it's going to
23 increase your bill. In today's day and age you
24 can't believe anything. Thank you.

25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Green, thank

1 you. The next person to sign up is Jim Williams.
2 If you will come forward to be sworn please, sir.

3

4

JIM WILLIAMS

5 Called as a witness herein, being first duly sworn
6 by the Judge, testified on his oath as follows:

7

8

JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very
9 much. If you will state and spell your name for
10 the record, please.

11

12

MR. WILLIAMS: J-I-M
W-I-L-L-I-A-M-S.

13

14

JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir.
What is your testimony this evening?

15

16

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19

MR. WILLIAMS: I'm going to say
first of all five minutes is not a lot. I'm a
former employee of Kansas City Power & Light, and
Evergy. They hired me in 1989. I retired in 2018
as a journeyman mechanic at Montrose station.

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Back in 1989 there used to be an outfit in
Independence called Armco Steel. At that time
Armco Steel got behind on their electric payment,
and I asked -- at that time it was 800 and some
thousand. I asked what would you do to a
residential customer if they got behind. Well,

1 we'd cut them off. They let Armco get into them
2 for over a million dollars. That's one of the
3 points I'm just trying to make.

4 We talked about the time base between
5 4:00 and 8:00 going to raise your costs. When
6 that coal comes out of Wyoming and it sets on the
7 ground at LaCygne or it sets on the ground at
8 Iatan, they don't charge you any more for that
9 coal usage or buying that coal between those hours
10 4:00 and 8:00. That coal costs you the same at
11 six o'clock a.m. as it does at six o'clock p.m.

12 I'm also talking about our doing away
13 with the power plant down in Montrose. Montrose
14 when they first went down was unit one. That was
15 a 150-megawatt unit in this area we're talking
16 about right now.

17 I asked because we still had the land at
18 that time why don't we put solar in to offset the
19 cost of unit one, and I believe because that come
20 from the union -- I happened to be president of
21 the local for 12 years -- that it wasn't Kansas
22 City Power & Light's idea so they wouldn't go for
23 it.

24 We have done away with since Westar has
25 come on board the -- Westar went to the union and

1 said we don't need you management -- I'm sorry,
2 maintenance people. We only need operations. We
3 can pick the phone up, and we can get people we
4 need to do the maintenance work.

5 I'm going to use as an example a coal
6 mill that I was on at Hawthorn station.
7 Contractors had already been on A mill because it
8 had an explosion. They had two shifts. There was
9 six people per shift. They had been there a day
10 and a half. C mill exploded.

11 At that time I was an apprentice. Myself
12 and another apprentice and one journeyman mechanic
13 and one welder we finished that coal mill in a
14 shift and a half. We worked ten-hour days. Those
15 contractors had been on it already for a day and a
16 half with two shifts, and it was another shift and
17 and a half before they got done.

18 These contractors know that if you all
19 don't want to use our own maintenance they're
20 going to stick it to where you don't like it, and
21 they have no care about that because they know
22 you'll call them back next week or the week after.
23 They have no ownership to that.

24 We had one of the best apprenticeship
25 programs in the country. Westar came in, and we

1 no longer have that. We used to do our own tube
2 leaks whenever we'd have a tube leak. We now have
3 I think two or three welders left in the whole
4 system. That's between Iatan, Hawthorn and
5 LaCygne. We also had a wind farm at Spearville,
6 Kansas and still do have it. At that time Scott
7 Heidrick happened to be the head of generation.

8 MR. GOSSETT: One minute.

9 MR. WILLIAMS: I went out there.
10 All 99 turbines were setting there dead, and I
11 asked what's going on. These people were like we
12 don't know. We're told we're on reserve shutdown.
13 When I come back and brought that, I told Scott
14 Heidrick that. He had no idea of that, the
15 manager of generation. He said I'll find out.

16 When he got back to me, he said we did this
17 because there's no cost associated with bringing
18 those units on. You flip a switch, and the wind
19 starts turning it.

20 You talk about you want more money. You
21 have the resources to do that. I think you guys
22 are going down the wrong road in my opinion
23 closing a power plant. I know Montrose had to
24 become a sacrificial lamb for Iatan two, but
25 unless you have the base load systems this wind

1 farm and this solar is not going to take it, and
2 you've already right here said we're short.

3 It says right here we cannot supply enough
4 energy in our own resources. You all got rid of
5 them. You had the people. You had the facilities
6 to produce electricity, but you got yourself
7 involved in the southwest power pool, and I've
8 been told by a management person that's no longer
9 with the company he said that's the biggest
10 mistake that we ever made. Thank you all for
11 listening.

12 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you.
13 Wayne Woodworth is the next name on the list. If
14 you will come forward and be sworn please, sir.

15
16 WAYNE WOODWORTH
17 Called as a witness herein, being first duly sworn
18 by the Judge, testified on his oath as follows:

19
20 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very
21 much. Would please state and spell your name for
22 the record.

23 MR. WOODWORTH: Wayne,
24 W-A-Y-N-E, W-O-O-D-W-O-R-T-H.

25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Woodworth,

1 thank you. What is your testimony?

2 MR. WOODWORTH: The first
3 session we had I asked them what the gross profit
4 was. They didn't know. I looked it up on the
5 Internet with the public records, and they had for
6 '23 3.711 billion, and then I asked them what
7 their net was. They gave me what their net was.
8 It was 800 million a year. If their net is 800
9 million a year, why are they asking for 17
10 percent? Because on the brochure I got from them
11 it says 17 percent.

12 And then on the Internet also on the
13 public records it gave '21, '22, '23. '21 was
14 3.711 billion. '22 was 3.715 billion, and so far
15 this year the first quarter was .882 billion, and
16 on the back end of that it said a 2.38 percent
17 increase year over year. So why are they asking
18 for a 17 percent increase when they have 800
19 million dollars in net?

20 The 17 percent increase is going to cost
21 \$17.52 per month if you do a \$100 electric bill.
22 I've got a neighbor that does \$250. I've got
23 another that's \$400. I've got another one that's
24 \$300. I don't know where the \$100 came from but
25 anyway.

1 I am on a fixed income. My income is based
2 on the government. We're on Social Security 3.5
3 percent, and we're a year behind. We won't even
4 get this year's increase until January of next
5 year, and if you add my wife's and mine together,
6 that's only seven percent, and Evergy is still
7 looking at 10 percent more than that. If you look
8 at it, that's \$210 and some change which is about
9 one week's worth of groceries for us that we're
10 not going to be able to buy. So you're taking and
11 increasing the cost of our energy, and then you're
12 taking a week's worth of food away from us.

13 We're already cutting a lot of things out
14 of our budget already. I can't think of the last
15 time we went to a movie. It was over a year ago,
16 and we aren't going back any time soon because it
17 was \$37 for one night so we don't even go to the
18 movies anymore.

19 That's just one example. There's others I
20 could rattle off, but I'm just saying that the
21 cost of our economy is outpacing what we're
22 getting from the government for our COLA, and this
23 is way above and beyond what we get for our COLA
24 every year that's all I've got to say. Thank
25 you.

1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Woodworth,
2 thank you. The last person on the signup list is
3 Bill Edwards. Would you please come forward and
4 be sworn.

5
6 BILL EDWARDS
7 called as a witness herein, being first duly sworn
8 by the Judge, testified on his oath as follows:
9

10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir.
11 If you'd state and spell your name for the court
12 reporter.

13 MR. EDWARDS: Bill Edwards,
14 B-I-L-L, E-D-W-A-R-D-S.

15 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. What
16 is your testimony?

17 MR. EDWARDS: Commissioners,
18 thank you for being here, and I want you to listen
19 with an open mind and a lot of common sense.
20 That's what I'm asking not to listen to some of
21 this on the left but listen to us because the two
22 words in the middle of your all's commission is
23 public service.

24 We are who you're supposed to be looking
25 after not them. I've been to these rate meetings

1 before. They won't listen. One-time charges and
2 I'm going to give you an egregious example of that
3 in a moment for their rate increases.

4 A one-time charge is fine. You give them
5 some money for that, but when that's paid for,
6 those rates need to be rolled back. Those rates
7 were given to them permanently, and they stay
8 there forever.

9 Here's the egregious example. Iatan
10 flooded. You've got to keep the power on so
11 they're boating in employees. I got some inside
12 information from this gentleman back here. They
13 were boating those employees to get them in there.
14 They come to a rate meeting with lawyers in some
15 several thousand dollar suits telling us that was
16 part of the reason why they needed a rate increase
17 because they had a one-time expense of boating
18 those employees to keep the lights on.

19 A one-time expense does not in anyone's
20 world equate to a permanent rate increase. When
21 they throw that at you, laugh them off. That's
22 ridiculous, and we all know it. Everyone in this
23 room knows it.

24 They got a rate increase last November with
25 these time base rate plans. They'll tell you all

1 day long a few people I'll give you might have
2 saved some money by doing their laundry at 3:00
3 a.m., but I don't know anybody in this room that
4 does their laundry and dishes at 3:00 a.m. So
5 most of us got a rate increase, and they are
6 making money off that, and they got a rate
7 increase last November. This is July and they're
8 back at the trough again.

9 You guys are the ones standing there with
10 the stop sign in your hand to put an end to this.
11 I'm asking you to have an open mind. I'm asking
12 you to do the right thing. This company has been
13 mismanaged. I get things in the bill about
14 putting in LED lights, put some Behr windows in,
15 put some more insulation in your house.

16 How about you guys using those rules for
17 yourself. They're not doing it, and you are
18 standing there between us and them to put a stop
19 to this. I'm sick of this. I know they're sick
20 of it. You have the power to put an end to this
21 crap. You guys had your money in November, and
22 now you're coming back asking for more. This is
23 bullshit, and you all know it. Let's go.

24 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Edwards,
25 thank you. Mr. Edwards is the last witness on the

1 signup sheet. Is there anyone else who wishes to
2 testify? If you will raise your right hand and be
3 sworn.

4

5 TINA BOGGESS

6 Called as a witness herein, having been duly sworn
7 by the Judge, testified on her oath as follows:

8

9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Will
10 you please state and spell your name for the court
11 reporter.

12 MS. BOGGESS: Yes, sir, my name
13 is Tina, T-I-N-A, B-O-G-G-E-S-S.

14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. What
15 is your testimony?

16 MS. BOGGESS: I stand here
17 before you tonight as mayor pro tem of Sedalia,
18 Missouri and second ward city councilwoman of
19 Sedalia, Missouri. This meeting has not been
20 advertised properly for the customers in this
21 Missouri West area. The low attendance here
22 tonight can attest to this. Therefore, I feel it
23 needs to be rescheduled for others to have their
24 input and let you know how they feel about this
25 increase here.

1 We don't have a local pay station for
2 Everyy so not only are we paying our bill, but we
3 are paying another outside entity to pay our bill
4 to you. It doesn't make sense. We're already
5 paying extra money so I ask you to reschedule this
6 hearing and take in to consideration that the
7 notification needs to be given out in a timely
8 manner to those in which you're asking for this
9 increase. Thank you.

10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you.
11 Commissioner Coleman, do you have a question?

12 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: I do.

13 JUDGE PRIDGIN: The commissioner
14 has a question for you.

15 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: Thank you,
16 Ms. Boggess. So you certainly aren't the first
17 person that's talked about the lack of proper
18 notification. So can you give me some type of
19 idea about how the majority of people that are in
20 this room were notified?

21 MS. BOGGESS: I was approached
22 by an individual that knows me personally at the
23 grocery store today, and they showed me an
24 advertisement from Kansas City KCTV channel nine,
25 and she said do you know about this, and I said

1 what is it. She said you all are having a
2 meeting. I said wait a minute. Who's you all.
3 What are you talking about, and so then I read it,
4 and I said, no, I don't know anything about this.
5 That was the first time that I had heard or seen
6 any notification about this.

7 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: Okay.
8 And so nothing that would have come in a bill that
9 people would have gotten?

10 MS. BOGGESS: Nothing came in a
11 bill. I can say for me nothing came in a bill to
12 me personally, and I manage a senior complex 55
13 and older. Trust me, if you had put in their bill
14 that you're asking for a rate increase, they'd
15 have been at my office, and nobody was, and that's
16 over 40 people there.

17 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: Thank you
18 and thanks for being here tonight.

19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Mr.
20 Clizer.

21 MR. CLIZER: This is more of a
22 comment than a question, and I know this is cold
23 comfort, but there's two virtual local public
24 hearings tomorrow. To the extent that anybody
25 knows somebody who would like to give comments and

1 hasn't had the opportunity to please consider
2 those virtual local public hearings. Thank you.

3 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Clizer,
4 thank you. I appreciate that. I was going to
5 bring that up myself. I appreciate that. Does
6 anyone else wish to testify before the Commission?
7 Yes, sir. If you'll raise your right hand and be
8 sworn, please.

9
10 BRAD POLLITT
11 Called as a witness herein, being first duly sworn
12 by the Judge testified on his oath as follows:

13
14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Would you please
15 state and spell your name for the record.

16 MR. POLLITT: State
17 Representative Brad Pollitt, B-R-A-D
18 P-O-L-L-I-T-T.

19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: What is your
20 testimony, sir?

21 MR. POLLITT: My testimony is
22 that if the PSC continues to force our for profits
23 to go down this green energy path, this is just
24 the beginning of rate increases, and, as we've
25 heard today, our middle class cannot continue. I

1 said earlier energy, food, fuel we put in our cars
2 the middle class gets beat up on those all the
3 time, and green energy is going to kill them.

4 So I'd just ask you to really consider
5 thinking about that hard. We're shutting down
6 coal plants that we could spend that money putting
7 coal scrubbers in there. We could spend that
8 money putting CO2 filters in those plants. It
9 would probably be less than this green energy and
10 would save money. We could burn coal for 400
11 years, and we could burn clean coal, but we have
12 to be willing to do that.

13 And I know the pressure comes from
14 Washington, D.C., and I know the pressure comes
15 from boards that are for profit boards, and I know
16 the federal government gives low interest loans on
17 green energy, and I know boards are saying we need
18 to get in on that because we can make the most
19 money.

20 Our PSC has to stand in the way of that
21 because there's other options that will better
22 suit our middle class than to pay the vast
23 majority of their money on fuel, food and green
24 energy, and I stated earlier that I have done a
25 lot of research on this, and the amount of

1 Missouri ag land that's going to have to go under
2 solar panels to be carbon neutral by 2045 is going
3 to hurt our ag industry, thus, pushing the cost of
4 food up.

5 We're going to eat food out of a plant,
6 meat out of a research plant, and I really don't
7 want to eat that meat. I would ask you to
8 consider that on what green energy is doing to
9 your middle class. Thank you.

10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very
11 much, sir. Does anyone else wish to testify
12 before the Commission this evening?

13 MR. WILLIAMS: Can we go again?

14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Sorry, no. Good
15 try though.

16 MR. WILLIAMS: I don't think
17 five minutes is long enough.

18 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Clizer.

19 MR. CLIZER: Just as a reminder,
20 you can make written comments. I appreciate that
21 may not be the same thing to you, but you have
22 that opportunity to make written comments, and you
23 can send that directly to the PSC or the OPC, and
24 we will file it on your behalf if there is more
25 that you would like to say.

1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Clizer,
2 thank you. Does anyone else wish to testify
3 before the Commission this evening? All right.
4 Any closing comments from the commissioners?
5 Commissioner Coleman?

6 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: No.

7 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Commissioner
8 Holsman.

9 COMMISSIONER HOLSMAN: I want to
10 thank you again for taking the time to express
11 your thoughts. I know that you don't feel like
12 five minutes was enough time, and we appreciate
13 that. Tomorrow we will have two additional
14 virtual hearings that you're welcome to attend if
15 you would like to give more comments, and just
16 that decisions have not been made. We are
17 weighing the facts objectively as our roles and
18 responsibilities dictate to us, and your comments
19 are heard, and we do listen and we appreciate you
20 for taking the time. So thank you for coming.

21 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Commissioner,
22 thank you. Are there any commissioners on WebEx
23 with closing comments? Commissioner Kolkmeier.

24 COMMISSIONER KOLKMEYER: Thank
25 you, Judge. I just want to thank everybody for

1 coming out and for giving their testimony this
2 evening so thanks again.

3 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Commissioner,
4 thank you. Commissioner Mitchell.

5 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Yes,
6 thank you, Judge, and thank everyone that came out
7 and took the time to share their thoughts with the
8 Commission. It is very helpful as we, you know,
9 work our way through and deliberate on this, and
10 we certainly appreciate your time.

11 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Commissioner,
12 thank you. And I would also echo what the
13 Commission said and thank everyone for coming out
14 this evening. Thank you for your participation
15 and your testimony. The hearing is now adjourned.
16 Thank you very much. If you have questions about
17 participating in tomorrow's virtual hearings, we
18 can help you with that once we are off the record.
19 So thank you very much. We are off the record.

20 (Proceedings concluded at 7:45 p.m.)

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