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 Application for Authority to Establish a Demand-Side Programs Investment Mechanism |))) | File No. EO-2023-0369 |
|---|-------------|-----------------------|
| In the Matter of Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West's Notice of Intent to File an Application for Authority to Establish a Demand- Side Programs Investment Mechanism |))) | File No. EO-2023-0370 |

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"), by and through the undersigned counsel, and for its *Staff Recommendation* respectfully states as follows:

- 1. Evergy Metro Inc., d/b/a Evergy Missouri Metro, Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West (collectively, "Evergy"), the Office of the Public Counsel, and Renew Missouri Advocates d/b/a Renew Missouri filed a *Non-Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement* ("Agreement") on September 27, 2024. Staff filed its response on October 4, 2024, indicating that Staff did not oppose the Agreement.
- 2. The Commission issued its *Order Directing Evergy to File Substitute Tariff Sheets and Setting Time for Responses* ("Order") on October 8, 2024. The Order directed Evergy to file substitute tariff sheets reflecting the terms of the Agreement no later than October 15, 2024. The Order also directed Staff to file a recommendation regarding the substitute tariff sheets compliance with the Agreement no later than October 18, 2024.
- 3. Based on its initial review of the substitute tariffs, Staff requested an extension to file its recommendation no later than November 1, 2024. The Commission granted this extension in its *Order Granting Extension of Time to File Staff*

Recommendation issued on October 17, 2024. The Commission granted an additional extension through November 8, 2024 to provide sufficient time to conclude conversations with Evergy, as well as finalize recommended changes that Staff believes needed to be made to the tariffs in order to comply with the Agreement.

- 4. Following discussions with Evergy and OPC, Staff concludes that the tariff sheets attached and incorporated herein comply with the Agreement. However, in the Table of Contents, the item named "Evergy FAST Track Program" should be deleted.
- 5. As noted in Staff's direct case and the *Staff Response to Non-Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement*, these tariff sheets lack the level of detail and specificity that Staff believes are necessary for a MEEIA portfolio. However, for the purposes of complying with the Agreement that Staff does not oppose, the attached tariff sheets accomplish that goal.
- 6. Staff and Evergy have also discussed the Agreement language regarding the Technical Reference Manual ("TRM") and incentive ranges.² The Agreement states that the updated TRM and incentive ranges will be submitted in these dockets with compliance tariffs.³ Staff and Evergy have agreed that Evergy will file the updated TRM and incentive ranges no later than December 1, 2024.
- 7. Staff has not been able to verify the Net Margin Revenue values nor the Load Shape values included in these tariff sheets as support has not been provided. Staff recommends that the Commission order Evergy to provide the supporting documentation necessary to verify the accuracy of those calculated values as soon as possible.

¹ The attached include clean and redline copies of the tariff sheets.

² Agreement, pg. 5, para. N.

³ *Id*, sub-paragraph c.

WHEREFORE Staff respectfully submits this *Staff Recommendation* for the Commission's information and consideration, and to grant such other and further relief as the Commission considers just and reasonable under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Travis J. Pringle

Travis J. Pringle, MO Bar #71128 Chief Deputy Counsel Tracy Johnson, MO Bar #65991 Senior Counsel PO Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 Telephone: 573-751-7500

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Attorneys for the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to all parties and/or counsel of record this 8th day of November 2024.

/s/ Travis J. Pringle

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OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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|--|---|
| n the Matter of Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West's Notice of Intent to File an Application for Authority to Establish a Demand-Side Programs Investment Mechanism |)) Case No. EO-2023-0370)) |
| AFFIDAVIT OF B | RAD J. FORTSON |
| STATE OF MISSOURI) | |
| COUNTY OF COLE) ss. | |
| COMES NOW BRAD J. FORTSON and | on his oath declares that he is of sound mind and |
| lawful age; that he contributed to the foregoing | Staff Recommendation; and that the same is true |
| and correct according to his best knowledge and | belief. |
| Further the Affiant sayeth not. BR | AD J. FORTSON |
| JUI | RAT |
| Subscribed and sworn before me, a duly cor | stituted and authorized Notary Public, in and for |
| the County of Cole, State of Missouri, at my of | fice in Jefferson City, on this day |
| of November 2024. | |
| DIANNA L. VAUGHT Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Commissioned for Cole County Ty Commission Expires: July 18, 2027 Commission Number: 15207377 | Danna L. Vaustary Public |

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| AFFIDAVIT OF | MARK KIESLING |
| STATE OF MISSOURI) | |
| COUNTY OF COLE) ss. | |
| COMES NOW MARK KIESLING and o | on his oath declares that he is of sound mind and |
| lawful age; that he contributed to the foregoing | Staff Recommendation; and that the same-is true |
| and correct according to his best knowledge and | belief. |
| Further the Affiant sayeth not. | nork Dieslage |
| MI | ARK KIESLING |
| JU | RAT |
| Subscribed and sworn before me, a duly cor | nstituted and authorized Notary Public, in and for |
| the County of Cole, State of Missouri, at my of | -41 |
| of November 2024. | |
| DIANNA L. VAUGHT Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Commissioned for Cole County y Commission Expires: July 18, 2027 Commission Number: 15207377 | Dianne L. Vauril tary Public |