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               BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
                         STATE OF MISSOURI
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 3
                     TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
                       PREHEARING CONFERENCE
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    In the Matter of the Application)
    of Evergy Metro, Inc., d/b/a
 7
    Evergy Missouri Metro and Evergy)
    Missouri West, Inc., d/b/a
 8
    Evergy Missouri West for
                                      )File No. EO-2025-0154
    Approval of New and Modified
 9
    Tariffs for Service to Large
                                      )
    Load Customers.
                                      )
10
11
12
13
                      MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2025
                             10:00 a.m.
14
                        Jefferson City, MO
15
                              via WebEx
16
                              VOLUME I
17
18
19
                                  KAROLIN WALKER, Presiding
2.0
                                  REGULATORY LAW JUDGE
21
22
23
24
    TRANSCRIBED BY:
    MELISSA EICKEN
25
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April 21, 2025

1 LAW JUDGE WALKER: We're going to go on the 2 This is a prehearing conference for 3 EO-2025-0154. It's April 21st, 2025, and the time is The Commission has set this time for a 4 10:00 p.m. 5 prehearing conference in the matter captioned as in the matter of the application of Evergy Metro, 6 7 Incorporated, doing business as Evergy Missouri Metro 8 and Evergy Missouri West, Incorporated, doing business 9 as Evergy Missouri West for the approval of a new and 10 modified tariff for service to large load customers, 11 and the case number is E0-2025-0154. 12 My name is Karolin Walker, and I'm the 13 regulatory law judge in this matter. We're going to begin by having the attorneys make their entry of 14 15 appearance. We'll start with Evergy Missouri Metro. 16 Good morning. MR. STEINER: This is Roger 17 My address is 1200 Main Street, Kansas City, Steiner. 18 Missouri 64106. 64105, sorry. I think there's some 19 other -- like Jim Fischer. 20 MR. FISCHER: James Fischer. 21 MR. STEINER: And -- go ahead, Jim. 22 MR. FISCHER: Yeah. James Fischer on 23 behalf of the company, too. Our address is -- well, 24 it's Fischer & Dority, P.C., 2081 Honeysuckle Lane, 25 Jefferson City, Missouri 65109.

- 1 LAW JUDGE WALKER: Okay. And are you 2 representing Evergy Missouri West? 3 MR. FISCHER: Yes. 4 LAW JUDGE WALKER: Okay. 5 MR. FISCHER: Both companies. 6 MR. STEINER: Both companies. 7 All right. LAW JUDGE WALKER: How about Commission staff? 8 9 Thank you, Judge. MR. PRINGLE: Yeah. 10 This is Travis Pringle and Lexi Klaus is also on the 11 line for staff. The address, 200 Madison Street, 12 Jefferson City, MO. 13 LAW JUDGE WALKER: The Office of Public 14 Counsel. MR. CLIZER: John Clizer on behalf of the 15
- Missouri Office of Public Counsel. My contact 16 17 information should be in the record. 18 LAW JUDGE WALKER: What about the Data
- 19 Center Coalition. Hearing no one, Nucor Steel 20 Sedalia, LLC.
- 21 MR. ELLINGER: Morning, Judge. 2.2 Ellinger with the law firm of Ellinger Bell on behalf 23 of Nucor. Our address information should be on our 24 filings also. Thank you.
- 25 Velvet Tech LAW JUDGE WALKER: Okay.



- 1 | Services, LLC.
- 2 MS. BELL: Good morning, Your Honor.
- 3 | Stephanie Bell on behalf of Velvet Tech Services. Our
- 4 | address is on our filing.
- 5 LAW JUDGE WALKER: Google, LLC.
- 6 MR. CARO: Good morning, Your Honor. This
- 7 is Frank Caro on behalf of Google, LLC, along with
- 8 | Sean Pluta with the Polsinelli Law Firm. Our address
- 9 is 900 West 48th Place, Suite 900, Kansas City,
- 10 Missouri.
- 11 LAW JUDGE WALKER: Sierra Club.
- 12 MR. MORRISON: Good morning, Judge. Good
- 13 | morning. It's Bruce Morrison, Great Rivers
- 14 | Environmental Law Center in St. Louis. Our address
- 15 | should be on our filing.
- 16 LAW JUDGE WALKER: Okay. Renew Missouri.
- 17 MR. OWEN: Good morning, Your Honor. This
- 18 | is James Owen. I'm the executive director counsel for
- 19 Renew Missouri. I'm here on behalf of Nicole Mers who
- 20 | is our counsel of record, but she has a conflict
- 21 today. Our address should be on the filing, and
- 22 | that's our announcement. Thank you.
- 23 LAW JUDGE WALKER: Okay. Is there anyone
- 24 | I've missed? Okay. My little disclaimer for this is
- 25 | that we can rule on procedural and substantive issues

- 1 at the PSC, and the site for that is 20 CSR 4240-2.090
- 2 | Section 6 for anyone who's unfamiliar with that. The
- 3 procedural conference today we wanted to discuss
- 4 | Senate Bill 4 potential hearing dates and a procedural
- 5 schedule the jurisdiction of the Commission has set
- 6 out in the complaint, and we are not here to address
- 7 outside lawsuits of any kind, matters not covered
- 8 under the Commission's jurisdiction, federal agency
- 9 issues or actions. We don't yet have a hearing date
- 10 | set for this, but we don't have any available hearing
- 11 dates until the end of August through October. Are
- 12 | there any questions at the moment? Okay. Do we have
- 13 any pending motions that anyone wants to discuss? All
- 14 | right. I -- I'd like you all to discuss, particularly
- 15 | Evergy, if your view of the case has changed in regard
- 16 to the passing of Senate Bill 4 which has been passed
- 17 | into law.
- 18 | MR. STEINER: No. I don't believe so, Your
- 19 Honor.
- 20 | LAW JUDGE WALKER: Okay. How about for
- 21 | Evergy Missouri West?
- MR. STEINER: Same.
- 23 LAW JUDGE WALKER: Are you -- you're
- 24 | familiar with the provisions of Senate Bill 4 which
- 25 | change large load capacity?



- 1 MR. STEINER: Not every provision, but I
- 2 | think the relief we're asking for is -- is still the
- 3 | same. You mention a complaint, Your Honor. I
- 4 | don't -- I'm not aware of that either, so.
- 5 LAW JUDGE WALKER: Well, this is an
- 6 application, not a consumer complaint.
- 7 MR. STEINER: No. No. You mentioned it.
- 8 | I -- it is an application, you're right. So I don't
- 9 think there's a claim, and I don't think the -- I
- 10 | don't think the Senate Bill 4 would change the relief
- 11 | we're asking for.
- 12 LAW JUDGE WALKER: Okay. So you don't
- 13 | agree that it's a matter of law some of the portions
- 14 of your application are changed by Senate Bill 4?
- MR. STEINER: I -- I guess I'm -- if it is,
- 16 | I'll have to review it. I don't -- I'm not aware of
- 17 | it, so.
- 18 LAW JUDGE WALKER: Okay. Mr. Pringle, do
- 19 you have any thoughts on that? Lexi, do you have
- 20 anything to say?
- 21 MR. PRINGLE: Not at this time. Based on
- 22 | SB-4's passage, Judge.
- LAW JUDGE WALKER: Okay. Just so we're
- 24 | clear that SB-4 has been signed into law and will go
- 25 | into effect August 28th, and I anticipate that the

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Τ	nearing will happen after the bill goes into effect.
2	MR. CLIZER: Your Honor?
3	LAW JUDGE WALKER: Yes.
4	MR. CLIZER: This is John Clizer on behalf
5	of OPC, and I do acknowledge that Senate Bill 4
6	include the provision modification to Section 393.130
7	Subsection 7 or rather, the addition of Subsection 7
8	with the addition of requirements for electric
9	corporations that would meet Evergy's size to provide
10	tariff relief establishing large load customers. I
11	think that might be what you're primarily considering
12	in terms of the impact that SB-4 would have on the
13	current application, and obviously, the Office of
14	Public Counsel be considering the implication of that
15	provision as it relates to this request, but I also
16	echo, I think, what has been put forward by counsel
17	for Evergy that I don't think that this necessarily
18	changes their request. Although, the component isn't
19	maybe incorporated into that request as part of the
20	analysis; does that make sense?
21	LAW JUDGE WALKER: Thank you for that.
22	Okay. Given that, that everyone has the same
23	seems to have the same thoughts about Senate Bill 4
24	that things we need to discuss are both potential
25	hearing dates and a procedural schedule, there is a



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- 1 procedural schedule by the data center, DCC, that's
- 2 been put forth, if anyone else would like to propose a
- 3 procedural schedule, I'd like to give you a different
- 4 deadline for that. Is there anyone who wants any
- 5 input on the procedural schedule?
- 6 MR. STEINER: Your Honor, I think it makes
- 7 sense to -- for the Commission to set a date for a
- 8 | joint procedural schedule to be held maybe not
- 9 | tomorrow or maybe need a little bit of time to work it
- 10 out, but. That would make sense to get something
- 11 | that's typical in cases like this. The Commission
- 12 | says file your procedural schedule by -- by X. It'll
- 13 be a joint -- or if people couldn't agree, they would
- 14 do their own procedural schedule, so. Like, in the
- 15 | next week or so, that's what I'm proposing. I don't
- 16 | know if, Travis, do -- would that be workable from
- 17 | staff's per --
- 18 | MR. PRINGLE: I think based on just kind of
- 19 talking like we already have, by the end of the week
- 20 on Friday, I think that's -- that's a possibility.
- 21 MR. STEINER: That works.
- 22 | LAW JUDGE WALKER: Well, just so we're
- 23 | clear, I'm not going to order you to do it by Friday.
- 24 | Given -- particularly, given that here staff counsel
- 25 | is down three attorneys, and I know that Lexi's doing

- 1 | the work of many attorneys and that we won't have a
- 2 | hearing date until after August. I anticipate a
- 3 | longer time, a couple of weeks, to produce a
- 4 procedural schedule. I'd also like to emphasize that
- 5 | in adjudication we're trying to get procedural
- 6 schedules that people actually stick to. So please,
- 7 when you send me a procedural schedule, send me
- 8 deadlines that you can meet because I am not inclined
- 9 to extend them.
- 10 So how about hearing dates? I'd like --
- 11 | I'd like everyone who is participating in this case to
- 12 | send me hearing dates, and we're looking at August and
- 13 going forward, and -- I mean, the end of August, so.
- 14 | MR. STEINER: So -- so Judge, is the
- 15 | Commission's calendar on the Internet that we can go
- 16 by on the availability of the Commission for hearings?
- 17 LAW JUDGE WALKER: I don't -- I'm not sure
- 18 | what you have access to. Do you have access to the
- 19 calendar of the Commission for hearings that are
- 20 | already set?
- 21 MR. STEINER: That's all I have -- it's a
- 22 | public document that's on the -- on the Commission's
- 23 | website that sets.
- MR. PRINGLE: Staff has more robust access.
- MR. STEINER: Oh, okay. Good to know.

1 LAW JUDGE WALKER: I'm certain that's the 2 case, Travis, but. 3 MR. PRINGLE: Yeah. Yeah. LAW JUDGE WALKER: Given there are seven 4 5 intervenors in this case who don't have that access. 6 MR. PRINGLE: And Judge, just one quick 7 thing on the August dates, is there a certain week in 8 August we start looking at, that week of like the 9 third week in August and afterwards or is there -- or 10 just no parts of August? What's the best for the 11 Commission? 12 LAW JUDGE WALKER: Well, for the Commission 13 at the moment there are no available dates until the 14 end of August, and I would like to have this hearing 15 after Senate Bill 4 goes into effect which is 16 August 28th --17 MR. PRINGLE: Okay. 18 LAW JUDGE WALKER: -- because then we won't 19 have a decision that is not conversant with the 20 current law in the State of Missouri. Those are the 21 two, really, three issues for me. Does anyone have 2.2 anything else they would like to discuss? 23 concerns? 24 Not from Google, Judge. MR. CARO: 25 LAW JUDGE WALKER: Okay. All right. Ι

- Page 11 1 will issue an order asking you for a procedural 2 schedule and asking for potential hearing dates from 3 all of you. And Judge, will this line 4 MR. PRINGLE:
  - still be on after we go off the record, so the parties can keep talking about dates?
  - 7 LAW JUDGE WALKER: Of course.
  - 8 MR. PRINGLE: Okay.

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- 9 So Judge, if we could MR. STEINER: 10 (inaudible) that the SB-4 doesn't really affect our 11 application, would you -- would the Commission be open 12 to having a hearing, like, the week of August 18th?
- 13 LAW JUDGE WALKER: Well, sure. We'd be 14 open to it, but we don't have an open calendar.
  - MR. STEINER: Okay. I -- again, I may be going on a non-robust calendar. I thought August 18th So I'll check with staff. was open.
  - LAW JUDGE WALKER: I think there are a couple of dates in August that are open. But the way the process works is, we have to have -- I propose a hearing date, and then we have to determine that both the schedule is clear, not only of hearings, but also procedural and discovery conferences that the rooms are available, that I am available, and that all the commissioners are available.



1	Page 12 MR. STEINER: Okay. That's why you're
2	asking for hearing dates ahead of time.
3	LAW JUDGE WALKER: It is.
4	MR. STEINER: Got it.
5	LAW JUDGE WALKER: Because I'm going to
6	take what you give me and mesh it with all of those
7	other factors. All right. Thank you all. And I
8	will
9	MR. CARO: Thank you, Judge.
10	LAW JUDGE WALKER: end and let you talk.
11	MR. PRINGLE: Thank you, Judge.
12	LAW JUDGE WALKER: Okay.
13	MR. STEINER: Thanks, Your Honor.
14	(Audio ended.)
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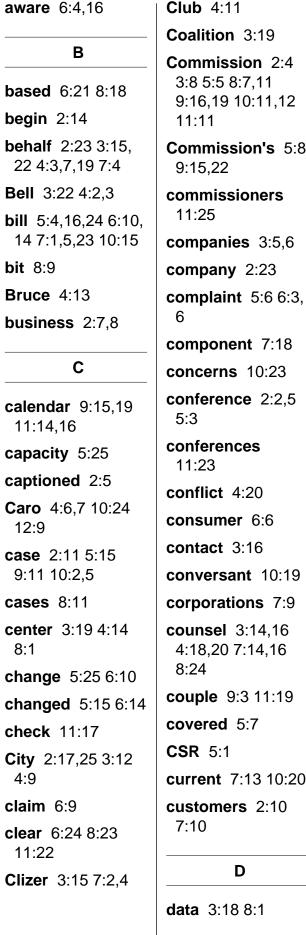
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25	



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