

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

In the Matter of Evergy Metro, Inc.)
d/b/a Evergy Missouri Metro’s Request)
for Authority to Implement a General) Case No. ER-2026-0143
Rate Increase for Electric Service)
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)
)

THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL’S PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

COMES NOW the Office of the Public Counsel (“OPC”), by and through counsel, files this *Proposed Procedural Schedule*:

1. For the reasons explained in its Suggestions in Support, the OPC proposes that the Commission adopt and order the following procedural schedule rather than the one the Public Service Commission’s Staff (“Staff”) filed on March 6, 2026:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
FEBRUARY 6, 2026	COMPANY DIRECT FILED
April 7, 2026	Discovery Conference
May 5, 2026	Discovery Conference
June 1, 2026, to June 5, 2026	Local Public Hearings
June 9, 2026	Discovery Conference
JUNE 30, 2026	NON-COMPANY DIRECT (REVENUE REQUIREMENT) FILED
JULY 14, 2026	NON-COMPANY DIRECT (CCOS) FILED
July 27, 2026	Technical Conference
AUGUST 10, 2026	REBUTTAL TESTIMONY (ALL) FILED

<i>August 11, 2026</i>	<i>DR Response time reduced to 10 calendar days with 5 days to object/request extension</i>
August 12, 2026	Settlement Conference
AUGUST 26, 2026	SURREBUTTAL, TRUE UP DIRECT FILED
<i>August 27, 2026</i>	<i>DR Response time reduced to 5 days with 2 days to object/request extension</i>
August 31, 2026	Settlement Conference
September 1, 2026	Discovery Conference
SEPTEMBER 9, 2026	TRUE UP REBUTTAL FILED
<i>September 11, 2026</i>	<i>Last Day for Discovery</i>
September 14, 2026	Joint List of Issues, List of Witnesses, Order of Openings, and Order of Cross filed
September 18, 2026	Position Statements Filed
September 28, 2026, to October 9, 2026	Evidentiary Hearing
November 6, 2026	Initial Briefs
November 23, 2026	Reply Briefs
January 5, 2027	Operation of Law Date

Other Procedural Requests

1. The OPC further requests that the following procedural practices be in effect during this rate case:

A. The Parties shall provide all workpapers, in electronic format, whenever feasible, within two (2) business days following the date on which the related testimony is filed.

B. Where workpapers or data request responses include models or spreadsheets or similar information originally in a commonly-available format where inputs or parameters may be changed to observe changes in inputs or outputs, if available in that original format, the party providing the workpaper or response shall provide this type of information in that original format.

C. All Parties shall provide copies of testimony, schedules, exhibits, and pleadings to other counsel of record by electronic means and in electronic form essentially concurrently with the filing of such testimony, schedules, exhibits, or pleadings where the information is available in electronic format. Parties shall not be required to put information that does not exist in electronic format into electronic format for purposes of exchanging it.

D. The Parties shall act as follows with respect to Data Requests:

(1) Beginning August 11, 2026, the response time for data requests shall be ten (10) calendar days to provide the requested information, or five (5) days to object or request an extension to provide the requested information.

(2) Beginning, August 27, 2026, the response time for data requests shall be five (5) calendar days to provide the requested information, or two (2) days to object or request an extension to provide the requested information.

(3) Data Requests sent after 5:00 PM on a Monday through Friday, at any point during a weekend, or at any point during a holiday, shall be considered sent by the Requesting Party the following business day.

E. The Parties shall comply with the following provisions regarding discovery:

(1) A party with an unresolved discovery dispute may file a motion to request a discovery conference. Discovery conferences shall be scheduled by order of the presiding regulatory law judge with one week's prior notice to all parties.

(2) If necessary, discovery conferences will be held in Room 305 at the Commission's office at the Governor's Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. Each discovery conference will begin at 10:00 a.m. For individuals who cannot make the discovery conference in person, there will be a virtual option available through Webex.

(3) If necessary, any party that has a discovery disagreement or concern involving another party shall file a brief statement describing that disagreement or concern and identifying any other parties involved two (2) days prior. Such statement does not need to be a formal motion to compel. Any party may attend a discovery conference, but only those parties involved in an identified discovery disagreement must attend, virtually or in person.

(4) Discovery conferences shall be on the record and shall be transcribed by a court reporter.

(5) Any pending written discovery motion may be taken up at a discovery conference and may be ruled upon by the presiding regulatory law judge either on the record, or in a written order.

(6) Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.090's requirement that a party must seek a telephone conference with the presiding officer before filing a discovery motion is waived.

(7) All data requests, subpoenas, or other discovery requests shall be issued no later than September 11, 2026. With respect to deposing a witness, so long as a notice of deposition is issued by September 11, 2026, the deposition may occur, notwithstanding that the deposition will take place after September 11, 2026, or that there could be other conditions that must be satisfied prior to the deposition.

(8) All motions to compel a response to any discovery request related to the case shall be filed no later than September 11, 2026.

(9) The Parties shall make an effort to not include confidential information in data request questions and the Parties shall make an effort not to over-designate information as confidential. If confidential information must be included in data request questions, the confidential information should be appropriately designated as such pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-2.135. Responsibility to make this designation is upon the party claiming such. Other parties are entitled to rely on the presence or absence of such designation.

(10) Any data requests issued by or to Staff shall be submitted and responded to in the Commission's Electronic Filing and Information System (EFIS). All data requests other than those issued by or to Staff, as well as all objections to data requests, or notifications of the need for additional time to respond, shall

be sent by e-mail to counsel for the other parties. Counsel may designate other counsel to be added to the certified service list and shall assume responsibility for compliance with any restrictions on confidentiality. If any party responds to a data request in EFIS, the response is available in EFIS to all counsel on the certified service list. Data request responses, other than responses to data requests issued by or to Staff, shall be served on counsel for the requesting party's employee or representative who submitted the data request and shall be served electronically, if feasible and not voluminous as defined by Commission rule. If a party desires the response to a data request that has been served on another party, the party desiring a copy of the response must request in writing a copy of the responses from the party answering the data request; thereby providing the responding party the opportunity to object. If a data request has been responded to, a party's request for a copy of the response shall timely be responded to, considering that the underlying data request has already been responded to.

F. Testimony shall be prefiled as defined in Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.130. All parties must comply with this rule, including the requirement that testimony be filed on line-numbered pages.

G. The parties shall agree upon, and Staff shall file, a list of the issues to be heard, the witnesses to appear on each day of the hearing, the order in which they will be called, the order of party cross-examination for each witness, and the order of opening statements. The list of issues shall be stated with particularity. If the

parties are unable to agree to an issues list, each party shall file a separate issues list.

H. Each party shall file a simple and concise statement summarizing its position on each disputed issue. Position statements shall track the list of issues. Any position statement shall set forth any order requested, cite any law authorizing that relief, and allege facts relevant under that law with citations to any pre-filed testimony in support.

I. All pleadings, briefs, and amendments shall be filed in accordance with Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.080. Briefs shall follow the same list of issues as filed in the case and must set forth and cite the proper portions of the record concerning the unresolved issues that the parties believe require decision by the Commission.

J. All parties shall bring an adequate number of copies of exhibits that they intend to offer into evidence at the hearing. If an exhibit has not been prefiled, the party offering it must bring, in addition to the copy for the court reporter, copies for the five (5) Commissioners, the Presiding Judge, and all counsel.

K. Exhibit numbers are assigned in the following manner:

Evergy Metro 1-99

Commission Staff 100-199

Office of the Public Counsel 200-299

WHEREFORE, the OPC respectfully requests the Public Service Commission (Commission) issue an order setting the above-detailed procedural schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Anna Kathryn Martin
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile, or electronically mailed to all parties and or counsel of record on this 9th day of March, 2026.

/s/ Anna Martin