

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

In the Matter of the Territorial Agreement)
Application of Central Missouri Electric)
Cooperative, Inc. for Approval of) Case No. EO-2026-0070
Designated Service Boundaries Within)
Portions of Pettis County, Missouri)

**THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL’S
OBJECTIONS TO STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT**

COMES NOW the Office of Public Counsel and for its response to Central Missouri Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West’s Stipulation and Agreement filed on June 25, 2026, as follows:

1. Central Missouri Electric Cooperative, Inc. initiated this case by filing an application invoking § 386.800.3, RSMo, for Commission authorization to provide electric service to a parcel of land post-annexation by the City of Sedalia. In its application Central Missouri Electric Cooperative, Inc. alleges that the developer of the parcel initiated the request for Central Missouri Electric Cooperative, Inc. to provide electric service to the parcel post-annexation.

2. The notice which the Commission ordered be served on affected entities and be made available to the news media serving Pettis County follows:

Central Missouri Electric Cooperative, Inc. filed an application on September 19, 2025 pursuant to RSMo 386.800.3 and 20 CSR 4240-20.045, for an Order Approving Designated Service Boundaries. The Commission will set a deadline for intervention and will further order a Staff Recommendation.

3. Because Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West has a franchise with the City of Sedalia to provide electric service within Sedalia, it received notice as an affected party and sought intervention, which the Commission granted.

4. As contemplated by §394.312, RSMo., Central Missouri Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Evergy Missouri West have entered into a territorial agreement which they are seeking for the

Commission to approve as the substance of their Stipulation and Agreement they filed in this case on June 25, 2026.

5. If approved that territorial agreement would make large tracts of land, as between Central Missouri Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Evergy Missouri West, one or the other the exclusive electric service provider.

6. Commission rule 20 CSR 4240-3.130 lays out the filing requirements and fees for seeking Commission approval of territorial agreements such as the one Central Missouri Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Evergy Missouri West are attempting to get this Commission to approve through their June 25, 2026, Stipulation and Agreement.

7. Public Counsel objects to Central Missouri Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Evergy Missouri West's attempt to circumvent the requirements of §394.312, RSMo, and Commission rule 20 CSR 4240-3.130. In particular, Public Counsel objects to the Commission approving a territorial agreement without notice to the public who will be affected by it, not only the City of Sedalia, but also those with interests in the lands within the exclusive tracts.

8. Central Missouri Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Evergy Missouri West are required to pay an application fee of \$500 for applying for Commission approval of a territorial agreement. Commission rule 20 CSR 4240-3.130(3).

9. The Commission should open a new docket for Central Missouri Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Evergy Missouri West's territorial agreement and give notice of their agreement to the City of Sedalia and all others in Pettis County who have interests in land that it will affect directly (fee, lease, etc.).

10. As to the territorial agreement itself, Public Counsel vehemently opposes the following attempt to limit Public Counsel's duty to "represent and protect the interests of the public in any proceeding before or appeal from the public service commission" found in the Exception to

Procedure section of the territorial agreement:

C. Each Addendum shall consist of a statement identifying the Structure or Structures implicated, the Party to serve the Structure or Structures, the justification for the Addendum, and indicating that the Parties support the Addendum. If the Staff, Office of the Public Counsel or other intervenor party does not submit a pleading objecting to the Addendum within forty-five (45) days of the filing thereof, the Addendum shall be deemed approved by the aforesaid Parties. Each Addendum shall contain a statement in bold uppercase typeface indicating that the Staff or the Office of the Public Counsel have forty-five (45) days to oppose the Addendum or else the Addendum shall be deemed approved by the aforesaid Parties.

11. Public Counsel reserves the right to raise other objections to the territorial agreement.

Wherefore, Public Counsel opposes Central Missouri Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Evergy Missouri West's June 25, 2026, Stipulation and Agreement because Central Missouri Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Evergy Missouri West are pursuing an improper process by which to obtain Commission approval of their territorial agreement, because members of the public with interests in land within the tracts affected by the territorial agreements have not been given notice or an opportunity to be heard as to how they will be affected by the territorial agreement—choice of electric service providers limited, and because the terms of the territorial agreement purport to limit Public Counsel's statutory duty to represent and protect the interests of the public.

Respectfully,

/s/ Nathan Williams

Nathan Williams
Chief Deputy Public Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 35512

Office of the Public Counsel
Post Office Box 2230
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 526-4975 (Voice)
(573) 751-5562 (FAX)
Nathan.Williams@opc.mo.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 2nd day of July 2026.

/s/ Nathan Williams