

Exhibit No.:  
Issue: Demand Side Investment Mechanism  
Rider  
Witness: Lisa A. Starkebaum  
Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony  
Sponsoring Party: Evergy Missouri West  
Case No.: ER-2022-0150  
Date Testimony Prepared: December 2, 2021

**MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**CASE NO.: ER-2022-0150**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY**

**OF**

**LISA A. STARKEBAUM**

**ON BEHALF OF**

**EVERGY MISSOURI WEST, INC. d/b/a EVERGY MISSOURI WEST**

**Kansas City, Missouri  
December 2021**

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

In the Matter of Evergy Missouri West's )  
Demand Side Investment Mechanism Rider ) Case No. ER-2022-0150  
Rate Adjustment and True-Up )  
Required by 20 CSR 4240-20.093(4) )

**AFFIDAVIT OF LISA A. STARKEBAUM**

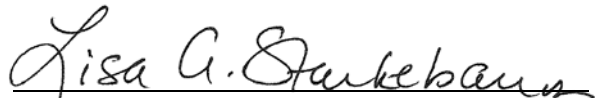
**STATE OF MISSOURI )**  
  ) **ss**  
**COUNTY OF JACKSON )**

Lisa A. Starkebaum, being first duly sworn on her oath, states:


1. My name is Lisa A. Starkebaum. I work in Kansas City, Missouri, and I am employed by Evergy, Inc. as Manager, Regulatory Affairs.

2. Attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes is my Direct Testimony on behalf of Evergy Metro, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West, consisting of consisting of nine (9) pages, having been prepared in written form for introduction into evidence in the above-captioned docket.

3. I have knowledge of the matters set forth therein. I hereby swear and affirm that my answers contained in the attached testimony to the questions therein propounded, including any attachments thereto, are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa A. Starkebaum

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of December 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My Commission expires:  
4/26/2025



**DIRECT TESTIMONY**

**OF**

**LISA A. STARKEBAUM**

**Case No. ER-2022-0150**

1 **Q: Please state your name and business address.**

2 A: My name is Lisa A. Starkebaum. My business address is 1200 Main Street, Kansas City,  
3 Missouri 64105.

4 **Q: By whom and in what capacity are you employed?**

5 A: I am employed by Evergy or the “Company” as Manager - Regulatory Affairs.

6 **Q: What are your responsibilities?**

7 A: My responsibilities include the coordination, preparation and review of financial  
8 information and schedules associated with the Company’s compliance filings for Evergy  
9 including: Evergy Kansas Central, Evergy Kansas Metro, Evergy Missouri Metro and  
10 Evergy Missouri West.

11 **Q: Please describe your education.**

12 A: In 1994, I received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Finance from Northwest Missouri  
13 State University in Maryville, Missouri.

14 **Q: Please provide your work experience.**

15 A: In 1995, I joined Cerner Corporation as an Accountant in the Finance Department  
16 assisting with month-end close and reporting responsibilities. In 1997, I joined Aquila,  
17 Inc. (“Aquila”) where I worked in the Financial and Regulatory Reporting group as an  
18 Accountant, until joining Regulatory Accounting Services as a Regulatory Analyst in  
19 1999. I was employed by Aquila for a total of 11 years prior to beginning my

1 employment with KCP&L in July 2008 as a part of the acquisition of Aquila, Inc., by  
2 Great Plains Energy Incorporated. Since that time, I have held various positions with  
3 increasing responsibilities within Regulatory Accounting Services and Regulatory  
4 Affairs. As a Lead Analyst in the Regulatory Affairs department, my main areas of  
5 responsibility included the preparation of FERC and jurisdictional reporting, as well as  
6 assisting with the preparation of rate cases and providing rate case support. In December  
7 2015, I became a Supervisor, Regulatory Affairs responsible for overseeing a team  
8 dedicated to compliance reporting and was later promoted to Manager, Regulatory  
9 Affairs effective June 2018. In my current position, I am responsible for overseeing  
10 various reporting requirements to ensure Evergy is compliant with its jurisdictional rules  
11 and regulations, in addition to the implementation of new reporting or commitments  
12 resulting from various rate case orders and other regulatory filings. In addition, I oversee  
13 the coordination, review and filing of various rider mechanisms.

14 **Q: Have you previously testified in a proceeding before the Missouri Public Service**  
15 **Commission (“MPSC” or “Commission”) or before any other utility regulatory**  
16 **agency?**

17 A: Yes, I have testified before the MPSC, the Kansas Corporation Commission (“KCC” or  
18 “Commission”) and have provided written testimony before the Public Utilities  
19 Commission of Colorado. I have sponsored testimony in Missouri related to various tariff  
20 filings involving rider mechanisms utilized by the Company. In addition, I have worked  
21 closely with both MPSC and KCC Staff on numerous filings and rate case matters.

22 **Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?**

1 A: The purpose of my testimony is to support the rate schedule filed by Evergy Missouri  
 2 West to adjust the Demand Side Investment Mechanism (“DSIM”) Rider. My testimony  
 3 will explain the change to the DSIM components based upon actual performance in the  
 4 six-month period ending October 2021, as well as forecasted performance through  
 5 December 2022 for Cycle 3 Program Costs (“PC”) and Cycle 2 and Cycle 3 Throughput  
 6 Disincentive (“TD”). In addition, Earnings Opportunity (“EO”) for Cycle 2 for the three  
 7 program years beginning April 2016 through March 2019, the EO for the Cycle 2  
 8 extension program year April 2019 through December 2019 and the EO for Cycle 3 2020  
 9 program year is included in this rider update. The proposed change in rates will result in  
 10 an increase to a residential customer’s rate from \$0.00433 to \$0.00630 per kWh, or an  
 11 increase of \$1.97 for every 1,000 kWh used. Please see the table below for a comparison  
 12 by rate schedule of proposed DSIM rates to currently effective rates and the impact to a  
 13 customer using 1,000 kWh.

Rate Schedule	Total Current DSIM ER-2021-0411 (\$/kWh)	Total Proposed DSIM (\$/kWh)	Change Increase/ (Decrease) (\$/kWh)	Incr/(Decr) to Customer Bill (for every 1,000 kWh's used) (\$)
Residential Service	\$0.00433	\$0.00630	\$0.00197	\$1.97
Non-Res Service – SGS	\$0.00326	\$0.00445	\$0.00119	\$1.19
Non-Res Service – LGS	\$0.00434	\$0.00627	\$0.00193	\$1.93
Non-Res Service – LPS	\$0.00278	\$0.00390	\$0.00112	\$1.12

14  
 15 **Q: What are the MEEIA rule requirements for adjustments of DSIM rates?**

16 A: The requirements for adjustment of DSIM rates are found in Commission rules 20 CSR  
 17 4240-20.093(4). In summary, the requirements outline that the update filing include  
 18 applicable DSIM rate tariff sheets, supporting testimony, and inclusion of the following:

- 1           A)     Amount of revenue that was over-collected or under-collected through the most
- 2                     recent recovery period by rate class.
- 3           B)     Proposed positive or negative adjustments by rate class.
- 4           C)     Electric utility's short-term borrowing rate.
- 5           D)     Proposed adjustments to the current DSIM rates.
- 6           E)     Complete documentation for the proposed adjustments to the current DSIM rates.
- 7           F)     Any additional information the Commission ordered to be provided.
- 8           G)     Annual report as required by 20 CSR 4240-20.093(9).

9           As part of my Direct Testimony, I have included the information required for update of  
10           the DSIM rate in the attached Schedules LAS-1 and LAS-2. In addition, the Company's  
11           2020 Demand-Side Program Annual Report for MEEIA Cycle 2, referenced in Item G  
12           above, was filed on June 29, 2020 in Case No. EO-2020-0419. The 2020 Demand-Side  
13           Program Annual Report for MEEIA Cycle 3, referenced in Item G above, was filed on  
14           March 31, 2021 in Case No. EO-2021-0324.

15   **Q:     Are you sponsoring this information?**

16   A:     Yes, I am.

17   **Q:     Please explain why Evergy Missouri West has filed an adjusted DSIM rate schedule**  
18           **at this time?**

19   A:     The Commission's rule governing DSIM filings and submission requirements for electric  
20           utilities, specifically 20 CSR 4240-20.093(4), requires Evergy Missouri West to make at  
21           least annual adjustments of DSIM rates that reflect the amount of revenue that has been  
22           over/under collected. Evergy Missouri West's DSIM tariff requires two semi-annual rate  
23           adjustments to become effective February 1 and August 1 of each year. Based upon

1 actual and estimated performance during the six-month time period(s), DSIM rates may  
2 be adjusted up or down.

3 **Q: Please describe the various DSIM rate components that make up the proposed**  
4 **DSIM rate.**

5 A: As the MEEIA Cycle 3 DSIM tariff describes, the DSIM rate components consist of 1)  
6 Program Costs (“PC”), Throughput Disincentive (“TD”) and Earnings Opportunity  
7 (“EO”) for the MEEIA Cycle 3 Plan, as well as PC, TD and EO for the MEEIA Cycle 2  
8 Plan; 2) Reconciliations, with interest, to true-up differences between revenues billed  
9 under the DSIM rider and total actual monthly amounts for PC, TD, EO and any  
10 remaining true-ups or unrecovered amounts for Cycle 2 and Cycle 3; and 3) any Ordered  
11 Adjustments.

12 **Q: How did you develop the various DSIM rate components that make up the proposed**  
13 **DSIM rate?**

14 A: As the DSIM tariff for MEEIA Cycle 3 describes, the DSIM rate components consist of  
15 projected PC and TD for MEEIA Cycle 3 programs for November 2021 through  
16 December 2022 as well as the reconciliation of actual and expected PC and TD for Cycle  
17 3 through October 2021. The MEEIA Cycle 3 costs included in this filing are the current  
18 forecasted levels of program participation and related costs.

19 Also included for recovery in the calculation of the DSIM rates are projected TD  
20 associated with MEEIA Cycle 2 for November 2021 through December 2022 as well as  
21 the reconciliation of actual and expected PC, TD and EO for Cycle 2 through October  
22 2021.

23 **Q: Please describe the amount of EO that has been included in this filing.**

1 A: Consistent with the current DSIM rates effective August 1, 2021, the EO included in this  
2 filing is based on verified MWh and MW savings for the three program years of Cycle 2  
3 beginning April 2016 through March 2019, including EO TD adjustments, and for the  
4 Cycle 2 extension program year April 2019 through December 2019, including EO TD  
5 adjustments, which has been calculated in accordance with Tariff Sheet Nos. 138.6 and  
6 138.8. The MEEIA Cycle 2 tariff provides for the recovery of the EO over 24 months.  
7 The Company took the total adjusted EO and divided that amount by the four semi-  
8 annual rate update periods and has included an EO amount for the current Effective  
9 Period (“EP”), or six-months beginning July 2021, plus the succeeding EP as described  
10 on tariff Sheet No. 138.11. An EO amount totaling \$694,967 for Cycle 2 has been  
11 included in the calculation of the DSIM rate in this filing. In addition, the EO included in  
12 this filing is based on verified MWh and MW savings for the 2020 program year of Cycle  
13 3, including EO TD adjustments, which has been calculated in accordance with Tariff  
14 Sheet Nos. 138.16 and 138.18. The MEEIA Cycle 3 tariff provides for the recovery of  
15 the EO over 12 months. The Company took the total adjusted EO and divided that  
16 amount by the 12 months and has included an EO amount for the current Effective Period  
17 (“EP”), or six-months beginning February 2022, plus the succeeding EP as described on  
18 tariff Sheet No. 138.11. An EO amount totaling \$2,347,130 for Cycle 3 has been  
19 included in the calculation of the DSIM rate in this filing. The sum of the PC, TD and EO  
20 amounts are divided by the projected billed retail kWh sales, excluding opt-out sales, by  
21 rate class for February 2022 through January 2023 to develop the proposed DSIM rates.

22 **Q: If the rate schedule filed by Evergy Missouri West is approved, what safeguards**  
23 **exist to ensure that the revenues the Company bills to its customers do not exceed**



1           **actual DSM Program Costs and TD incurred, as well as the earnings opportunity or**  
2           **performance incentive?**

3    A:    Eversource Missouri West’s DSIM Rider mechanism and the Commission’s rules provide  
4           two mechanisms to ensure that amounts billed to customers do not exceed Eversource  
5           Missouri West’s actual, prudently incurred DSM Program Costs and TD and  
6           performance incentive or EO. First, at the end of each recovery period, the Company is  
7           required to true up amounts billed to customers through the DSIM Rider based upon  
8           Program Cost and TD actually incurred during that six-month period. Per MEEIA rule  
9           20 CSR 4240-20.093(4), these adjustments will be supported by complete documentation  
10          and workpapers that demonstrate the need for DSIM rate adjustment. All proposed  
11          adjustments and supporting documentation are subject to review by MPSC Staff and all  
12          MEEIA stakeholders. Second, per MEEIA rule 20 CSR 4240-20.093(11), Eversource  
13          Missouri West’s DSIM is subject to periodic prudence reviews by MPSC Staff to ensure  
14          that only prudently incurred Program Costs and TD are billed to customers. These two  
15          mechanisms serve as checks to ensure that the Company’s customers pay only the  
16          prudently incurred, actual Program Costs and TD resulting from implementation of  
17          MEEIA DSM programs.

18   **Q:    Has Eversource Missouri West made any adjustments to previously filed costs included**  
19          **in the current DSIM rate?**

20    A:    No. Staff has noted in its Staff Recommendations for the previous two semi-annual  
21          DSIM rate updates, Case Nos. ER-2021-0153 and Case No. ER-2021-0411, concerns  
22          regarding the level of reported savings attributable to Home Energy Reports (“HER”).  
23          However, the Company believes that it has calculated the DSIM rate updates consistent

1 with the tariffs approved by the Commission; therefore, no adjustments are included in  
2 this current DSIM rate update filing.

3 **Q: Has Evergy Missouri West been subject to any prudence reviews by MPSC Staff?**

4 A: Yes, Evergy Missouri West has been through four prudence reviews and its fifth  
5 prudence review was initiated in June 2021.

6 In the first and second prudence reviews, Case Nos. EO-2015-0180 and EO-2017-  
7 0210, Staff found no instances of imprudence on the part of Evergy Missouri West.

8 In the third prudence review initiated by Staff on June 4, 2018 in Case No. EO-  
9 2018-0364, the Company, Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel entered into a  
10 Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement dated February 20, 2019 which was approved by  
11 the Commission on March 6, 2019. As a result of this agreement, the Company included  
12 the Ordered Adjustment which reduced proposed costs for recovery by \$8,500 plus  
13 carrying costs of \$187 in the rider rate effective August 1, 2019, Case No. ER-2019-  
14 0397.

15 Based on its examination and analysis of costs in the fourth prudence review,  
16 Case No. EO-2020-0228, Staff believes the Company was imprudent in implementation  
17 of the Residential Programmable Thermostat program and implementation of the  
18 Demand Response Incentive program. Staff also believes the Company acted  
19 imprudently by not calling more demand response events. The Company disputes each of  
20 the Staff's findings and believes that it has operated the programs in a prudent manner,  
21 consistent with the tariffs approved by the Commission. As of December 2, 2021, this  
22 case is not yet resolved.

1 On October 28, 2021, Staff issued its Report and Recommendation in the Company's  
2 fifth prudence review initiated by Staff on June 4, 2021 in Case No. EO-2021-0416. This  
3 prudence review covers the period of January 2020 through March 2021 for Cycle 3 costs  
4 and Cycle 2 Long-Lead Projects. In its Report, Staff recommended the disallowance of  
5 \$23,014 of program costs including interest and \$1,577,602 of throughput disincentive  
6 related to the Company's Home Energy Report program. The Company disputes Staff's  
7 alleged disallowances. On November 2, 2021, the Company filed a request for hearing  
8 regarding Staff's Report. Parties filed a joint proposed procedural schedule in this case  
9 on November 30, 2021

10 **Q: What action is Evergy Missouri West requesting from the Commission with respect**  
11 **to the rate schedule that the Company has filed?**

12 A: The Company requests the Commission approve the rate schedule to become effective  
13 February 1, 2022.

14 **Q: Does that conclude your testimony?**

15 A: Yes, it does.