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Witness:	Cody VandeVelde
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Sponsoring Party:	Evergy Missouri West
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MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE NOS.: ER-2027-0077

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

CODY VANDEVELDE

ON BEHALF OF

EVERGY MISSOURI WEST

Kansas City, Missouri
November 2026

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DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

CODY VANDEVELDE

Case No. ER-2027-0077

I. INTRODUCTION

Q: Please state your name and business address.

A: My name is Cody VandeVelde. My business address is 818 S. Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas.

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

A: I am employed by Evergy Metro, Inc. and serve as Senior Director, Strategy and Long-Term Planning - Energy Resource Management for Evergy Metro, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri Metro ("EMM") and Evergy Metro, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Kansas Metro ("EKM") (collectively, "Evergy Metro"), Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West ("EMW" or "Company"), and Evergy Kansas Central, Inc. and Evergy Kansas South, Inc., collectively d/b/a Evergy Kansas Central ("EKC") the operating utilities of Evergy, Inc.

Q: Who are you testifying for?

A: I am testifying on behalf of Evergy Missouri West ("EMW" or "Company").

Q: What are your responsibilities?

A: My responsibilities include overseeing the development of Evergy's corporate strategy, Evergy's Energy Resource Management division which is responsible for completing the Applicants' Integrated Resource Plans ("IRP"), and Evergy's Early-Stage Generation Development. Specifically related to this testimony, corporate

strategy monitors the execution of Evergy's strategic initiatives, one of which is the advancement of ongoing changes to Evergy's generation portfolio, including new resource development and preparation for future retirements.

Q: Please describe your education, experience, and employment history.

A: I hold a Bachelor of Business Administration from Washburn University. Since joining Evergy in 2007, I have worked in leadership roles across power marketing, investor relations, and corporate strategy departments.

Q: Have you previously testified in a proceeding at the Missouri Public Service Commission ("MPSC" or "Commission") or before any other utility regulatory agency?

A: Yes. I have previously testified in proceedings at the MPSC, Kansas Corporation Commission, and at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC").

Q: What is the purpose of your direct testimony?

A: The purpose of my direct testimony is to describe the role of the 300 MW simple-cycle, gas-fired Crossroads Energy Center ("Crossroads") generating plant in Clarksdale, Mississippi in EMW's current and future resource portfolio. I will discuss the reliable service that it provides at critical times to EMW's customers, and its strategic role in EMW's resource planning, so that EMW can continue to effectively plan and serve customer demand and Southwest Power Pool obligations going forward. Company witness Darrin Ives addresses in his direct testimony the rate treatment of Crossroads' transmission costs that EMW is requesting from the Commission. He also explains how Crossroads, located in Mississippi, became a resource for Missouri-based EMW under four transmission service agreements that

the Company's predecessor Aquila, Inc. entered into with Entergy, Inc. ("Entergy") in 2013. In this regard, Mr. Ives' direct testimony reviews the changes that occurred when Entergy chose to join the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. ("MISO"), the regional transmission organization located to the east of Southwest Power Pool ("SPP") of which EMW, EKC, and Evergy Metro are members, and the resulting increase in transmission costs under the FERC-approved MISO tariffs.

Q: Please summarize your testimony, including what is being asked of the Commission?

A: Crossroads is an existing asset that provides meaningful capacity and energy value to EMW customers today and without Crossroads, EMW's forecasted capacity deficit gets larger. Retaining Crossroads, including the current MISO transmission expense, is presently estimated to have a substantially lower long-term revenue requirement than replacing the 300 MW of capacity with new dispatchable generation.

Over the next few years EMW is facing critical decisions regarding the continued operation of Crossroads. The result of these decisions will have significant implications to EMW's capacity portfolio and its ability to reliably serve customers. If the required firm point-to-point MISO transmission path is not renewed beyond 2029, EMW will lose Crossroads' 300 MW of Southwest Power Pool capacity and its accompanying energy.

Whether to renew the transmission path is a decision for EMW, and EMW is not asking the Commission to make it. EMW is asking the Commission to include the delivered cost of Crossroads, including the MISO transmission costs

that have been set by a tariff approved by FERC, in rates, as these transmission costs are prudent and reasonable and are an integral part of Crossroads' cost of service. Including those costs in rates would allow EMW to renew the transmission path and keep the benefits of the Crossroads facility available to customers beyond 2029. If the Commission denies recovery of the MISO transmission costs, the Company will consider the Commission's determinations about Crossroads and the reasonableness of its delivered costs in deciding on whether renewal, sale, retirement, or replacement best serves customers when the current agreements approach expiration.

II. THE VALUE OF CROSSROADS TO CUSTOMERS

Q: Has the MPSC found that EMW's decision to add the 300 MW of Crossroads was prudent?

A: Yes. In its May 4, 2011 Report and Order in ER-2010-0356 the MPSC concluded: "After a thorough analysis of available options, the Company determined the 300 MW Crossroads Energy Center was the lowest cost option for meeting its requirements."[1] The MPSC also concluded that under a 2010 stipulation in a previous rate case, the Company's 20-year analysis to determine its preferred integrated resource plan, based on 2007 Request For Proposal ("RFP") responses, "showed that Crossroads would result in the lowest 20-year net present value of revenue requirements ('NVPRR')."[2] Accordingly, the Company had placed Crossroads in its generation portfolio in August 2008.[3]

[1] Report & Order at 85, In re KCP&L Greater Mo. Operations Co., No. ER-2010-0356 (May 4, 2011).
[2] Id.
[3] Id.

Q: Why is NPVRR (Net Present Value of Revenue Requirement) used to determine the value to customers?

A: NPVRR is used in accordance with the Commission's regulations regarding Utility Resource Planning Policy, 20 CSR 4240-22.010, et seq. Section 22.010(2)(B) states that "the utility shall – … "(B) Use minimization of the present worth of long-run utility costs as the primary selection criterion in choosing the preferred resource plan"

Q: **What value do customers receive from Crossroads today?**

A: Customers receive the full value of capacity and energy produced from Crossroads via a long-term power agreement. This arrangement has allowed these benefits to flow to customers since 2010 when the Crossroads plant was included in rate base and reflected in rates as a prudent investment decision. Currently, EMW customers receive accreditation of Crossroads' capacity from the Southwest Power Pool ("SPP"), which is required to fulfill a portion of EMW's reserve margin requirement. Evergy Missouri West, Evergy Metro, Inc. and Evergy Kansas Central are members of SPP, a FERC-approved regional transmission organization ("RTO"). The Crossroads plant is in the footprint of MISO, the FERC-approved RTO that is located immediately to the east of SPP.

Q: What were the capacity implications for EMW had Crossroads not been a part of its portfolio for the past 16 years?

A: Crossroads has been an integral resource to meeting EMW's capacity obligation. Without it, EMW would have been short on capacity. To fulfill EMW's load obligation, it would have needed to procure capacity through other means to make

up for Crossroad's 300 MW of capacity. This would have required incremental investment to build new generation sources, the procurement of wholesale capacity contracts, or a combination of the two. Had EMW not procured capacity in one of these two forms, it would have been subject to capacity deficiency payments to the SPP. These deficiency payments are calculated based on a range of 125% to 200% of SPP's Cost of New Entry ("CONE") which approximates the cost to build new generation. At SPP's current CONE, $139.85/kW-year, the loss of Crossroads would equate to deficiency payments anywhere from approximately $52 million to approximately $84 million annually for EMW to cover the 300 MWs of capacity that is provided. [4] As discussed below, this cost is far in excess of the annual all-in cost of Crossroads, inclusive of the cost of rate base, operating costs, and the cost to secure firm point-to-point transmission service from Crossroads to EMW's service territory under the FERC-approved tariff.

Q: Do retail rates reflect the full cost of service of providing these capacity and energy benefits to customers?

A: No. A portion of Crossroads generation plant and the full cost of the MISO transmission path is currently excluded from rates. Company witness Darrin Ives' direct testimony in this case explains in more detail the historical events that have resulted in only a portion of Crossroads' cost of service being allowed to be recovered by EMW customers. The current disallowed costs include capital costs associated with a portion of the Crossroads plant's rate base and the annual MISO

[4] These amounts illustrate the potential consequences of failing to procure sufficient capacity; they are not intended to represent EMW's expected replacement-resource cost.

transmission path expense needed to move power from Mississippi to EMW's customers in Missouri.

Q: Does Crossroads provide energy value to EMW customers?

A: Yes. Crossroads provides energy to the SPP market, typically in peak conditions when customer demand for power is high. Moreover, Crossroads was a reliable resource that was critical in meeting peak SPP demand and generating market revenues during Winter Storm Uri in February 2021 and Winter Storm Elliott in December 2022 to help offset extremely high market load costs that EMW customers were facing. For example, in February 2021 Crossroads generated over $25 million of revenue by being available and selling into SPP's day-ahead energy market. Given that Crossroads is supplied by a natural gas pipeline in Mississippi, which was less impacted by the constraints and price spikes caused by Winter Storm Uri, its total natural gas costs for February 2021 were only $2.9 million to produce the approximately 26,000 MWhs that Crossroads supplied to SPP. This equates to an average day-ahead market revenue of $974 per megawatt-hour ("MWh") generated, compared to a natural gas cost of $111/MWh[5].

Q: How do EMW customers receive these benefits given that Crossroads is located in Mississippi?

A: Because the resource is located outside of SPP's transmission network, a long-term firm MISO transmission path is required to ensure deliverability of both capacity and energy into SPP. Crossroads' units are therefore directed into SPP's market,

[5] Equivalent to natural gas cost of approximately $8.09/MMBtu.

which allows them to be economically dispatched by SPP. Customers also receive the benefit of energy market revenues, which lowers the cost to serve their load.

Q: How long does EMW have rights to the MISO transmission path that allows for its customers to receive full capacity and energy benefits?

A: There are currently four separate 75 MW firm point-to-point MISO transmission path service agreements that the Company entered into with Entergy on December 18, 2013. The agreements for these paths are set to expire on February 28, 2029. The MISO transmission paths are firm point-to-point reservations which allow the capacity and energy to be delivered to SPP. The costs associated with these reservations are determined by MISO transmission rates which have been approved by FERC. A non-firm point-to-point MISO transmission reservation would neither allow for capacity accreditation in SPP, nor the market registration that allows Crossroads to participate in SPP's wholesale energy markets.

Unless subsequently renewed, upon the expiration of these agreements in February 2029, EMW customers will lose the option to continue receiving Crossroads' capacity and energy benefits as there will be no firm MISO transmission path reservation to allow for the flow of power from Mississippi to Missouri.

Q: What is the current cost of the MISO transmission?

A: The MISO transmission path cost for the twelve months ending March 31, 2026, was approximately $20 million under the FERC-approved transmission service tariff.

Q: Do EMW's customers receive any benefit from Crossroads being in Mississippi?

A: Yes. Crossroads is supplied by the Texas Gas Transmission ("TGT") pipeline which provides geographic and fuel diversity compared to other natural gas plants located within EMW's service territory. The portion of the TGT pipeline in Mississippi that supplies Crossroads is closer to natural gas production zones than other pipelines within EMW's service territory in western Missouri. Historically, this has usually resulted in cheaper all-in natural gas costs due to lower gas transportation fees. Importantly, the TGT pipeline has less congestion and lower reservation fees when scheduling the natural gas to the plant. Since the TGT pipeline has less congestion, EMW customers are not required to pay for firm transport like they are for plants located on pipelines closer to the EMW customer base. Instead, EMW can purchase firm delivered gas call options. So rather than paying for firm transport, which is an incurred expense regardless of whether or not the commodity is purchased and flowed to the plant, EMW pays to receive gas supplied by TGT only when the firm delivered gas call option is exercised. This means the cost of firm transport is only incurred at the time the commodity is flowed to the plant and the full costs (transport plus natural gas fees) are included in the commodity charge.

As evidenced during Winter Storm Uri in February 2021, the geographic diversity of Crossroads' gas supply allows the plant to sell power into SPP in times of peak conditions when SPP prices reflect elevated natural gas costs. When Crossroads is dispatched by the SPP and is able to capture its market opportunity

potential, the margins benefit EMW customers by partially offsetting other fuel and load costs.

Q: What are the expected on-going benefits of Crossroads?

A: As the utility industry plans for the energy transition from traditional fossil resources to cleaner renewables, natural gas units like Crossroads are a critical bridge technology to enable decarbonization over time. The broader electrification trends and increasing economic development activities will compound the difficulty of this energy transition as load is expected to grow at a higher pace in the next decade due to the adoption of electric vehicles and other electric technologies. SPP will need dispatchable units like Crossroads to maintain a diverse generation portfolio as more intermittent renewable resources are interconnected to the system over time[6]. Crossroads' ability to burn readily available natural gas will play a critical role in maintaining reliable operations while new technologies like hydrogen generation, long-duration energy storage, and small modular nuclear reactors become commercially available at scale and economically viable.

Q: How is Crossroads evaluated in EMW's Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP")?

A: Historically, the Crossroads facility was assumed to be available to meet capacity and energy needs throughout the 20-year planning period. This is consistent with historical IRP treatment of other peaking facilities which are typically not evaluated

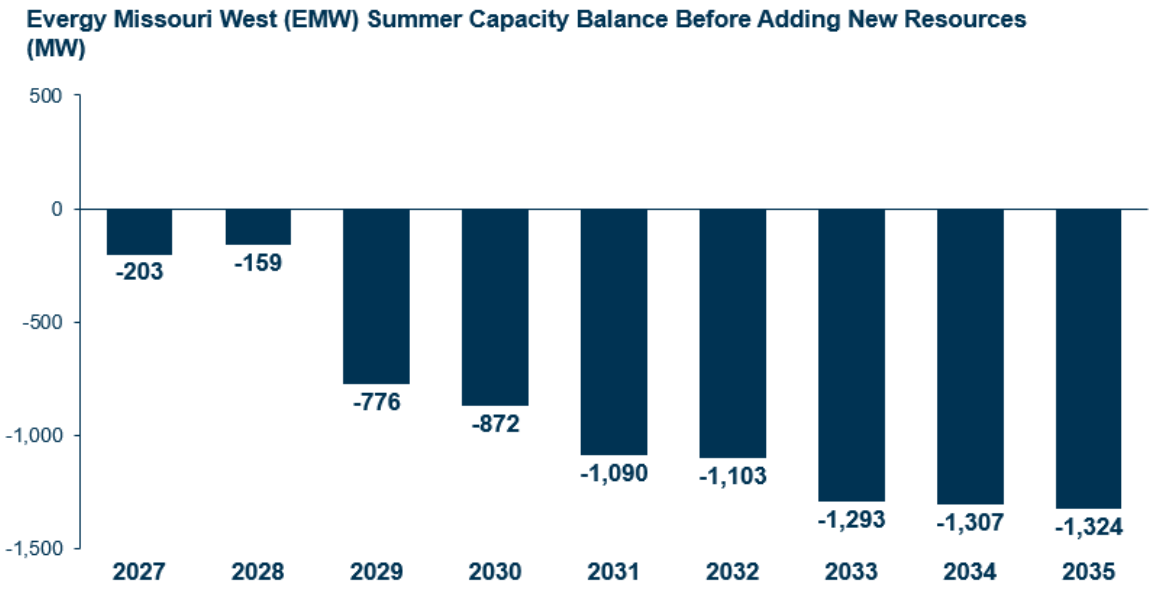
[6] According to SPP's current Commercial Operation Date Forecast, approximately 161 GW of future generation is in active study status, including approximately 43 GW of solar and 32 GW of wind generation. Together, wind and solar represent approximately 75 GW, or 47% of the active-study generation, compared with approximately 29 GW, or 18%, of traditional thermal generation.

for retirement unless there is a large near-term cost expected or, as is the case with Crossroads, some other near-term decision-point which impacts the plant (e.g., expiring agreements or potential environmental regulations). The IRP does not apply SPP transmission costs to the individual assets, rather the SPP Network Transmission Service is charged directly to load-serving entities based on demand, not resources. The SPP transmission associated with Crossroads is treated the same as all other resources, but because Crossroads is uniquely located outside of SPP, the IRP model includes the MISO transmission expense in order for the model to appropriately evaluate its all-in cost of service.

Q: What is EMW's future capacity position?

A: EMW has a near-term capacity need. As seen in Figure 1 below, which reflects the capacity position of EMW from the 2026 Revised IRP Annual Update (Preferred Plan IDAA), EMW's summer capacity need in 2027 is approximately 200 MW and is forecasted to grow to over 1,300 MW by the mid-2030s. Of note, this analysis assumes that the Crossroads plant continues as a 300-MW capacity resource.

FIGURE 1



Q: How has EMW fulfilled its previous capacity needs?

A: In recent years, EMW has relied upon market capacity to meet a portion of its capacity needs. Much of EMW's market capacity has been supplied by its capacity purchases from Evergy Metro. Looking forward, EMW's future capacity purchases from Metro range from 200-240 MW annually from 2026 through 2028. In 2029, the year Crossroad's MISO transmission path agreement expires, Metro's net capacity position is challenging. Looking beyond 2030, Metro faces capacity needs of its own, and those needs are expected to accelerate as economic development, combined with increasing Resource Adequacy Requirements or more stringent environmental rules impacting the viability of coal-fired plants, impact Metro's capacity position.

The SPP capacity market in general is tightening and will not likely be as dependable to meet capacity obligations in the future as it has been for EMW in the past. SPP's June 2026 Resource Adequacy Report projects that, based on existing

resources alone, the SPP East Balancing Authority Area will become deficient in meeting its aggregate Resource Adequacy Requirement beginning in 2029 and will face an approximately 11,188 MW capacity deficit by 2031. These resource adequacy requirements reflect SPP's increased planning reserve margins, including a 16% summer reserve margin and a 36% winter reserve margin. SPP further projects that anticipated new resources could offset that shortfall, but cautions that uncertainty remains as to whether all proposed resources will achieve commercial operation by their projected in-service dates.[7]

Q: How does EMW expect to meet its future capacity requirements given its forecasted short net position?

A: EMW's Preferred Plan filed in the Revised 2026 IRP Annual Update includes a mix of solar, battery, and natural gas to meet these needs. Figure 2 represents the fuel type and sequence expected to be added 2027-2035.

[7] 2026 SPP Summer Resource Adequacy Report.pdf

FIGURE 2

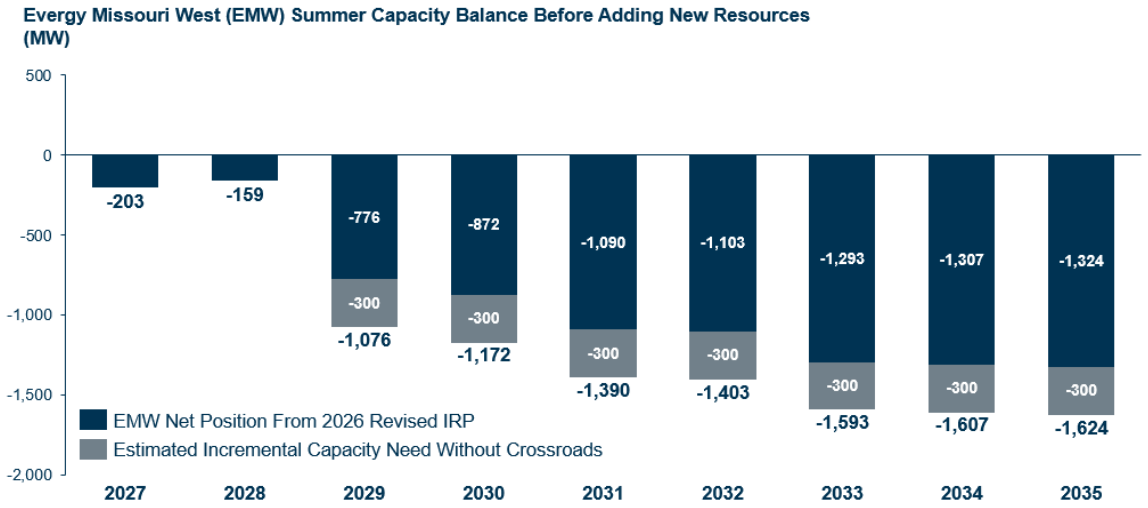
Year	Solar (MW)	Battery (MW)	Thermal (MW)	Capacity Only (Summer MW)
2027	165	0	0	110
2028	0	0	0	71
2029	0	150	355	222
2030	0	0	795	0
2031	0	0	0	0
2032	0	0	355	0
2033	0	0	0	0
2034	0	0	0	0
2035	0	0	355	0

Q: What are the implications of the Commission continuing to deny cost recovery of the MISO transmission path expense that is required to bring Crossroads capacity and energy to EMW?

A: As discussed by Company witness Darrin Ives, the continuing cost of moving this energy from Mississippi is not only a prudent component of the Company's current revenue requirement, it will also become a decision to be made about the future course of action. If the delivered cost is determined by the MPSC not to be reasonable, that will be part of the Company's evaluation of whether it will renew or extend the four 75 MW firm point-to-point MISO transmission path agreements beyond February 2029. A decision not to renew would eliminate Crossroads' ability, under the current arrangement, to provide accredited capacity to meet EMW's SPP resource adequacy requirement. Without the firm MISO transmission path, Crossroads' energy cannot be delivered into SPP on a firm basis and, more specifically, into EMW's service territory. Because the energy would no longer be deliverable from Crossroads and could not be claimed as capacity for the reserve margin requirements of SPP, EMW's accredited capacity would be reduced. The

net position reflected in Figure 1 above would effectively be decreased by 300 MW starting in 2029 and beyond, as reflected in Figure 3.

FIGURE 3



III. IRP OVERVIEW AND TREATMENT OF CROSSROADS

Q: Please describe the IRP process in Missouri.

A: The IRP process is completed under the Commission's Electric Utility Resource Planning Rules found in 20 CSR 4240-22. The IRP process results in the selection of a Preferred Plan, which reflects the combination of supply-side and demand-side resources that EMW will use to meet forecasted customer requirements for the next twenty years.

Q: What is Evergy's objective in the IRP process?

A: Evergy is guided by the Commission's Rule at 20 CSR 4240-22.010(2) which states: "The fundamental objective of the resource planning process at electric utilities shall be to provide the public with energy services that are safe, reliable, and efficient, at just and reasonable rates, in compliance with all legal mandates, and in a manner that serves the public interest and is consistent with state energy

and environmental policies." To achieve this objective, the IRP is performed using minimization of net present value of revenue requirements ("NPVRR") as the primary objective function. The IRP also considers potential risks and uncertainties which could impact the economics of a resource plan ("critical uncertain factors") and compares demand-side and supply-side resources on an equivalent basis.

Q: Why is the IRP process relevant to the discussion of Crossroads transmission costs in this case?

A: As described above, if the Commission determines that the MISO transmission path costs are not reasonable and therefore not recoverable, that decision will in turn inform the evaluation of whether to extend the transmission agreement beyond 2029; if it is not extended, the 300 MW Crossroads asset will no longer be available as capacity in the IRP to meet EMW customers' needs. The IRP process is the appropriate mechanism through which alternative capacity options are assessed and ultimately selected as part of EMW's updated Preferred Plan if the Crossroads transmission agreement is not extended.

Q: Why is the IRP the appropriate mechanism to assess EMW's needs and what resources are most effective in meeting those needs?

A: The IRP is built with EMW's long-term load forecast as its foundation and starting point. This load forecast represents EMW customers' need for energy over the next 20 years, and the peak in each year establishes EMW's capacity requirement (i.e., the amount of accredited capacity required to meet SPP resource adequacy requirements). Within the IRP, every evaluated plan is built in order to meet these customer needs, meaning that every plan includes sufficient capacity and energy to

meet EMW needs. From there, the IRP process determines which of those plans is lowest-cost on a risk-adjusted basis.

As a result, a Preferred Plan selected from the IRP is the combination of resources which most effectively and economically meet EMW customer needs over the long-term, based on integrated risk analysis in a wide variety of potential scenarios. This integrated, long-term analysis is the appropriate way to assess customer needs and different resources because no resource decision can be made in a vacuum. Any decision made regarding a resource at a point in time will impact the decisions that need to be made in the future. The IRP assesses those trade-offs over time through the construction of lowest-cost resource plans over a 20-year period.

Q: How will the potential expiration of the Crossroads transmission agreement be evaluated in the upcoming 2027 Triennial IRP?

A: The 2027 Triennial IRP is planned to be filed on April 1, 2027. In that filing, the Preferred Plan is expected to be constructed assuming that Crossroads transmission costs are recovered from customers, as requested in this case, and that the agreement is ultimately extended beyond 2029 to keep the asset available to EMW customers. If the costs are deemed by the Commission not to be reasonable, a contingency plan will be evaluated that assumes the transmission agreement is not extended and that identifies the next lowest-cost plan which replaces the capacity and energy currently provided by Crossroads. A comparison of potential Preferred Plans that may be evaluated as part of the 2027 IRP process, both with and without Crossroads, may be available to support future rounds of testimony in this case.

IV. FUTURE DECISIONS REGARDING ALTERNATIVE CAPACITY COSTS AND TIMING

Q: What are the implications for EMW and its customers if Crossroads is lost as a capacity resource in 2029?

A: EMW's current and future capacity obligations, as well as SPP's reserve margin requirements, will not change regardless of the Commission's decision on the reasonableness and recoverability of the MISO transmission path expense. Without Crossroads, EMW will need to find a replacement resource, ideally with a resource of similar dispatch characteristics. While this resource will very likely be situated in the Southwest Power Pool and thereby avoid the equivalent transmission costs of Crossroads, it is likely to be significantly more expensive overall, as described above. The IRP may select to build new dispatchable resource options like simple-cycle natural gas turbines, comparable to the Crossroads plant.

Q: What are the current cost projections to build new dispatchable generation similar to Crossroads?

A: EMW's 2026 IRP estimated the cost to build a simple-cycle natural gas plant similar to the Crossroads plant to be ** [redacted] ** in 2031.

Q: How do the annual revenue requirements of Crossroads compare to that of new dispatchable generation?

A: The currently allowed annual revenue requirement for Crossroads is approximately $5 million.[8] When combined with the current annual MISO transmission path expense of approximately $20 million under the FERC-approved transmission

[8] Includes return on generation rate base, depreciation, non-fuel operations and maintenance, property tax, and property insurance expenses. Excludes fuel-related expenses.

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service tariff, the all-in annual revenue requirement would be approximately $25 million. Assuming the plant runs for another twenty years, and the MISO transmission expense continues to increase at the same pace as it has since 2014, the twenty-year NPVRR of Crossroads is estimated to be approximately $376 million.[9]

For comparison purposes, if Crossroads were replaced by 300 MWs of newly-built simple-cycle combustion turbines built in SPP and in line with EMW's 2026 IRP simple cycle gas turbine cost assumptions, the estimated annual revenue requirement, excluding fuel, in year one is around $102 million. The twenty-year NPVRR of the new turbine would be approximately $870 million.

Thus, based on the assumptions described above, the estimated 20-year NPVRR of retaining Crossroads is approximately $376 million, compared with approximately $870 million for 300 MW of new simple-cycle generation, a difference of approximately $494 million.

Q: How does a decision in this impact EMW's future consideration of Crossroads?

A: In this case, EMW is asking the Commission to include the delivered cost of Crossroads, including the MISO transmission costs that have been set by a tariff approved by FERC, in rates, as these transmission costs are prudent and reasonable and are an integral part of Crossroads' cost of service. The Commission's decision in this case also has significant implications on capacity needs starting in 2029. If the Commission determines that the delivered costs of Crossroads are not

[9] The Crossroads MISO transmission expense has increased at a 4.7 % compound annual growth rate 2014 – 2025.

reasonable, the Company will need to consider that determination in the evaluation of whether to renew the MISO transmission path once the current contracts expire. If EMW ultimately determines not to renew the transmission agreements, it will need to pursue an alternative resource strategy on a compressed schedule. Given that this issue was deferred from EMW's 2024 rate case and the timelines required to build new power plants, it is now already too late to fully develop a firm dispatchable replacement resource to be commercially available commensurate with the expiration of the MISO transmission reservations in 2029.

Q: Is EMW requesting the recovery of any other new Crossroads cost in addition to the MISO transmission path expense?

A: No. EMW does not request future rate base recovery of any of the disallowed portion of generation rate base. The Company also does not request recovery of any past disallowed costs of either MISO transmission expenses or past amounts of disallowed Crossroads' generation rate base.

Q: Is EMW requesting full recovery of the MISO transmission path expense in this case?

A: Yes. EMW requests full recovery of the current cost of MISO firm point-to-point transmission path expense. The annual retail revenue requirement expense attributable to the MISO transmission path in this case is approximately $20 million.

V. SUMMARY

Q: Is Crossroads more valuable to EMW's customers today than when it was added to the portfolio?

A: Yes. The Commission found Crossroads to be the lowest cost option when it was added in 2008, and its value to customers has grown since then. In my view it is more valuable and cost-effective today than at any point since it joined EMW's portfolio. Four developments account for that.

First, SPP now requires load-serving entities to carry more capacity and has tightened how it accredits that capacity. As I explained above, SPP's planning reserve margin requirements are now 36% for the winter season and 16% for the summer season, effective summer 2026 and winter 2026/2027. Because EMW must hold more accredited capacity to serve the same load, each accredited megawatt is worth more to customers than it was. Crossroads provides 300 MW of firm, dispatchable capacity with a high accreditation factor that counts toward that higher requirement.

Second, the regional supply of capacity is tightening. As I described above, SPP's June 2026 Resource Adequacy Report projects that, based on existing resources alone, the SPP East Balancing Authority Area will become deficient beginning in 2029 and will face an approximately 11,188 MW capacity deficit by 2031. SPP cautions that uncertainty remains as to whether all proposed new resources will reach commercial operation on time. A dispatchable, accredited resource that is already built and operating is therefore worth more now than when the market was long on capacity.

Third, EMW's own need for capacity has grown, and its alternatives to Crossroads have narrowed. As shown in Figure 1, EMW has a near-term capacity need that grows to 1300 MW by the mid-2030s, and that forecast assumes Crossroads continues as a 300 MW resource. EMW has relied on capacity purchases from Evergy Metro to fill part of its position, but Metro faces capacity needs of its own with the planned retirement of La Cygne 1 in 2038.

Fourth, the cost of replacing Crossroads has risen significantly over time. SPP's current CONE is $139.85/kW-year. At that level, the loss of Crossroads would equate to deficiency payments of approximately $52 million to $84 million annually, against an all-in annual cost for Crossroads of approximately $25 million, including transmission. Recent Midwest IRPs project the cost of new simple-cycle gas plants at $2,000/kW or more and EMW's 2026 IRP assumptions put the twenty-year NPVRR of 300 MW of new turbines at approximately $870 million, compared to approximately $376 million for Crossroads.

Taken together, Crossroads is providing capacity at a time when accredited capacity is scarcer, required in greater amounts, and more expensive to replace than when the Commission found it to be the lowest cost option.

That is why EMW believes the Commission should determine that the delivered cost of Crossroads is prudent and reasonable and is appropriately reflected in the revenue requirement in this case. The determination of the reasonableness of the delivered cost of Crossroads is also informative before the Company evaluates future decisions on the transmission service.

Q: Please summarize your testimony.

A: EMW asks the Commission to include the current delivered cost of Crossroads, including the MISO transmission path expenses, in EMW's retail rates in this case, as these fully delivered costs are prudent and reasonable. The delivered costs of Crossroads compare favorably to alternative sources of capacity and energy for Missouri West, which are significantly more expensive.

While EMW is not asking the Commission to reach any decision regarding the renewal of the MISO transmission path in 2029 as part of this case, including the delivered costs of Crossroads in rates would also help to inform EMW's evaluation of the renewal decision. This is a decision that EMW is already confronting, given the long lead times typically required to identify potential resource alternatives. Based on the current evaluation of alternative options, EMW expects that retaining Crossroads, including the full cost of the transmission path, would deliver the lowest-cost NPVRR option relative to alternatives and be in the best interest of EMW's customers.

Q: Does that conclude your testimony?

A: Yes, it does.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West's Request for Authority to Implement A General Rate Increase for Electric Service	))))	Case No. ER-2027-0077

AFFIDAVIT OF CODY VANDEVELDE

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss
COUNTY OF JACKSON)

Cody VandeVelde, being first duly sworn on his oath, states:

1. My name is Cody VandeVelde. I work in Topeka, Kansas and I am employed by Evergy Metro, Inc. as Senior Director, Strategy and Long-Term Planning - Energy Resource Management.

2. Attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes is my Direct Testimony on behalf of Evergy Missouri West consisting of twenty-three (23) 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.

Cody VandeVelde

Subscribed and sworn before me this 3rd day of November 2026.

Notary Public

My commission expires: April 26, 2029

ANTHONY R WESTENKIRCHNER
NOTARY PUBLIC - NOTARY SEAL
STATE OF MISSOURI
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES APRIL 26, 2029
PLATTE COUNTY
COMMISSION #17279952

Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West

Docket No.: ER-2027-0077
Date: November 3, 2026

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

The following information is provided to the Missouri Public Service Commission under CONFIDENTIAL SEAL:

Document/Page	Reason for Confidentiality from List Below
VandeVelde Direct, p. 18, ln. 17	3, 4, and 6

Rationale for the "confidential" designation pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-2.135 is documented below:

1. Customer-specific information;

2. Employee-sensitive personnel information;

3. Marketing analysis or other market-specific information relating to services offered in competition with others;

4. Marketing analysis or other market-specific information relating to goods or services purchased or acquired for use by a company in providing services to customers;

5. Reports, work papers, or other documentation related to work produced by internal or external auditors, consultants, or attorneys, except that total amounts billed by each external auditor, consultant, or attorney for services related to general rate proceedings shall always be public;

6. Strategies employed, to be employed, or under consideration in contract negotiations;

7. Relating to the security of a company's facilities; or

8. Concerning trade secrets, as defined in section 417.453, RSMo.

9. Other (specify) _____.

Should any party challenge the Company's assertion of confidentiality with respect to the above information, the Company reserves the right to supplement the rationale contained herein with additional factual or legal information.