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Exhibit No. 13

Evergy Missouri Metro – Exhibit 13
Direct Testimony of Cody VandeVelde
Case No. EA-2026-0154

Exhibit No.:	
Issue:	Integrated Resource Planning and Preferred Plan Support
Witness:	Cody VandeVelde
Type of Exhibit:	Direct Testimony
Sponsoring Party:	Evergy Missouri Metro
Case No.:	EA-2026-0154
Date Testimony Prepared:	May 14, 2026

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE NO. EA-2026-0154

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

CODY VANDEVELDE

ON BEHALF OF

EVERGY MISSOURI METRO

Kansas City, Missouri
May 2026

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DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

CODY VANDEVELDE

CASE NO. EA-2026-0154

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 Kansas Central, Inc. and serve as Senior Director, Strategy and Long-Term Planning - Energy Resource Management for Evergy Metro, Inc. ("Evergy Metro") d/b/a as Evergy Missouri Metro ("Evergy Missouri Metro", "EMM", "Applicant", or the "Company"), Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West ("Evergy Missouri West" or "EMW"), Evergy Metro, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Kansas Metro ("Evergy Kansas Metro"), and Evergy Kansas Central, Inc. and Evergy Kansas South, Inc., collectively d/b/a as Evergy Kansas Central ("Evergy Kansas Central"). These are the operating utilities of Evergy, Inc. ("Evergy")

Q: Who are you testifying for?

A: I am testifying on behalf of Evergy Missouri Metro.

Q: What are your responsibilities?

A: My responsibilities include development of Evergy's corporate strategy and overseeing Evergy's long-term planning functions. Long-term planning includes Evergy's Energy Resource Management division which is responsible for completing the Company's Integrated Resource Plans ("IRP"). Specifically related to this testimony, Corporate

Strategy monitors the execution of Evergy's strategic initiatives, one of which is the advancement of transitioning 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 the power marketing, investor relations, long-term planning, and corporate strategy departments.

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

A: Yes. I have offered testimony before the PSC, the Kansas Corporation Commission ("KCC"), and 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 how Evergy Metro's Annual IRP Update, filed on May 7, 2026, in No. EO-2026-0188, supports the Company's Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CCN") Application in this case.

Specifically, I explain how Evergy Missouri Metro's proposal to construct, install, own, operate, maintain, and control Mullin Creek Unit #2 ("Mullin Creek #2" or the "Project"), a 440 MW simple-cycle natural gas ("SCGT") generating plant to be constructed in Nodaway County, Missouri, will help advance Metro's Preferred Plan.

I also explain how the Project fits within Evergy Metro's broader long-term strategy to meet growing capacity needs through flexible, reliable, and dispatchable generation resources. Specifically, the addition of Mullin Creek #2 represents the next phase in Evergy's long-term strategy to meet growing capacity needs. This plant will enhance

flexible, reliable, and dispatchable generation for the benefit of all of Metro's Missouri customers while continuing to reduce carbon emissions and other environmental risks.

II. THE IRP PROCESS AND EVERGY METRO'S PREFERRED RESOURCE PLANS

Q: How does the IRP process operate in Missouri?

A: The IRP process is conducted under the Commission's Electric Utility Resource Planning Rules which are contained in Chapter 22 (Electric Utility Resource Planning) which is found in 20 Missouri Code of State Regulations (CSR), Division 4240. It results in the selection of a Preferred Plan, which reflects the combination of supply-side and demand-side resources that Metro 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 Section 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, Evergy Metro's IRP is performed using "minimization" of the net present value of revenue requirements ("NPVRR") as the primary objective function, pursuant to Section 22.010(2)(B). The IRP process compares demand-side and supply-side resources on an equivalent basis.

Q: Why is the IRP process important to the Company and its customers?

A: The IRP process evaluates significant risks and uncertainties to solve for reliability and affordability and serves as the foundation for future resource planning decisions.

Identifying Preferred Plans for Evergy Metro as a result of this process is integral to the Company's strategy and planning across generation, transmission, and distribution.

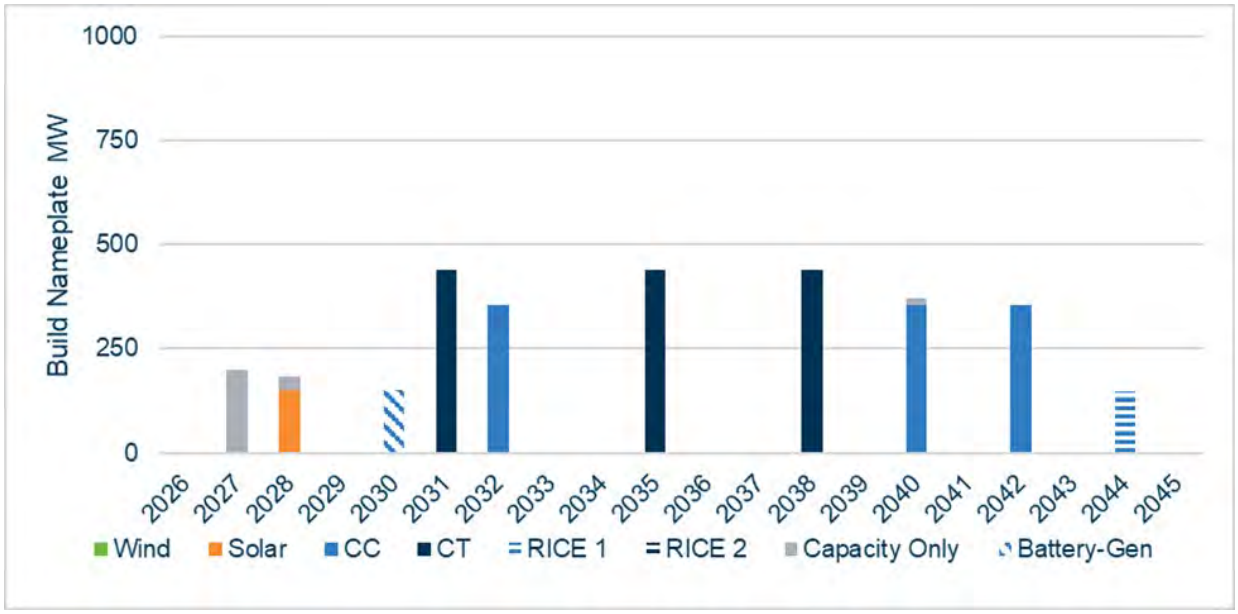
Q: Please describe Evergy Metro's most recent Preferred Plan.

A: As presented in the 2026 Annual IRP Update filed on May 7, 2026, Evergy Metro's Preferred Plan, known as Plan ACAA, is as follows:

Figure 1: Evergy Metro's Preferred Plan - Plan ACAA (tabular)

Year	Wind (MW)	Solar (MW)	Battery (MW)	Thermal (MW)	Capacity (Summer MW)	DSM (Summer MW)	Retirements (MW)
2026	0	0	0	0	0	143	0
2027	0	0	0	0	201	169	0
2028	0	150	0	0	32	192	0
2029	0	0	0	0	0	151	0
2030	0	0	150	0	0	150	0
2031	0	0	0	440	0	150	0
2032	0	0	0	355	0	148	0
2033	0	0	0	0	0	146	0
2034	0	0	0	0	0	146	0
2035	0	0	0	440	0	145	0
2036	0	0	0	0	0	144	0
2037	0	0	0	0	0	141	0
2038	0	0	0	440	0	137	375
2039	0	0	0	0	0	134	0
2040	0	0	0	355	16	134	0
2041	0	0	0	0	0	133	0
2042	0	0	0	355	0	132	0
2043	0	0	0	0	0	130	0
2044	0	0	0	148	0	129	0
2045	0	0	0	0	0	130	0

Figure 2: Evergy Metro's Preferred Plan - Plan ACAA (graphical)



Q: Is Mullin Creek #2 essential for Evergy Metro to implement its Preferred Plan?

A: Yes. The Project is vital to meet Evergy Metro's capacity and energy requirements as identified in the 2026 Annual IRP Update. Evergy Metro's 100% ownership of Mullin Creek #2 specifically corresponds to the 440 MW of thermal resources identified in year 2031 in the Company's 2026 IRP Preferred Plan.

The need for a 440 MW simple-cycle gas turbine in 2031 was first identified in Evergy Metro's 2025 Annual IRP Update (Preferred Plan AAAA, filed March 13, 2025 in Case No. EO-2025-0250) and has been confirmed in the 2026 Annual Update (Preferred Plan ACAA, filed May 7, 2026 in Case No. EO-2026-0188). Importantly, the 2031 combustion turbine ("CT") was selected as part of the lowest cost resource plan to meet customer needs in every scenario that it was tested across both the 2025 and 2026 IRPs. This occurred regardless of the retirement scenario, critical uncertain factor assumptions, or near-term build option tested. For example, in the 2026 IRP, Plans AAAA, ABAA, and ACAA all selected the 2031 CT despite testing three different coal retirement schedules.

Plans optimized for low CO_2, high CO_2, high natural gas prices, and low natural gas price futures all continued to select Mullin Creek #2. In both IRPs, scenarios without Mullin Creek #2 were tested and the alternative resource plans were more expensive. This consistency across two consecutive annual IRPs and across every tested scenario demonstrates that the need for this resource is robust, even when tested against changes in planning assumptions.

Q: What is Evergy Metro's need for capacity resources as it relates to the Project?

A: Evergy Metro's capacity needs are expected to grow over time, primarily due to increasing SPP planning reserve margin requirements and load growth. Evergy Metro's summer peak is forecast to grow from approximately 3.7 GW in 2026 to 4.6 GW by 2032 and 5.4 GW by 2045, representing approximately 24% and 46% system peak growth, respectively. This growth is driven in significant part by committed large-load customers, including data center customers, facilitated by the approval of the Large-Load Power Service ("LLPS") tariff by this Commission in Case No. EO-2025-0154. The total combined peak of the large-load customers included in the 2026 IRP base load forecast is projected to be approximately 900 MW at steady state, with nearly 90% of that load located in EMM's service territory.

As demonstrated by the 2026 IRP's analysis, the Project is forecasted to reduce costs for Evergy Metro customers and to meet their energy and capacity requirements over the twenty-year planning horizon. When it is fully operational, Mullin Creek #2 will help meet Evergy Metro's near-term requirement for capacity starting in the winter of 2030/31. This dispatchable thermal Project will be a critical element in Evergy Metro's plan to address its near-term capacity needs. Evergy Metro must secure dependable, "steel-in-the-

ground" resources to meet its capacity needs. In addition to being more cost-effective compared to other generating sources, Mullin Creek #2 will also serve as critical new capacity to support the growing system, providing a foundation for portfolio flexibility as Evergy Metro manages the eventual retirement of aging resources over the planning horizon.

Q: Given the price risks posed by the wholesale energy markets, does Evergy Metro need to hedge these risks?

A: Yes. Evergy Metro needs to own and operate generating capability in the form of energy resources, as well as to hedge market energy prices. Evergy Metro has been able to leverage available market capacity to meet some of its capacity needs and has relied on the wholesale market to provide physical energy.[1] Because of the recent unprecedented growth in demand, today's bilateral capacity market is tightening. While there may be capacity to meet intermittent near-term needs, the capacity market may no longer be a viable long-term option. The 2026 IRP reflects Evergy Metro's expectation that market capacity available for purchase will decline dramatically beyond 2030. SPP is in the process of significantly tightening resource adequacy requirements, including raising reserve margins, reducing capacity accreditation through performance-based and ELCC[2] methodologies, and imposing penalties for failing to meet winter requirements. Evergy expects market capacity to be scarce relative to recent history, limiting potential purchases beyond current assumptions.

[1] In August 2024 SPP approved minimum requirements of a 36% winter-season planning reserve margin (PRM) and a 16% summer-season PRM. These requirements are effective with the summer of 2026 and the winter of 2026-2027. See SPP Media Release, "SPP Board approves New Planning Reserve Margins to Protect against High Winter, Summer Use" (Aug. 6, 2024). See also Order Accepting Tariff Revisions, Southwest Power Pool Inc., No. ER24-2397-000 (FERC, Nov. 4, 2024) (approving addition of a Winter Season Resource Adequacy Requirement).

[2] ELCC refers to effective load carrying capability.

Additionally, economic conditions are expected to cause the price of any market capacity that becomes available to be higher than recent capacity market prices, making the wholesale capacity market a less cost-effective option to meet customer capacity needs. As a benefit to being a member of Southwest Power Pool, Evergy Metro can access the wholesale energy market to provide energy when its units are not dispatched due to being "out of the money." An energy hedge, like owning the new natural gas resource that is the subject of this Application, provides lower-cost energy, and can provide greater energy cost stability and security in an uncertain future.

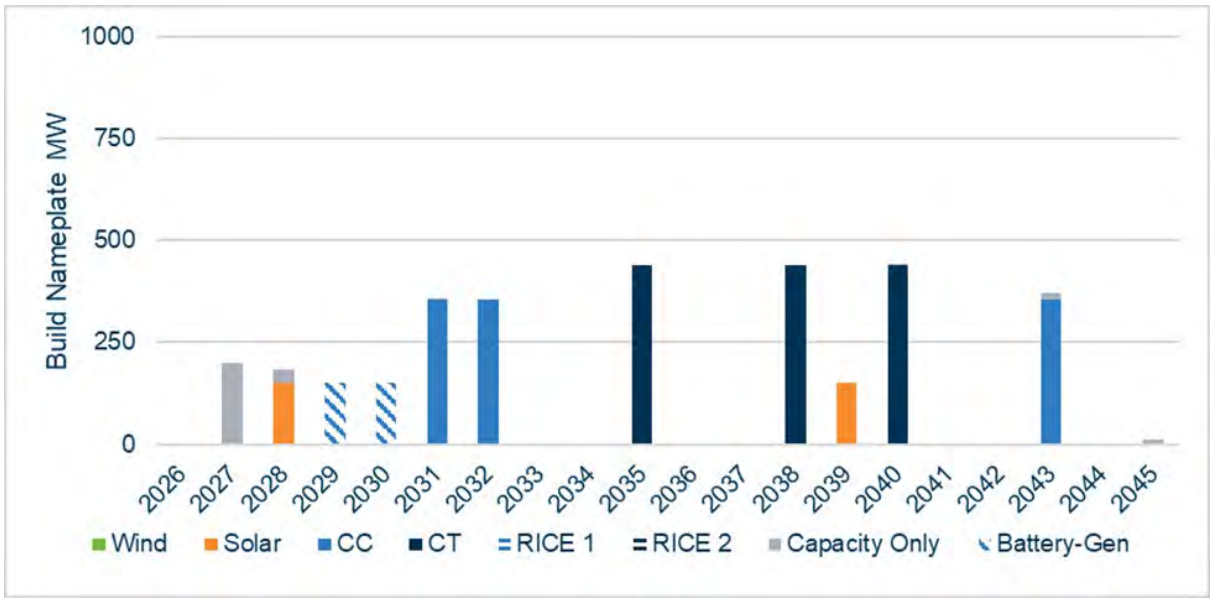
These conditions reinforce the need for Metro to add owned, dispatchable generation rather than to rely exclusively on third-party market purchases.

Q: Why is the Project the right resource to meet the Company's near-term energy and capacity needs?

A: Evergy Metro's IRP process analyzes many different generator options to evaluate the type and timing of additions that result in the least risk-adjusted cost option that reliably meets customer needs. As part of this evaluation, Evergy Metro's 2026 Annual Update tested a plan that did not allow Mullin Creek #2 to be built. Plan ACDA, shown in the figure below, removes Mullin Creek #2 in 2031 as a resource option for capacity expansion. The plan continues to pick 150 MW of solar in 2028, 150 MW of storage in 2030 and ½ combined-cycle gas turbine ("CCGT") in 2032. However, it adds an additional 150 MW of storage in 2029 and selects ½ CCGT in 2031. The plan also selects in 2035 and 2038 CTs consistent with ACAA but diverges in the later years with 150 MW of solar in 2039, a CT in 2040, and a ½ CCGT in 2043. This Plan ACDA, which does not include Mullin Creek

#2 as an option, resulted in an approximately $245 million *higher* net present value revenue requirement ("NPVRR") when compared to Metro's Preferred Plan ACAA.

Figure 3: No Mullin Creek #2 Plan ACDA



As part of its resource planning, Evergy evaluates different natural gas technologies for different operating roles. For instance, combined-cycle gas turbines generally achieve greater efficiency, lower heat rates, and lower fuel costs because they capture exhaust heat and use it to produce additional power, but they also require higher upfront capital investment and are generally designed to run more frequently.

By contrast, a simple-cycle gas turbine such as Mullin Creek #2 has a lower upfront capital cost and provides high operational flexibility, making it well-suited as a peaking resource that can deliver needed power during periods of peak demand or extreme weather. Although an SCGT typically runs less often and has a higher marginal cost than a combined-cycle unit, its dispatchability and fast-response characteristics make it an important part of a balanced resource portfolio.

The 440 MW simple-cycle gas turbine Mullin Creek #2 will be built in Evergy Missouri West's service territory in Nodaway County, adjacent to Mullin Creek #1, but the Project will be structured to serve Evergy Metro's Missouri customers. It will provide flexible, dispatchable capacity that can be called upon during periods of higher demand and extreme system conditions.

The Project also reflects Evergy's "design once, build many" philosophy by applying proven designs, contracting strategies, and lessons learned from Mullin Creek #1. Mullin Creek #2 is configured as a twin to the Mullin Creek #1 facility approved for Evergy Missouri West in CCN Case No. EA-2025-0075. The twin configuration provides significant cost and schedule advantages by leveraging shared site infrastructure including gas pipeline interconnection, electrical switchyard, access roads, water supply, and common facilities. Evergy has engaged the same OE/EPC[3] contractor for both units, enabling procurement efficiencies for turbine equipment, civil works, and balance-of-plant systems.

Q: Could the capacity need filled by Mullin Creek #2 instead be met by renewable or storage resources?

A: No, not reliably or cost-effectively. As previously mentioned, the IRP analysis directly tested this question through Plan ACDA, which removed Mullin Creek #2 as a resource option. Even without that option, the capacity expansion model did not replace the CT with renewables.

Several factors limit the viability of renewables as a substitute for Mullin Creek #2. First, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), signed in July 2025, shortened the

[3] This refers to an Owners' Engineer and an Engineer, Procure and Construct contractor.

eligibility window for new wind and solar projects to qualify for the production tax credit. New wind and solar must begin operation before 2028, or begin construction by July 4, 2026, and begin operation before 2030. These conditions make PTC-eligible renewables unavailable for the 2031 timeframe. Second, renewable and storage resource costs have increased approximately **[redacted]** and **[redacted]**, respectively, since the 2025 IRP. Third, solar project development in Missouri faces significant local opposition and permitting challenges, including legislative proposals that could delay solar development statewide. Fourth, under SPP's ELCC accreditation methodology, the capacity value of renewable and battery resources is expected to degrade over time as more such resources are added to the system. As a result, renewable resources contribute less to meeting reserve margin requirements with each incremental addition. Finally, battery storage is duration-limited and cannot substitute for the sustained, dispatchable energy output that a 440 MW combustion turbine provides during extended periods of peak demand or extreme weather.

All of these factors were taken into consideration in the Company's 2026 IRP modeling and contributed to the continued selection of Mullin Creek #2 as the best resource to meet customer needs.

Q: Does the Project address winter reliability concerns?

A: Yes. Winter capacity needs are a growing concern for Evergy Metro and the SPP region. SPP implemented a Winter Resource Adequacy Requirement beginning with the 2025–26 winter season, with winter planning reserve margins (PRM) increasing from 36% to 38% by winter 2029/30.[4] Evergy Metro's 2026 IRP forecasts winter capacity needs will exceed

[4] See Order Accepting Tariff Revisions, Southwest Power Pool, Inc., 192 FERC ¶ 61,161, No. ER-25-89-000 (Aug. 19, 2025) (approving SPP tariffs setting a 17% PRM for the 2029 Summer Season and a 38% PRM for the 2029-2030 Winter Season.

300 MW by winter 2028/29, growing to almost 700 MW by winter 2031/32 and 800 MW by winter 2033/34.[5] These winter needs are even greater than summer needs in most years.

Mullin Creek #2, as a firm-fueled, dispatchable gas turbine, provides full accredited capacity in both summer and winter seasons. Under SPP's Performance-Based Accreditation, a new SCGT resource with firm fuel supply is expected to receive approximately 97% accreditation, far exceeding the winter ELCC values for solar (approximately 25–30%) or battery storage resources (approximately 50-60%). The Project is essential to meeting Evergy Metro's winter reliability obligations.

Q: Are there risks associated with delaying the Project?

A: Yes, there are significant risks. Costs for new gas turbines have increased substantially due to supply chain constraints, inflation, limited manufacturing capacity, and strong demand growth driven by data center investment nationwide. S&P Global has reported wait times of 5–7 years for gas-turbine orders and cost increases of over 200% compared to a few years ago.[6] Evergy Metro's 2026 Annual IRP Update estimates total costs for new natural gas-fired additions are approximately **[redacted]**% higher than forecasted just one year ago in the 2025 Annual Update.[7]

Delaying the Project would risk losing the cost and schedule advantages of the twin-unit configuration with Mullin Creek #1, forfeiting the procurement efficiencies already secured with the EPC contractor, and exposing Metro to further cost escalation in a market with constrained turbine supply. Any delay could push the Project beyond the window

[5] See 2026 Evergy Metro Annual IRP Update at Section 10.1: Changes to Expected Capacity Needs., No. EO-2026-00188 (May, 7 2026).
[6] Anderson, Jared, "Wait Times for US Gas-Fired Turbines Averaging 5-7 Years, Costs Up Sharply, " S&P Capital IQ (May 25, 2025).
[7] See 2026 Evergy Metro Annual IRP Update at Section 2.4: Continued Increase in New Build Costs, Long Lead Times for Development., No. EO-2026-0188 (May 7, 2026).

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needed to meet Metro's capacity requirements, forcing reliance on expensive and scarce market capacity purchases and exposing customers to reliability risk and potential SPP deficiency payments.

Q: Are the cost estimates for Mullin Creek #2 provided by Evergy witness J Kyle Olson consistent with the estimates used in Evergy Metro's 2026 IRP Annual Update analysis?

A: Yes. As discussed in Section 6 (Supply Side Resource Options) of the 2026 IRP Annual Update, the Company used an estimate of **[redacted]** to construct an SCGT in 2031.

Q: What are the criteria or cut-off points to determine which large-load customers are included as inputs into Evergy's 2026 IRP Annual Update?

A: Evergy has a large pipeline of prospective new large load customers, but not all are included in base load planning until certain progress on Evergy's internal review process has been met to avoid exposing our Preferred Plan to unnecessary risks. Generally, for a large load to be included into base load IRP planning, Evergy expects that a large load customer project have met at least one of these criteria: (1) has recently commenced electric service from Evergy, (2) has executed an energy services agreement ("ESA") under the LLPS tariff, or (3) has a finalized SPP load addition study (typically Attachment AQ) and expects to execute an LLPS ESA within the next 3-6 months.

Q: Please describe the large-load customers that were evaluated and ultimately included as inputs into Evergy Metro's 2026 Annual IRP Update.

A: Evergy Metro, Inc. has three specific large load customers that meet the criteria for base load planning and were incorporated into all load forecast scenarios (low, mid, and high) for the 2026 IRP.

The total combined peak of these three large load customers is projected to be approximately 900 MW at steady state. The largest of the three customers is located in Evergy Missouri Metro's ("EMM") service territory. This largest customer is currently using electricity for active site construction and executed an LLPS ESA in the first quarter of 2026. It was previously incorporated into Evergy Metro's 2025 Annual Update Preferred Plan load forecast. Additionally, there is a second, smaller customer that is located in EMM's territory that is also online. This customer is receiving service under an existing Large Power Service tariff due to its current peak MW load being projected below the 75 MW threshold for LLPS qualification. When and if this customer develops to exceed the 75 MW threshold, Evergy will work to transition it to the LLPS tariff. Combined, these two EMM customers account for nearly 90% of the total large load incorporated into the Company's 2026 IRP base load forecast.

Lastly, the third large load is in Evergy Kansas Metro's territory and accounts for the remaining 10% of the total large load included in the 2026 IRP load forecast. This customer's project is not yet online, but it has completed the required SPP load addition study (Attachment AQ). The project has also nearly completed Evergy's large load process as it is in the final commercial negotiation stage. This customer qualifies for the LLPS tariff and is expected to have an ESA executed later in 2026.

III. ADDITIONAL CAPACITY CONTRACT & RESOURCES

Q: In addition to the Project, what is Evergy Metro doing to obtain additional capacity in order to satisfy its capacity and energy needs?

A: The Company's 2026 IRP Preferred Plan addresses the most pressing capacity deficits with three other resource additions in the near-term that were consistently selected across most

alternative resource plans tested. First, a 150 MW solar project in 2028, which qualifies for the production tax credit, adds renewable energy and contributes to Missouri RES compliance. Next, a 150 MW battery storage project in 2030, qualifying for the investment tax credit, provides dispatchable winter and summer capacity during the years of greatest near-term deficit. Finally, a half combined-cycle gas turbine (355 MW) in 2032, likely to be jointly owned with Evergy Missouri West, adds efficient baseload energy as the system transitions from net energy seller to a position requiring new generation to match growing customer consumption. Between 2026 and 2030, which is before these three owned resources come online, Evergy Metro will maintain its capacity position through market capacity purchases and continuation of demand response programs.

IV. GENERATION PORTFOLIO OF EVERGY METRO

Q: In light of Evergy Metro's current generation resources, what value does the Project bring to that portfolio?

A: The table below reflects Evergy Metro's capacity portfolio by resource fuel type as shown in Metro's 2026 Annual IRP Update.

Figure 4: Evergy Metro's Capacity By Resource Type

Jurisdiction	Capacity by Fuel Type	Capacity (MW)	Capacity (%)	Energy (MWh)	Energy (%)
Evergy Metro	Coal	2,274	42%	9,365,017	51%
	Nuclear	553	10%	4,356,483	24%
	Natural Gas/Oil	1,208	22%	740,475	4%
	Renewable*	1,337	25%	3,773,494	21%
Total		**5,373**	**100%**	**18,235,469**	**100%**

**Nameplate renewables capacity*

Evergy Metro has approximately 5,373 MW of capacity which consists of roughly two-thirds fossil-fuel resources and the remaining one-third renewable resources. Mullin Creek #2 will add 440 MW of dispatchable natural gas capacity to that portfolio, thus adding energy resources that produce most of their power in peak summer and winter conditions when demand and grid constraints are typically highest.

Q: What are your key conclusions about the Project?

A: Mullin Creek #2 is being developed as part of Evergy Metro's preferred resource plan and will produce economic benefits for customers when compared to available alternatives while meeting future capacity and energy needs. The Project provides the dispatchable generation called for by SPP in its recent "Generational Challenge" report, which cites the critical need for such resources.[8] The Project also advances Evergy Metro's long-term, responsible energy transition by providing a hedge against risks associated with energy and fuel prices.

The Commission should grant a CCN for the Project which meets the fundamental goal of the Commission's Electric Utility Resource Planning Rule that Missouri's electric utilities provide safe, reliable, and efficient energy services at just and reasonable rates in a manner that serves the public interest.

Q: Does that conclude your testimony?

A: Yes, it does.

[8] See Schedule CV-1, Southwest Power Pool, Inc., "Our Generational Challenge: A Reliable Future for Electricity" at 3 ("We need dispatchable generation for times when the wind isn't blowing and the sun isn't shining …"), 8, 12 and 34 (Summer 2024), Direct Testimony of Code VandeVelde, No. EA-2025-0075 (filed Nov. 15, 2024).

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Evergy Metro, Inc., d/b/a Evergy Missouri Metro for Permission and Approval of a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity Authorizing it to Construct, Install, Own, Operate, Manage, Maintain, and Control a Natural Gas Electrical Production Facility	))))))	Case No. EA-2026-0154

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 Metro consisting of sixteen (16) 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 14th day of May 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 Metro West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West

Docket No.: EA-2026-0154
Date: May 14, 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. 11, ln. 5	3, 4, and 6
VandeVelde Direct, p. 12, ln. 15	3, 4, and 6
VandeVelde Direct, p. 13, ln. 8	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.