

# Exhibit No. 75

Evergy Missouri Metro – Exhibit 75  
Jessica L. Tucker  
Direct Testimony  
File Nos. ER-2022-0129 & ER-2022-0130

**Public Version**

Exhibit No.:  
Issue: Fuel Runs, Fuel Inventories, Fuel Prices, FAC  
Witness: Jessica L. Tucker  
Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony  
Sponsoring Party: Evergy Missouri Metro  
Case No.: ER-2022-0129  
Date Testimony Prepared: January 7, 2022

**MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**CASE NO.: ER-2022-0129**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY**

**OF**

**JESSICA L. TUCKER**

**ON BEHALF OF**

**EVERGY MISSOURI METRO**

**Kansas City, Missouri  
January 2022**

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY**

**OF**

**JESSICA L. TUCKER**

**Case No. ER-2022-0129**

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

2 A: My name is Jessica L. Tucker. 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 Metro, Inc. ("Evergy Metro"). I serve as Senior Manager,  
6 Fuels & Emissions for Evergy Metro d/b/a as Evergy Missouri Metro ("Evergy  
7 Missouri Metro" or "Company"), Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West  
8 ("Evergy Missouri West"), Evergy Metro d/b/a Evergy Kansas Metro ("Evergy  
9 Kansas Metro"), and Evergy Kansas Central, Inc. and Evergy South, Inc., collectively d/  
10 b/a as Evergy Kansas Central ("Evergy Kansas Central") the operating utilities of Evergy, Inc.

11 **Q: On whose behalf are you testifying?**

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

13 **Q: What are your primary responsibilities?**

14 A: My primary responsibilities include management and oversight of fuel procurement and  
15 logistics (apart from natural gas) as well as coal combustion residual product  
16 management and marketing for Company operated generating stations.

17 **Q: Please describe your education, experience and employment history?**

18 A: I graduated Summa Cum Laude from Kansas State University in December 1999 with a  
19 Bachelor's of Science degree in Agriculture. I began my career in the energy industry in

1 January 2001 with Aquila as an Associate Hourly Trader. In this role, my efforts were  
2 focused on executing short term physical power transactions in the real-time market  
3 across various North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”) regions. My  
4 employment with KCP&L began in August of 2002 as an Hourly Trader on the real-time  
5 desk. From August 2002 to May 2006, my role focused on buying and selling power in  
6 the real-time market. In June 2006, I was promoted to Interchange Marketer, which  
7 focused my trading activity on day ahead and monthly power transactions. I was also a  
8 part of KCP&L’s Regional Transmission Organization (“RTO”) integration team that  
9 prepared the generation dispatching and trading area for participation in the Southwest  
10 Power Pool (“SPP”) Energy Imbalance Service (“EIS”) market, which launched on  
11 February 1, 2007. In November 2010, I was promoted to Manager, System Operations  
12 (Power). My primary responsibility was to oversee 24x7 Power Control Center  
13 functions, which consisted of real time and day ahead power trading, power scheduling,  
14 and generation dispatching operations. This not only included overseeing our  
15 participation in the SPP market, but compliance with applicable NERC Reliability  
16 Standards. I was also responsible for preparing the dispatching and trading group for  
17 participation in the SPP Integrated Marketplace (“IM”), which launched on March 1,  
18 2014. In April 2015, I was promoted to Senior Manager, Power System Operations. In  
19 July 2017, I transitioned to the position of Senior Manager, Fuels & Emissions within the  
20 Fuels group.

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

4 A: Yes. Beginning in early 2017, I have testified in several dockets before the MPSC and/or  
5 the Kansas Corporation Commission regarding certain topics associated with the SPP  
6 Integrated Marketplace or fuel-related subject matter.

7 **Q: On what subjects will you be testifying?**

8 A: I will be testifying on fuel-related issues. My testimony serves two purposes. First, I am  
9 supporting the fuel prices, emission prices, and certain fuel and emission related costs,  
10 including fuel inventory, additives, and adders, used to develop the Company’s Cost of  
11 Service (“COS”) calculations. Second, I will address certain fuel and emission allowance  
12 related issues as required when a company seeks to continue a fuel adjustment clause  
13 (“FAC”).

14 **I. FUEL IN COST OF SERVICE**

15 **Q: What is the purpose of this portion of your testimony?**

16 A: The purpose of this part of my testimony is to explain how prices for fuel and fuel-related  
17 commodities were forecast to project fuel expense for the COS included in the  
18 Company’s Direct filing and how we plan to true-up those costs later in this proceeding.

19 **A. Fuel Price Forecast**

20 **Q: What fuel prices did Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro use to develop its COS?**

21 A: Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro used coal and oil prices as projected for May 2022. With respect  
22 to natural gas, we used a 3-year average as discussed below. Please refer to the Direct

1 Testimony of Company witness Ronald A. Klote regarding the test year and expected  
2 true-up period.

3 **Q: Will these projected prices be replaced with actual prices in the May 2022 true-up?**

4 A: Yes. We expect to replace the projected prices for coal, oil, and natural gas with actual  
5 prices in the May 2022 true-up.

6 **Q: How did you forecast the coal prices?**

7 A: The May 2022 delivered prices of Powder River Basin (“PRB”) coal were forecast as the  
8 sum of the mine price and the transportation rate, inclusive of diesel fuel surcharge. A  
9 portion of the coal contracts under which Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro expects to purchase  
10 PRB coal in 2022 specify a fixed mine price that is only subject to adjustment for quality  
11 or government imposition such as changes in laws, regulations, or taxes. Those contracts  
12 that are not fixed are tied to a market index.

13 **Q: How did you forecast the freight rates for moving PRB coal?**

14 A: We forecasted the freight rates for Hawthorn and La Cygne Generating Stations based on  
15 their respective rail contracts and the contractually defined escalation mechanisms.  
16 Where those contracts called for an index, we constructed the forecasted index from data  
17 forecasted by energy industry consultant, JD Energy. The freight rate projection for 2022  
18 rail service to Iatan Station was based upon a maximum rate study conducted by L.E  
19 Peabody and Associates.

20 **Q: How did you forecast the natural gas prices used to develop the Company’s COS?**

21 A: Monthly natural gas prices were derived from the September 27, 2021 NYMEX Henry  
22 Hub Natural Gas futures and Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) PEPL NG Basis futures  
23 contract settlement prices from the period of January 2022 through December 2024.

1 Monthly PEPL outright prices were calculated by adding the monthly PEPL NG Basis  
2 prices to the applicable Henry Hub futures contracts. Then, an average price for each  
3 calendar month was calculated from the 2022-2024 period to develop the cost of natural  
4 gas in the COS. Again, we expect to true-up to Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro's actual natural  
5 gas prices during the course of this proceeding

6 **Q: How did you forecast the oil prices?**

7 A: Oil is used primarily for flame stability and start-up at our Iatan and La Cygne coal units.  
8 The price of oil used for flame stability and start-up was based on the May 2022 heating  
9 oil futures contract. The fuel price forecast for oil at these stations was based on  
10 NYMEX daily settlement price as of September 27, 2021. Although there is considerable  
11 storage capability and working inventory onsite, Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro's oil-fired  
12 Northeast Station units were also assumed to be dispatched using May 2022 projected oil  
13 pricing because as oil is utilized, it must be replaced at market pricing. Wolf Creek's  
14 start-up oil was priced using May 2022 projected oil pricing. We expect to true-up oil  
15 prices during the course of this proceeding.

16 **B. Fuel Additives and Fuel Adders**

17 **Q: Are there costs related to fuel that are not included in the price of fuel?**

18 A: Yes. Generally, those costs fall into two categories: "fuel additives" and "fuel adders."  
19 Fuel additives most commonly include ammonia, lime, limestone, and powder activated  
20 carbon ("PAC") which are used to control emissions. The fuel adders include unit train  
21 lease expense, unit train maintenance, unit train property tax, unit train depreciation, coal  
22 dust mitigation, freeze protection, side release, and costs associated with transporting



1 natural gas. We expect to true-up these forecasted costs to actual costs during the course  
2 of this proceeding.

3 **Q: Why does Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro need fuel additives?**

4 A: Fuel additives, which include pollution control reagents, are commodities that are  
5 consumed in addition to the fuel either through combustion or chemical reaction. For  
6 example, ammonia is added to a stream of flue gas where it reacts with nitrogen oxide  
7 (“NO<sub>x</sub>”) as the gases pass through a catalyst chamber. Lime (or limestone) is added to  
8 the flue gas stream in a flue gas desulfurization module to “scrub” sulfur dioxide (“SO<sub>2</sub>”).  
9 Some units also use PAC as a sorbent for controlling mercury emissions.

10 **Q: How did you determine the cost of the fuel additives?**

11 A: Except for premium ammonia, the cost was determined as the quantity times the price,  
12 where the price was the value projected for the May 2022 true-up and the quantity was  
13 based on historical usage rates applied to the volumes developed by Company witness  
14 Eric Peterson. The cost for premium ammonia was determined as the quantity times the  
15 price, where the price was the value projected for May 2022 true-up and the quantity was  
16 based on projected usage rates applied to historical volumes. We expect to true-up these  
17 costs and usage rates during the course of this proceeding.

18 **Q: How did you determine the cost of the fuel adders?**

19 A: I will address each of the fuel adders in turn, but generally the costs of the various fuel  
20 adders were based on a projection of their annual expense.

21 **Q: Please describe the unit train-related expenses.**

22 A: Unit train related expenses included:

- 23
- Unit train lease expense (which is separated into two components):

- 1           ○ Long-term unit train lease expense;
- 2           ○ Short-term unit train lease expense;
- 3       • Ad valorem private car line taxes;
- 4       • Railcar depreciation;
- 5       • Unit train maintenance expense consisting of:
  - 6           ○ Foreign car repair which is the cost of repairing railcars that are running in
  - 7           service for Evergy ~~Missouri~~-Metro but are not owned by or under lease to the
  - 8           Company. Shared expenses which are costs for items like Association of
  - 9           American Railroads publications, Railinc applications and services fees, and
  - 10          railcar management software fees that cannot be assigned to an individual car
  - 11          but are “shared” or distributed across the fleet.
  - 12          ○ Maintenance and repair of Evergy ~~Missouri~~-Metro’s owned and leased railcar
  - 13          fleet.
  - 14          ○ Ancillary charges including detention, switching, storage, and out of route
  - 15          costs.

16 **Q: Are there other coal transportation related adders?**

17 A: Yes. Topper agents are applied to the surface of loaded railcars to mitigate the loss of  
18 coal dust while in transit. Side-release agents may be applied to railcars or freeze  
19 conditioning agents may be applied to coal to minimize the amount of carry-back coal  
20 during cold weather. These agents are applied by the coal companies during the loading  
21 process at the mines. They are to improve the safety of railroad operations.

1 **Q: What are the costs associated with transporting natural gas?**

2 A: The costs for transporting natural gas fall into two categories. The first category is those  
3 costs which are relatively fixed. That includes reservation or demand charges, meter  
4 charges, and access charges. The second category of transportation costs is those costs  
5 which are volumetric. They include: commodity costs, commodity balancing fees,  
6 transportation charges, mileage charges, fuel and loss reimbursement, the Federal Energy  
7 Regulatory Commission annual charge adjustment, storage fees, and parking fees.

8 **Q: How did you determine the costs associated with transporting natural gas?**

9 A: The cost of transporting natural gas was separated into its various components. For the  
10 reservation or demand charges, the pipeline's current rates were used to calculate the  
11 demand or reservation charges we expect to pay for the 12 months of June 2021 through  
12 May 2022. For the variable costs, the pipeline's and local distribution company's current  
13 rates were applied to the volumes developed by Company witness Eric Peterson. Those  
14 various components were then aggregated into either commodity-based charges or  
15 reservation charges. We plan to update these costs at true-up.

16 **C. Emission Allowance Cost**

17 **Q: How did you forecast emission allowance prices?**

18 A: Emission allowance prices used for dispatch and market prices in our models were priced  
19 as the average of the latest available forecasted 2022 price from JD Energy, S&P Global  
20 Platts, IHS Markit and Energy Ventures Analysis. We used a combination of forecasted  
21 pricing and test year book value to determine projected May 2022 emission-allowance  
22 related expense. We expect to true-up emission allowance costs.

1 **Q: Do you expect to replace all of these fuel, fuel-related, and emission allowance price**  
2 **or cost estimates with actual prices or costs that are known at true-up?**

3 A: Yes.

4 **D. Fuel Inventory**

5 **Q: What is the purpose of this portion of your testimony?**

6 A: The purpose of this portion of my testimony is to explain the process by which Evergy  
7 ~~Missouri~~-Metro determines the amount of fuel inventory to keep on hand and how the  
8 level of fuel inventory impacts the Company's COS.

9 **Q: Why does Evergy ~~Missouri~~-Metro hold fuel inventory?**

10 A: Evergy ~~Missouri~~-Metro holds fuel inventory because of the uncertainty inherent in both  
11 fuel requirements and fuel deliveries. Both fuel requirements and deliveries can be  
12 impacted by weather. Fuel requirements can also be impacted by unit availability, both  
13 the availability of the unit holding the inventory and the availability of other units in the  
14 Evergy ~~Missouri~~-Metro or Southwest Power Pool ("SPP") system. Fuel deliveries can  
15 also be impacted by breakdowns at a mine or in the transportation system. Events like  
16 the 1993, 2011, and 2019 Missouri River floods, the 2005 joint line derailments in the  
17 Southern Powder River Basin ("SPRB"), and the railroad service issue that significantly  
18 reduced the delivery of coal to Evergy ~~Missouri~~-Metro's plants from March 2013 through  
19 September 2014. Fuel inventories are insurance against events that interrupt the delivery  
20 of fuel or unexpectedly increase the demand for fuel. All of these factors vary randomly.  
21 Fuel inventories act like a "shock absorber" when fuel deliveries do not exactly match  
22 fuel requirements and enable Evergy ~~Missouri~~-Metro to continue generating electricity  
23 reliably between fuel shipments.

1 **Q: How does Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro manage its fuel inventory?**

2 A: Managing fuel inventory involves ordering fuel, receiving fuel into inventory, and  
3 burning fuel out of inventory. Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro controls inventory levels primarily  
4 through its fuel ordering policy. That is, Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro sets fuel inventory  
5 targets and then orders fuel to achieve those targets. We define inventory targets as the  
6 inventory level that we aim to maintain on average during “normal” times.

7 In addition to fuel ordering policy, plant dispatch policy can be used to control inventory,  
8 however Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro does not solely control the dispatch of its units.  
9 Effective March 1, 2014, NERC certified SPP as the Balancing Authority (“BA”) for the  
10 SPP region. As the BA and RTO operating an integrated marketplace for electric power,  
11 SPP optimizes the generation resources for its members. To do that, it uses a regional  
12 security constrained, offer-based economic algorithm to dispatch the members’ units. If a  
13 plant is low on fuel, SPP might reduce the operation of that plant to conserve inventory.  
14 This could require other plants under SPP’s dispatch to operate more and to use more fuel  
15 than they normally would. One can view this as a transfer of fuel “by wire” to the plant  
16 with low inventory. To determine the best inventory level, Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro  
17 balances the cost of holding fuel against the expected cost of running out of fuel.

18 **Q: What are the costs associated with holding fuel inventory?**

19 A: Holding costs reflect cost of capital and operating costs. Holding inventories require an  
20 investment in working capital, which require providing investors and lenders returns that  
21 meet their expectations. It also includes the income taxes associated with providing the  
22 cost of capital. The operating costs of holding inventory include costs other than the cost

1 of the capital tied up in the inventories. For example, we treat property tax as an  
2 operating cost.

3 **Q: Please explain what you mean by the expected cost of running out of fuel.**

4 A: In this context, expected cost means the probability of running out of fuel times the cost  
5 of running out of fuel. The cost of running out of fuel at a power plant is the additional  
6 cost incurred when a more expensive resource must be dispatched to serve the load that  
7 would have otherwise been served by the plant if it had the fuel to do so. If there are not  
8 enough resources available to serve load, there could be a failure to meet customer  
9 demand for electricity.

10 **Q: How does Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro determine the best inventory level, i.e., the level  
11 that balances the cost of holding fuel against the expected cost of running out?**

12 A: Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro uses the Electric Power Research Institute's Utility Fuel  
13 Inventory Model ("UFIM") to identify those inventory levels with the lowest expected  
14 total cost. That is, we minimize the sum of inventory holding costs and the expected cost  
15 of running out of fuel.

16 **Q: How does UFIM work?**

17 A: UFIM uses a Markov decision model to iterate through various order policies to  
18 determine the optimal order policy. It identifies an inventory target as a concise way to  
19 express the following fuel ordering policy:

20 Current Month Order = (Inventory Target – Current Inventory)  
21 + Expected Burn this Month  
22 + Expected Supply Shortfall

1 That is, UFIM's target assumes all fuel on hand is available to meet expected burn.  
2 "Basemat" is added to the available target developed with UFIM to determine Evergy  
3 ~~Missouri~~ Metro's coal inventory target. Generally, and in the rest of my testimony,  
4 references to inventory targets mean the sum of fuel readily available to meet burn plus  
5 basemat.

6 **Q: What is basemat?**

7 A: Basemat is the quantity of coal occupying the bottom 18 inches of our coal stockpile  
8 footprint. It may or may not be useable due to contamination from water, soil, clay, or  
9 fill material on which the coal is placed. Because of this uncertainty about the quality of  
10 the coal, basemat is not considered readily available. However, because it is dynamic  
11 and it can be burned (although with difficulty), it is not written off or considered a sunk  
12 cost. To determine basemat under our compacted stockpiles, we only consider the area of  
13 a pile that is thicker than 9 inches. The basemat values presented here for all inventory  
14 locations are premised on work performed by MIKON Corporation, a consulting  
15 engineering firm that specializes in coal stockpile inventories and related services for  
16 utilities nationwide.

17 **Q: How does the UFIM model work?**

18 A: The fundamental purpose of UFIM is to develop least-cost ordering policies, *i.e.*, targets,  
19 for fuel inventory. UFIM does this by dividing time into "normal" periods and  
20 "disruption" periods where a disruption is an event of limited duration with an uncertain  
21 occurrence. It develops inventory targets for normal times and disruption management  
22 policies. The inventory target that UFIM develops is that level of inventory that balances  
23 the cost of holding inventory with the cost of running out of fuel.

1 **Q: What are the primary inputs to UFIM?**

2 A: The key inputs are: holding costs, fuel supply cost curves, costs of running out of fuel,  
3 fuel requirement distributions, “normal” supply uncertainty distributions, and disruption  
4 characteristics.

5 **Q: What are the holding costs you used to develop coal inventory levels for this case?**

6 A: Evergy ~~Missouri~~-Metro based the holding costs it used to develop coal inventory levels  
7 for this case on the cost of capital as of June 30, 2021.

8 **Q: What do you mean by “fuel supply cost curves”?**

9 A: A fuel supply cost curve recognizes that the delivered cost of fuel may vary depending on  
10 the quantity of fuel purchased in a given month. For example, our fuel supply cost curves  
11 for PRB coal recognize that when monthly purchases exceed normal levels, we may need  
12 to lease additional train sets. Those lease costs cause the marginal cost of fuel above  
13 normal levels to be slightly higher than the normal cost of fuel.

14 **Q: What did you use for the normal cost of coal?**

15 A: The normal fuel prices underlying all of the coal supply cost curves were the average  
16 quarterly projected price forecasts for 2022.

17 **Q: What did you use for the costs of running out of coal?**

18 A: There are several components to the cost of running out of coal. The first cost is the  
19 opportunity cost of forgone power sales. We developed that cost by constructing a price  
20 duration curve derived from the nodal Locational Marginal Prices for each station. We  
21 supplemented those projections by adding as the last points on the price duration curves  
22 an estimate of the cost for using oil-fired generation followed by the assumed socio-  
23 economic cost of failing to meet load for which we used Evergy ~~Missouri~~-Metro’s



1 assumed cost for unserved load. These price duration curves are referred to in UFIM as  
2 burn reduction cost curves. Burn reduction cost curves can vary by inventory, location,  
3 and disruption.

4 **Q: What fuel requirement distributions did you use?**

5 A: For all coal units, we used distributions based on projected fuel requirements.

6 **Q: What do you mean by “normal” supply uncertainty?**

7 A: We normally experience random variations between fuel burned and fuel received in any  
8 given month. These supply shortfalls or overages are assumed to be independent from  
9 period to period and are not expected to significantly affect inventory policy. To  
10 determine these normal variations, we developed probability distributions of receipt  
11 uncertainty based on the difference between historical burn and receipts.

12 **Q: What are disruptions?**

13 A: A disruption is any change in circumstances that persists for a finite duration and  
14 significantly affects inventory policy. A supply disruption might entail a complete cut-  
15 off of fuel deliveries, a reduction in deliveries, or an increase in the variability of receipts.  
16 A demand disruption might consist of an increase in expected burn or an increase in the  
17 variability of burn. Other disruptions might involve temporary increases in the cost of  
18 fuel or the cost of replacement power. Different disruptions have different probabilities  
19 of occurring and different expected durations.

20 **Q: What disruptions did Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro use in developing its coal inventory  
21 targets?**

22 A: Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro recognized several types of disruptions in development of its  
23 inventory targets:

- 1 • Railroad or mine capacity constraints;
- 2 • Fuel yard failures; and
- 3 • Major floods / Extreme weather

4 **Q: Please explain what you mean by disruptions related to railroad or mine capacity**  
5 **constraints.**

6 A: Supply capacity is the ultimate quantity of coal that can be produced, loaded, and shipped  
7 out of the PRB in a given time period. Constraints to supply capacity can come from  
8 either the railroads or the mines, but regardless of which of these is the constraint source,  
9 the quantity of coal that can be delivered is restricted. A constrained supply caused by  
10 railroad capacity constraints can come from an inability of the railroad to ship a greater  
11 volume of coal from the PRB. A scenario such as this can arise from not having enough  
12 slack capacity to place more trains in-service. It can also come from an infrastructure  
13 failure such as the May 2005 derailments on the joint line in the SPRB. Beginning in the  
14 winter of 2013-2014 there was a serious decline in rail service across the U.S. rail  
15 network, in particular the upper Midwest region. That degradation in service which  
16 persisted into fall 2014 is another example of the disruptions that we refer to as a railroad  
17 or mine capacity constraint.

18 A variety of mine issues can constrain supply, such as there not being enough available  
19 load-outs, not enough space to stage empty trains, reaching the productive limits of  
20 equipment such as shovels, draglines, conveyors, and trucks, or the mine reaching the  
21 production limits specified in its environmental quality permits. We lump the mine and  
22 railroad capacity constraints together because they can occur simultaneously, and one  
23 may mask the other.

1 **Q: Please explain what you mean by disruptions related to fuel yard failures.**

2 A: Evergy ~~Missouri~~-Metro and other utilities have experienced major failures in the  
3 equipment used to receive fuel. As used here, “disruption” is designed to cover the  
4 variety of circumstances that could result in a significant constraint on a plant’s ability to  
5 receive fuel. For example, in 1986 Evergy ~~Missouri~~-Metro’s Hawthorn station lost an  
6 unloading conveyor in a fire caused by coal dust combustion. That outage materially  
7 limited fuel deliveries for 4 months.

8 **Q: Please explain what you mean by “major flood” and “extreme weather” disruptions.**

9 A: Since 1993, the Missouri River has had three major floods. This disruption was modeled  
10 after those floods. Floods can lengthen railroad cycle times as the railroads reroute trains  
11 and curtail the deliveries of coal to generating stations. The extreme weather disruption  
12 was modeled after the February 2021 winter weather event. Extreme weather can cause  
13 reduced fuel deliveries, unexpected increase in fuel burn, and increases in the cost of fuel  
14 and/or replacement power. For example, extreme winter weather can interfere with the  
15 railroad’s ability to deliver trains, the availability of oil delivery trucks, and increased  
16 fuel burn due to higher electric demand.

17 **Q: What are the coal inventory targets used in this case?**

18 A: The coal inventory targets resulting from application of UFIM and their associated value  
19 for incorporation into rate base are shown in the attached Schedule JLT-1 (**Confidential**)  
20 and are the values used to determine adjustment RB-74, “Adjust Fossil Fuel Inventories  
21 to required levels” included in Schedule RAK-2 of the Direct Testimony of Evergy  
22 Missouri Metro witness Ronald A. Klote. Since these coal inventory targets are a

1 function of fuel prices, cost of capital and other factors that may be adjusted in the course  
2 of this proceeding, we would expect to adjust the coal inventory targets as necessary.

3 **Q: Was the UFIM model used for any other inventory targets aside from coal?**

4 A: Yes. As discussed below, the UFIM model was utilized to establish an oil inventory  
5 target at Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro's Northeast Station.

6 **Q: Was the UFIM model run utilized for the coal targets different than the model run  
7 utilized for the oil target?**

8 A: Yes. The Northeast oil-fired units are peaking type units that are, in general, not  
9 expected to run consistently outside of very high demand times or when other units are  
10 unavailable. As such, there are not as many inputs into the UFIM model for oil targets as  
11 there are for coal targets. The model run used to determine the Northeast Station oil  
12 inventory target was done prior to the model run for coal and utilized the cost of capital  
13 as of May 31, 2021. The normal cost of oil underlying the oil supply cost curves was  
14 assumed to be current market pricing at that time. An extreme weather disruption is  
15 included in the model as explained above. The price duration curve used to develop the  
16 cost of running out of oil was developed using February 2021 power prices. Much like  
17 with the coal inventory targets, UFIM produces the recommended target for available oil  
18 such that dead storage gallons are added to the available target volume to get to the total  
19 recommended oil inventory target.

20 **Q: What are dead storage gallons?**

21 A: Dead storage gallons are that quantity of oil in the storage tank that are unusable for any  
22 reason. For example, oil at the bottom of a tank can be unreachable or the quality of oil

1 may have degraded or contain contaminants such as water and as such, it isn't considered  
2 as usable.

3 **Q: What is the oil inventory target for Northeast Station used in this case?**

4 A: The oil inventory target resulting from the application of UFIM and its associated value  
5 for incorporation into rate base is shown in the attached Schedule JLT-1 (**Confidential**)  
6 and is the value used to determine adjustment RB-74, "Adjust Fossil Fuel Inventories to  
7 required levels" included in Schedule RAK-2 of the Direct Testimony of Evergy  
8 Missouri Metro witness Ronald A. Klote. Since this oil inventory target is a function of  
9 fuel prices, cost of capital and other factors that may be adjusted in the course of this  
10 proceeding, we would expect to adjust the oil inventory targets as necessary.

11 **Q: How are the oil inventory volumes established?**

12 A: Oil inventory volumes for those units that utilize oil for start-up are based upon 12-month  
13 average daily inventory volumes. As discussed above, Northeast Station, which utilizes  
14 oil as the sole fuel source and has significant storage capability onsite, utilizes a UFIM-  
15 based inventory target. The inventory volume for Wolf Creek is based upon the average  
16 month-end quantity on hand for the 13-month period from September 2020 through  
17 September 2021.

18 **Q: How were the inventory values for coal determined?**

19 A: Inventory values for Hawthorn, Iatan, and La Cygne PRB coal were calculated as the  
20 UFIM-based inventory target values as discussed above, multiplied by projected May  
21 2022 pricing. The inventory value for La Cygne bituminous coal was based off of the  
22 month end August 2021 quantity on hand multiplied by the August 2021 month end  
23 inventory value per unit.

1 **Q: How were the inventory values for oil determined?**

2 A: Inventory values for oil at Iatan and La Cygne were calculated as the average daily  
3 quantity on hand for the 12-month period from October 2020 through September 2021  
4 multiplied by the May 2022 per unit value, For Wolf Creek, the inventory value was  
5 calculated as the average month-end quantity on hand for the 13-month period from  
6 September 2020 through September 2021 multiplied by the September 2021 month end  
7 inventory price per unit. With respect to Northeast Generating Station, the inventory  
8 value was calculated using the UFIM-based oil inventory target multiplied by the August  
9 2021 month end inventory price per unit. The inventory values for oil are shown in  
10 Schedule JLT-1 (**Confidential**).

11 **Q: How were the inventory values for ammonia, lime, limestone, and PAC determined?**

12 A: Inventory values for ammonia, lime, powder activated carbon, and limestone were  
13 calculated as the average daily quantity on hand for the 12-month period from October  
14 2020 through September 2021 multiplied by the projected May 2022 per unit value. It  
15 should be noted that due to difficulty with measuring precise usage, static inventories are  
16 utilized for some additives at some locations. The inventory values for ammonia, lime,  
17 limestone, and PAC are shown in Schedule JLT-1 (**Confidential**).

18 **Q: Will you true-up the coal inventory values?**

19 A: Yes. We expect to true up the PRB coal inventory values by applying May 2022 pricing  
20 to the UFIM-based inventory targets. For La Cygne bituminous coal, we will calculate  
21 the true up value as the May 2022 month end quantity on hand multiplied by the May  
22 2022 month end inventory value per unit.

1 **Q: Will you true-up the oil inventory volumes and values?**

2 A: Yes. We expect to calculate new 12-month average daily quantities on hand for Iatan and  
3 La Cygne representing June 2021 through May 2022 and will use May 2022 pricing to  
4 calculate inventory values at true-up for those two stations. With respect to Wolf Creek,  
5 a new 13-month average will be calculated representing May 2021 through May 2022  
6 and the May 2022 month-end inventory price per unit will be applied to that volume to  
7 determine the inventory value at true-up. For Northeast, the UFIM-based oil inventory  
8 target volume will be multiplied by the May 2022 month-end inventory price per unit to  
9 determine inventory value at true-up.

10 **Q: Will you true-up the fuel additive volumes and values?**

11 A: Yes. We expect to calculate new 12-month average daily quantities on hand representing  
12 June 2021 through May 2022 and use May 2022 pricing to calculate inventory values at  
13 true-up.

## 14 **II. FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE**

### 15 **A. Factors Considered**

16 **Q: Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-20.090(2)(D) identifies factors the Commission will**  
17 **consider in determining which cost components to include in a rate adjustment**  
18 **mechanism. Which of those factors will you address?**

19 A: I will address those factors related to the market impact on fuel costs. Specifically, I will  
20 discuss:

- 21 1. fuel market volatility and how market volatility impacts fuel costs;
- 22 2. the substantial market impact on fuel costs; and
- 23 3. the market impact on fuel costs is beyond the control of management.

1           **1. Fuel Market Volatility and How Market Volatility Impacts Fuel Costs**

2   **Q: How do changes in fuel markets affect Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro's COS?**

3   A: Changes in fuel markets affect Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro's COS in multiple ways. The first  
4       and most obvious impact is the effect of changes in fuel prices and their direct effect on  
5       fuel expense. Second, is the effect of changing fuel prices on the cost of electricity  
6       production, thus influencing the cost of electricity bought and sold in the SPP market.

7   **Q: How have fuel prices changed over the past few years?**

8   A: Schedule JLT-2 and Schedule JLT-3 show how fuel prices have changed dramatically  
9       over the last 7+ years. Schedule JLT-2 shows how from January 2018 through October  
10      2021 the price for Henry Hub Natural Gas futures has ranged from \$1.48/million British  
11      thermal units ("MMBtu") to \$6.31/MMBtu. Spot physical natural gas prices, which are  
12      more reflective of the Company's true cost of gas, have demonstrated an even greater  
13      range in recent years, with PEPL next day gas prices ranging from \$0.72/MMBtu to  
14      \$225.44/MMBtu. PRB coal had previously not exhibited near as much pricing volatility  
15      as natural gas in recent years, but that is no longer the case with prices rallying from  
16      \$0.68/MMBtu to \$2.10/MMBtu in the second half of 2021, as shown in Schedule JLT-3.

17   **Q: How do recent prices and volatility compare historically?**

18   A: In the last 18 months, the Henry Hub Natural Gas futures markets have seen the lowest  
19      traded price in the past 25 years as well as the highest traded price since 2008. November  
20      2021 PRB coal prices have reached an all-time high by a sizeable margin, trading at a  
21      63% premium to the previous high mark set in 2005. In terms of pricing volatility,  
22      defined as the annualized standard deviation of the percent change in prices, we see that  
23      volatility in the Henry Hub Natural Gas futures market has largely stayed within a range



1 of 40-50% for the past 10 years. However, this is somewhat deceiving, as a market with a  
2 higher notional price will naturally exhibit greater price fluctuations than a market with a  
3 lower notional price, assuming similar volatility levels. This is to say that while measured  
4 Henry Hub volatility has not deviated greatly, a higher pricing environment will see  
5 greater intra-day and inter-day price swings, making modeling and planning generally  
6 more challenging.

7 **Q: What is driving this volatility?**

8 A: The global pandemic has placed strain on all global markets and caused major supply  
9 chain disruptions and unexpected severe changes in demand. While the domestic energy  
10 markets are no exception to this, there are other fundamental factors playing a larger role  
11 in US energy market pricing volatility. These factors are discussed below.

- 12 • First, a lack of investment in natural gas supply and infrastructure over the past  
13 few years has led to demand growth outpacing supply growth.
- 14 • Second, the fact that much of that demand growth has come in the form of natural  
15 gas export capacity has meant that the US market is much more exposed to  
16 international markets, which have demonstrated even greater volatility in recent  
17 years tied to geopolitics, supply/demand logistics, extreme weather events, and  
18 the pandemic.
- 19 • Third, the build out of renewable generation capacity and the subsequent  
20 retirement of coal generation capacity has put a greater reliance on natural gas to  
21 meet the demands of the electric grid. Effectively, this transition has largely  
22 removed the electricity market's ability to utilize commodity prices to mitigate  
23 demand for one commodity (natural gas in this case) and incentivize demand for

1 another (coal). The result is that natural gas demand for electricity generation in  
2 the US has become price inelastic, which is a new phenomenon within the market.

3 Combined, these factors have contributed to higher energy prices and greater volatility.

4 **Q: Have PRB coal prices, like natural gas, demonstrated significant volatility?**

5 A: Renewable generation growth and inexpensive natural gas have largely eaten away at US  
6 coal demand over the past decade, resulting in relatively dormant PRB coal prices as  
7 producers throttled production volumes to align with falling demand and utility  
8 inventories that were typically sufficient to absorb any short-term supply or demand  
9 fluctuations. However, prompt month prices for PRB coal have recently demonstrated  
10 volatility equal to that of natural gas, rallying from \$0.68/MMBtu to \$2.10/MMBtu in the  
11 second half of 2021, and pulled prices for 2022 and 2023 along with them, although not  
12 to the same extent. This price move is primarily a function of higher natural gas prices  
13 and low utility coal inventory volumes on a national basis. While the high gas prices  
14 might persist, higher coal prices are less sustainable as PRB coal has very little exposure  
15 to international markets and the domestic demand outlook is still limited and declining.  
16 Once utilities replenish their inventories, prices should return to more normal levels of  
17 \$0.65/MMBtu - \$0.85/MMBtu. That being said, due to the nature of coal supply  
18 contracts, many utilities' supply portfolios could reflect the current high pricing  
19 environment for the next 2-3 years.

1 **Q: Why are these historical fluctuations in market prices for fuel the expressions of**  
2 **volatility that the Commission needs to consider when determining which cost**  
3 **components to include in a rate adjustment mechanism?**

4 A: Historical market fluctuations should be considered because they are the prices the  
5 Company faces when it looks to buy fuel. Only after the Company makes a purchase  
6 commitment, or if it were to place a hedge, is that volatility mitigated. Moreover, that  
7 mitigated price may be quite different than the fuel price embedded in the cost of service  
8 calculations upon which the Company's rates are built.

9 **Q: What do you mean by saying the Company faces fluctuations in market prices when**  
10 **it looks to buy fuel?**

11 A: Let's start with natural gas. Evergy ~~Missouri~~-Metro makes purchases on the day it needs  
12 the gas, or very close to it. After the Company receives a dispatch instruction for one of  
13 its natural gas units, we solicit offers for natural gas to support that run. These types of  
14 gas purchases are subject to intra-day volatility, in addition to the daily volatility shown  
15 by the daily settlement prices in Schedule JLT-2.

16 We buy oil much like a consumer buys gas for a car. That is, when the tank is low, we  
17 refill it. Like with a car, there are times when you have some flexibility about when to  
18 refill your tank and there are times when you do not have such freedom. In either case,  
19 you do not know whether the price will go up or down after you make your purchase.  
20 Even if you did, you may not have the flexibility to wait for the price to go down. Both  
21 price and timing are a function of the movement in market prices.

22 Coal is somewhat like my oil example above. As a coal buyer, we face the volatility  
23 shown in Schedule JLT-3. After we sign a contract that fixes the price, we mitigate that

1 volatility for our customers. We face the volatility of the markets for all of our fuel  
2 requirements that are not already locked in to fixed price contracts.

3 **Q: What are the main volumes that are exposed to market volatility?**

4 A: Regarding coal, as of November 30, 2021 **\*\* [REDACTED] \*\*** of Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro's  
5 expected coal burn from 2022 through 2025 was under contract. In other words, Evergy  
6 ~~Missouri~~ Metro is exposed to volatile market prices for **\*\* [REDACTED] \*\*** of its  
7 expected coal requirements for the period rates from this proceeding may be effective.

8 As subsequently discussed, Evergy Missouri Metro has not utilized natural gas hedging  
9 in recent years, thus all of the Company's expected natural gas usage has been exposed to  
10 market volatility. Likewise, Evergy Missouri Metro does not hedge oil, thus all of the  
11 Company's expected oil usage is also exposed to market volatility.

12 **Q: Why does Evergy Missouri Metro not hedge natural gas?**

13 A: Per the agreement between the Company, MPSC Commission Staff, Office of Public  
14 Counsel, and Midwest Energy Consumers Group in MPSC Docket ER-2016-0285,  
15 Evergy Missouri Metro unwound all natural gas hedges and suspended all hedging  
16 activities, in particular cross-hedging related to purchased power, and natural gas fuel  
17 hedging.

18 **Q: As it relates to fuel and purchased power hedging, are there any changes that the  
19 Company would like to make going forward?**

20 A: Yes. As part of the above referenced agreement in MPSC Docket ER-2016-0285, the  
21 signatories agreed that the Company may resume its natural gas fuel hedging activities  
22 should the marketplace and/or other factors change such that the resumption of natural  
23 gas fuel hedging activities would be warranted. Further, the Company also agreed to

1 notify the Commission Staff and OPC if the Company decides to resume natural gas fuel  
2 hedging activities, which such notification was filed with the Commission on December  
3 22nd, 2021 as it pertains to the January – April 2022 timeframe. As stated in the  
4 December 22<sup>nd</sup> notification, the Company expects to work with parties to establish a  
5 long-term hedging and cross-hedging policy and it is to that end that our request is being  
6 included in this case. As discussed below, the Company is requesting to resume hedging  
7 activities, inclusive of cross-hedging, on a go forward basis based upon increased  
8 volatility observed in the fuel and purchased power markets.

9 **Q: Please explain why the Company is looking to resume its hedging activities,**  
10 **including cross-hedging.**

11 A: As Schedule JLT-2 demonstrates, pricing volatility has been observed in the natural gas  
12 market over the last 7+ years. However, the level of volatility in the market between  
13 2016 and 2019 was considerably more muted than what we have observed over the past  
14 1-2 years, most notably over the course of 2021. The significant volatility observed in  
15 both the international and domestic natural gas markets is being driven by multiple  
16 factors including the global pandemic, lack of investment in natural gas supply and  
17 infrastructure, geopolitical issues, government policy, extreme weather events, and build-  
18 out of renewable generation along with retirement of coal generators. Evergy Missouri  
19 Metro believes it is prudent to have the ability to hedge, or offset the risk of, volatile  
20 natural gas pricing and its resulting impact on power prices. It is Evergy Missouri  
21 Metro's recommendation that physical gas, financial gas, physical power, financial  
22 power, and option products (including cross-hedging) are approved as tools (on both the  
23 purchase and sale side) for fuel, purchased power, and off system sales hedging and that

1 they be approved for inclusion in the fuel adjustment clause. With these tools, Evergy  
2 Missouri Metro will be able to better protect to an expected price of fuel and/or remove a  
3 portion of the negative impact on the price of purchased power from significant increases  
4 in the cost of fuel. The intent of hedging is not that the product always generates a profit.  
5 In most situations, the greatest benefit to a portfolio is if a hedge, when viewed in  
6 isolation, loses money. It would stand to reason that the rest of the portfolio benefits  
7 from the directional move in fuel, purchased power, and/or off system sale pricing.  
8 Much like homeowner's insurance, the product is not designed to financially benefit  
9 from, but rather to protect the owner from negative, unexpected financial impacts.

10 **Q: Specifically, why does Evergy Missouri Metro feel that the capability to cross-hedge**  
11 **is critical to their ability to protect customers from significant increases in the cost**  
12 **of fuel and its potential impact on the cost of purchased power?**

13 **A:** There are several factors that drive the need to be able to cross-hedge, which is a strategy  
14 used to manage risk in one market or product with a position in a different, yet correlated  
15 market or product (e.g. hedging the cost of power with a natural gas position). Market  
16 liquidity is an extremely important factor. Liquidity can impact both the volume and  
17 pricing on a product. It may be difficult to find a robust enough market to transact at the  
18 volumes needed. Lack of liquidity also causes larger gaps between the bid/ask spread  
19 and certain products are difficult to find in the market. By having the option to cross-  
20 hedge, the Company would have more tools available in which to help protect power  
21 prices, and therefore the costs to customers. Ultimately, the purpose of the hedging  
22 activity is to mitigate, to the extent possible, negative impacts on the cost of power during  
23 fuel price excursions. Another factor to consider is relative value of one product versus

1 another. Natural gas markets and power markets do not move in lock step with each  
2 other. The implied heat rate of market prices is always moving and there can be greater  
3 value in one product versus the other at any given time, whether needing to buy or sell  
4 based on the position. It is also important to consider the correlation to the products  
5 available in the market relative to the generator and load node locations that impact fuel  
6 and purchase power. For example, the Company may find that transacting at a financial  
7 natural gas index price is more correlated to the Evergy Metro load node than transacting  
8 at the most liquid power hub in SPP, SPP South Hub. The impacts of congestion and  
9 basis, to name a few, may make cross-hedging a more effective tool to protect customers.

## 10 2. Market Impact on Fuel Costs is Substantial

11 **Q: How might that market price volatility affect Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro?**

12 A: As noted above, since \*\* [REDACTED] \*\* of Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro's expected coal  
13 requirements from 2022 to 2025 are not under contract, Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro is  
14 exposed to adverse coal price risk. Additionally, as previously noted, the Company is  
15 exposed to adverse natural gas and oil commodity price risk for 2022 through 2025.  
16 Furthermore, in addition to the risk around the cost of fuel itself, there is associated risk  
17 to purchased power costs, particularly in the absence of hedging. Projected non-firm off-  
18 system power sales also presents a significant potential adverse price risk.

19 **Q: Why did you look at the four-year period of 2022 through 2025?**

20 A: Section 386.266.5(3) RSMo. requires a utility with a FAC to file a general rate case with  
21 the effective date of new rates to be no later than four years after the effective date of the  
22 Commission order implementing the FAC. Given that we expect the effective date of the  
23 Commission order for this case to be early December 2022, the four-year horizon would

1 run from December 2022 into 2025. Fuel requirements for calendar years 2022 through  
2 2025 are reasonably representative of that period.

### 3 **3. Fuel Costs are Beyond the Control of Management**

4 **Q: Can Evergy Missouri Metro control the fundamentals that drive the fuel markets?**

5 A: No, Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro cannot control the market fundamentals for fuel. An easy  
6 and objective way to answer that question is to look at what portion of the market Evergy  
7 Missouri Metro represents. Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro's projected coal burn for 2022  
8 represents about 2.6% of the projected PRB production or about 1.2% of total U.S. coal  
9 production. The Company's natural gas usage is significantly less than 0.01% of U.S.  
10 natural gas production. Both of these markets are driven by factors other than Evergy  
11 ~~Missouri~~ Metro's market share.

12 **Q: What are the fundamental drivers for the fuel markets?**

13 A: The fundamental drivers for the short-term markets are different than the key drivers for  
14 the long-term markets. Short-term markets reflect the convergence of changes in demand  
15 expectations and the fundamentals of readily available or stored energy. Some of the  
16 short-term fundamental drivers would include events such as storms that might disrupt  
17 immediate delivery of the energy. Temperature spikes or drops can also cause short-term  
18 imbalances between the demand and the immediately available supply. These weather  
19 induced imbalances can cause significant price spikes especially for natural gas and  
20 electricity due to their limited storage.

21 Long-term markets reflect the convergence of expectations of future potential supply,  
22 including the cost to produce that supply, and future potential demand. For example,  
23 throughout much of the prior decade, the development of shale based natural gas



1 resources greatly increased the expected supply of natural gas. That in turn depressed the  
2 long-term outlook for natural gas prices. Recently, that narrative has shifted to one of  
3 demand growth exceeding supply growth and fuel prices are higher as a result. Because  
4 most natural gas consumers have inelastic demands but do not have storage, the short-  
5 term fundamentals will still drive significant market uncertainty, just at a higher base  
6 level than expected than during the era of shale gas development.

7 **B. 20 CSR 4240-20.090 (2)(A) Requirements**

8 **Q: When an electric utility files a general rate proceeding following the general rate**  
9 **proceeding that established its rate adjustment mechanism (“RAM”) and requests**  
10 **that its RAM be continued or modified, Commission rule 20 CSR 4240-20.090(2)(A)**  
11 **requires the electric utility file certain supporting information as part of, or in**  
12 **addition to, its direct testimony. Which of those requirements will you address?**

13 A: I will address requirement 12 and explain the rate volatility mitigation features in Evergy  
14 ~~Missouri~~ Metro’s FAC. I will also address the parts of requirement 17 focused on  
15 emissions management policy, emissions allowances purchases, and emissions  
16 allowances sales. The Direct Testimony of Company witness Eric Peterson will address  
17 the other part of requirement 17 regarding forecasted environmental investments.

18 **1. Requirement 12: Mitigating Market Risk (Price Volatility)**

19 **Q: How does Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro mitigate market risk?**

20 A: Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro lessens the severity of market price risk through its fuel  
21 procurement strategies.

1 **Q: Does Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro have a program or strategy for managing the price**  
2 **risk of coal?**

3 A: Yes, it does.

4 **Q: Please describe how Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro mitigates coal price risk.**

5 A: In the PRB coal market, the primary means of managing price risk is through a portfolio  
6 of forward contracts. Generally, Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro has been following a strategy of  
7 laddering into a portfolio of forward contracts for PRB coal. Laddering is an investment  
8 technique of purchasing multiple products with different maturity dates. Evergy ~~Missouri~~  
9 Metro's "laddered" portfolio consists of forward contracts with staggered terms so that a  
10 portion of the portfolio will roll over each year. Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro may modify that  
11 strategy when it anticipates market price increases. The Company may either commit for  
12 more coal before the increase, or delay committing until after the increase has waned.

13 **Q: What does that laddered portfolio look like?**

14 A: By the end of November 2021, Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro had contractual commitments for  
15 the **\*\* [REDACTED] \*\*** of its expected coal requirements for 2022 and **\*\* [REDACTED]**  
16 **[REDACTED] \*\*** of its expected coal requirements for 2023. It also had commitments for a  
17 **\*\* [REDACTED] \*\*** for 2024 but had **\*\* [REDACTED] \*\*** for 2025.

18 **Q: Does Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro update its fuel procurement and planning process to**  
19 **adjust for changes in the marketplace?**

20 A: Yes. Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro routinely reviews fuel market conditions and market  
21 drivers. We monitor market data, industry publications and consultant reports in an effort  
22 to avoid high prices and to take advantage of lower prices.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

1 **Q: How has this strategy performed for Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro?**

2 A: Over the last five years (2017-2021), this strategy has helped Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro to  
3 mitigate any potential coal market volatility while securing reliable supply at the same  
4 time. If we calculate volatility as the annualized standard deviation of percent change in  
5 price, the volatility of the annual average prices Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro paid was 7.9%.  
6 That is less than the 12% average annualized daily volatility of observed prompt quarter  
7 strip prices for the same timeframe.

8 **Q: Please describe how Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro mitigates price risk for nuclear fuel.**

9 A: Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro is one of the owners of the Wolf Creek nuclear unit which  
10 purchases uranium and has it processed for use as fuel in the plant's reactor. This process  
11 involves conversion of uranium concentrates to uranium hexafluoride, enrichment of  
12 uranium hexafluoride, and fabrication of nuclear fuel assemblies. The owners have under  
13 contract \*\* [REDACTED]  
14 [REDACTED]  
15 [REDACTED] \*\*.

16 **Q: Please describe how Evergy Missouri Metro will mitigate price risk for natural gas  
17 and purchased power.**

18 A: As discussed above, Evergy Missouri Metro has proposed to resume natural gas and  
19 power hedging activities on a go-forward basis. Additionally, Evergy Missouri Metro is  
20 seeking permission to utilize cross-hedging on a go-forward basis as a mechanism to  
21 mitigate the price risk for purchased power for the reasons discussed on pages 24 – 27  
22 above.

1 **A. Requirement 17: Emissions Management Policy, Emissions Allowances Purchases,**  
2 **and Emissions Allowances Sales**

3 **Q: What is the purpose of this portion of your testimony?**

4 A: I will discuss the legal requirements for emission allowances and explain Evergy  
5 ~~Missouri~~ Metro’s current emissions management policy and strategy for meeting those  
6 requirements.

7 **Q: For which pollutants is Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro required to hold sufficient emission**  
8 **allowances?**

9 A: Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro is required, for each affected facility, to hold sufficient SO<sub>2</sub> and  
10 NO<sub>x</sub> allowances. These allowances are issued by the Environmental Protection Agency  
11 (“EPA”).

12 **Q: Describe Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro’s emissions management policy.**

13 A: Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro maintains dedicated internal resources to oversee and maintain  
14 the various allowance accounts under each regulatory program. Annually, Evergy  
15 ~~Missouri~~ Metro ensures enough allowances are in each facility account to cover the  
16 emissions from each affected unit for the applicable calendar year. All allowance  
17 transactions are approved by the management team overseeing the process, which  
18 includes both the Acid Rain Program (ARP) and the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule  
19 (CSAPR) Designated Representative and Alternate Designated Representative.

20 **Q: What rules or regulations established the need for emission allowances?**

21 A: Title IV of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments established the allowance market  
22 system known today as the Acid Rain Program (“ARP”). Title IV set a nationwide cap

1 on total SO<sub>2</sub> emissions and aimed to reduce overall emissions by approximately 50% of  
2 1980 levels.

3 In 2011, the EPA finalized the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (“CSAPR”). The  
4 CSAPR limits the interstate transport of SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from affected states that  
5 EPA has determined interfere with the ability of other states to attain particulate matter  
6 (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

7 The ARP and the CSAPR are allowance trading programs and any facility  
8 specific shortages can be addressed by trading allowances within or outside Evergy  
9 ~~Missouri~~ Metro’s system. We anticipate the ARP annual SO<sub>2</sub> allowances and the CSAPR  
10 annual NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> allowances will be readily available because of the significant  
11 reduction in coal generation since the original rules were issued driven by the impact of  
12 renewable generation development, the natural gas market, and unit retirements.  
13 However, due to the continued ratcheting down of the CSAPR ozone season NO<sub>x</sub>  
14 program, ozone season NO<sub>x</sub> allowances may not be as readily available in the future.  
15 Currently, Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro has a sufficient supply of banked ozone season NO<sub>x</sub>  
16 allowances for future utilization.

17 It is important to note, the ARP allowances cannot be used to comply with the CSAPR  
18 and the CSAPR allowances cannot be used to comply with the ARP.

19 **Q: Will emissions allowance costs or sales margins be included in the FAC?**

20 A: Yes.

21 **Q: What are Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro’s forecasted allowance purchases and sales?**

22 A: In general, Evergy ~~Missouri~~ Metro is not expecting to purchase emission allowances nor  
23 is it proposing to sell notable volumes of emission allowances. Small quantities of

1 allowances may be sold to joint partners at market prices should the need arise. If the  
2 Company's needs change, allowances will be purchased as required. Every ~~Missouri~~  
3 Metro may reconsider this position in light of future changes in the laws, rules, or  
4 regulations governing emission allowances.

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

6 **A:** Yes, it does.

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

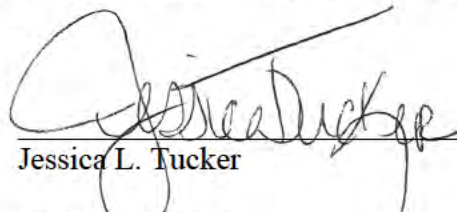
In the Matter of Evergy Metro, Inc. d/b/a Evergy     )  
Missouri Metro’s Request for Authority to         )       Case No. ER-2022-0129  
Implement A General Rate Increase for Electric    )  
Service    )

**AFFIDAVIT OF JESSICA L. TUCKER**

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

Jessica L. Tucker, being first duly sworn on his oath, states:

- 1. My name is Jessica L. Tucker. I work in Kansas City, Missouri, and I am employed by Evergy Metro, Inc. as Senior Manager, Fuels & Emissions.
- 2. Attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes is my Direct Testimony on behalf of Evergy Missouri Metro consisting of thirty-five (35) 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.

  
\_\_\_\_\_   
Jessica L. Tucker

Subscribed and sworn before me this 7<sup>th</sup> day of January 2022.

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

My commission expires: 4/26/2025



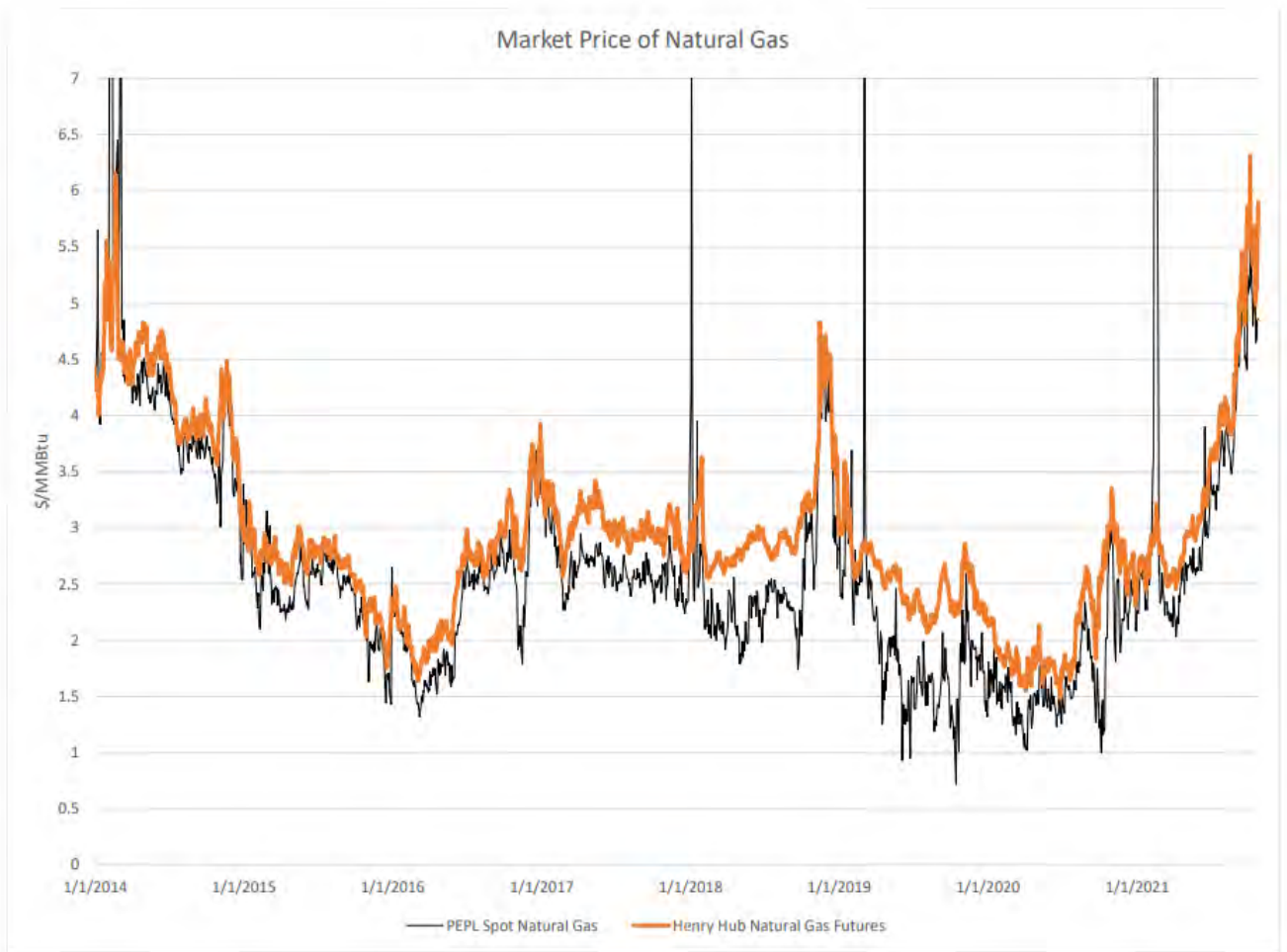
**SCHEDULE JLT-1**

**CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL  
INFORMATION  
NOT AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.**

**ORIGINALS FILED UNDER SEAL.**



## Schedule JLT-2



### Schedule JLT-3

