# THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners:	Andrew J. French, Chairperson		
	Dwight D. Ke	een	-
	Annie Kuethe	er	
In the Matter of the Petition of E Central, Inc., Evergy Kansas So Evergy Metro, Inc. for Determ Ratemaking Principles and Treat	outh, Inc., and ination of the tment that will	) ) )	Docket No. 25-EKCE-207-PRE
Apply to the Recovery in Rates	of the Cost to	)	
be Incurred for Certain Electr	ic Generation	)	
Facilities Under K.S.A. 66-1239	).	)	

# ORDER GRANTING U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE'S PETITION TO INTERVENE

This matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) for consideration and decision. Having reviewed the pleadings and record, the Commission makes the following findings:

1. On November 6, 2024, Evergy Kansas Central, Inc. and Evergy Kansas South, Inc. (EKC) and Evergy Metro, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Kansas Metro (EKM) (EKC and EKM collectively referred to as Evergy) filed an Application requesting a determination of the ratemaking principles and treatment that will apply to the recovery in rate of the costs to be incurred relating to: (1) EKC's planned construction and acquisition of 50% of a 710 MW combined cycle gas turbine (CCGT) located in Kansas near its Viola Substation (Viola plant); (2) a 50% interest in a second 710 MW CCGT located near Hutchinson, Kansas (McNew plant), with flexibility to acquire the second 50% of the McNew Plant, and (3) its construction and ownership of approximately 200

MWDC (159 MWAC) of solar generation, known as the Kansas Sky generating resource (Kansas Sky).<sup>1</sup>

- 2. Evergy explains that the Viola Plant will be built on a greenfield site in Sumner County, and jointly owned by EKC and Evergy Missouri West, with a projected date of commercial operation on January 1, 2029.<sup>2</sup> The McNew Plant will be built on a greenfield site in Reno County, and fully owned by EKC, before eventually transferring half of the plant to Evergy Missouri West or EKM, with a projected date of commercial operation of January 1, 2030.<sup>3</sup> Kansas Sky is being developed by Savion and is located in Douglas County, with a projected date of commercial operation in December of 2026.<sup>4</sup>
- 3. On November 13, 2024, the United States Department of Defense (DOD) filed a Petition to Intervene, citing its operation of several military installations, including Fort Riley, Fort Leavenworth, and McConnell Air Force Base, which are large users of electricity supplied by Evergy.<sup>5</sup>
- 4. The Commission has broad discretion to grant a petition for intervention if it is in the interest of justice, if the intervention will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings, and if the party has stated facts demonstrating its legal rights, duties and privileges, immunities or other legal interests may be substantially affected by the proceeding.<sup>6</sup> Furthermore, at any time during a proceeding, the Commission may impose limitations on an intervenor's participation.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Petition of Evergy Kansas Central, Inc., Evergy Kansas South, Inc., and Evergy Metro, Inc. for Determination of Ratemaking Principles and Treatment, Nov. 6, 2024 (Evergy's Application).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> *Id*, ¶¶15 & 17.

 $<sup>^{3}</sup>$  Id, ¶¶16 - 17.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> *Id*, ¶28.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Petition to Intervene, Nov. 13, 2024, ₱ III.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> K.S.A. 77-521; K.A.R. 82-1-225.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> K.S.A. 77-521(c).

5. The Commission finds and concludes that DOD has met the requirements of K.A.R. 82-1-225 and K.S.A. 77-521(b), and should be granted intervention in this Docket. DOD will be added to the mailing list, and electronic service of pleadings, communications, and correspondence should be delivered to:

Kevin K. LaChance Contract Law Attorney Administrative & Civil Law Division Office of the Staff Judge Advocate Fort Riley, KS 66442 (785) 239-6175 (TEL) Kevin.k.lachance.civ@army.mil John J. McNutt
Regulatory Law Counsel
U.S. Army Legal Services Agency
Office of the Staff Judge Advocate
9275 Gunston Road, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor – ELD
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5546
(619) 302-9642 (CELL)
john.j.mcnutt.civ@army.mil

# THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- A. The U.S. Department of Defense's Petition to Intervene is granted.
- B. This Order is procedural and constitutes non-final agency action.<sup>8</sup>

### BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

French,	Chairperson;	Keen,	Commissioner;	Kuether,	Commissioner

Dated:	11/19/2024	
-		

Lynn M. Retz Executive Director

Lynn M. Reg

**BGF** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> K.S.A. 77-607(b)(2).

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

#### 25-EKCE-207-PRE

I, the undersigned, cer	tify that a true copy	of the attached (	Order has been s	served to the follow	wing by means of
electronic service on _	11/19/2024		·		

JOSEPH R. ASTRAB, ATTORNEY CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604 joseph.astrab@ks.gov

GLENDA CAFER, MORRIS LAING LAW FIRM MORRIS LAING EVANS BROCK & KENNEDY CHTD 800 SW JACKSON STE 1310 TOPEKA, KS 66612-1216 gcafer@morrislaing.com

BRIAN G. FEDOTIN, GENERAL COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604 brian.fedotin@ks.gov

COLIN HANSEN, CEO/GENERAL MANAGER KANSAS POWER POOL 100 N BROADWAY STE L110 WICHITA, KS 67202 chansen@kpp.agency

PATRICK HURLEY, CHIEF LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604 patrick.hurley@ks.gov DANIEL J BULLER, ATTORNEY
FOULSTON SIEFKIN LLP
7500 COLLEGE BOULEVARD, STE 1400
OVERLAND PARK, KS 66201-4041
dbuller@foulston.com

CATHRYN J. DINGES, SR DIRECTOR & REGULATORY AFFAIRS COUNSEL EVERGY KANSAS CENTRAL, INC 818 S KANSAS AVE PO BOX 889 TOPEKA, KS 66601-0889 cathy.dinges@evergy.com

JAMES GING, DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES KANSAS POWER POOL 100 N BROADWAY STE L110 WICHITA, KS 67202 jging@kpp.agency

LARRY HOLLOWAY, ASST GEN MGR OPERATIONS KANSAS POWER POOL 100 N BROADWAY STE L110 WICHITA, KS 67202 Iholloway@kpp.agency

J.T. KLAUS, ATTORNEY
TRIPLETT, WOOLF & GARRETSON, LLC
2959 N ROCK RD STE 300
WICHITA, KS 67226
jtklaus@twgfirm.com

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

#### 25-EKCE-207-PRE

KEVIN K. LACHANCE, CONTRACT LAW ATTORNEY UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ADMIN & CIVIL LAW DIVISION OFFICE OF STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE FORT RILEY, KS 66442 kevin.k.lachance.civ@army.mil

TODD E. LOVE, ATTORNEY
CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD
1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD
TOPEKA, KS 66604
todd.love@ks.gov

CARLY MASENTHIN, LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604 carly.masenthin@ks.gov

TIMOTHY E. MCKEE, ATTORNEY
TRIPLETT, WOOLF & GARRETSON, LLC
2959 N ROCK RD STE 300
WICHITA, KS 67226
temckee@twgfirm.com

DAVID W. NICKEL, CONSUMER COUNSEL CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604 david.nickel@ks.gov

SHONDA RABB CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604 shonda.rabb@ks.gov Daniel Lawrence, GENERAL COUNSEL

USD 259 903 South Edgemoor Room 113 Wichita, KS 67218 dlawrence@usd259.net

RITA LOWE, PARALEGAL MORRIS LAING EVANS BROCK & KENNEDY CHTD 300 N MEAD STE 200 WICHITA, KS 67202-2745 rlowe@morrislaing.com

KACEY S MAYES, ATTORNEY TRIPLETT, WOOLF & GARRETSON, LLC 2959 N ROCK RD STE 300 WICHITA, KS 67226 ksmayes@twgfirm.com

JOHN J. MCNUTT, GENERAL ATTORNEY U.S. ARMY LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY REGULATORY LAW OFFICE 9275 GUNSTON RD., STE. 1300 FORT BELVOIR, VA 22060-5546 john.j.mcnutt.civ@army.mil

SARAH C. OTTO
FOULSTON SIEFKIN LLP
7500 COLLEGE BOULEVARD, STE 1400
OVERLAND PARK, KS 66201-4041
sotto@foulston.com

DELLA SMITH
CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD
1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD
TOPEKA, KS 66604
della.smith@ks.gov

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

#### 25-EKCE-207-PRE

VALERIE SMITH, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT MORRIS LAING EVANS BROCK & KENNEDY 800 SW JACKSON SUITE 1310 TOPEKA, KS 66612-1216 vsmith@morrislaing.com

LEE M SMITHYMAN, ATTORNEY FOULSTON SIEFKIN LLP 7500 COLLEGE BOULEVARD, STE 1400 OVERLAND PARK, KS 66201-4041 Ismithyman@foulston.com

CONNOR A THOMPSON, ATTORNEY FOULSTON SIEFKIN LLP 7500 COLLEGE BOULEVARD, STE 1400 OVERLAND PARK, KS 66201-4041 cthompson@foulston.com TREVOR WOHLFORD, ATTORNEY
MORRIS LAING EVANS BROCK & KENNEDY
800 SW JACKSON
SUITE 1310
TOPEKA, KS 66612-1216
twohlford@morrislaing.com

WILL B. WOHLFORD, ATTORNEY
MORRIS LAING EVANS BROCK & KENNEDY CHTD
300 N MEAD STE 200
WICHITA, KS 67202-2745
wwohlford@morrislaing.com

JAMES P ZAKOURA, ATTORNEY FOULSTON SIEFKIN LLP 7500 COLLEGE BOULEVARD, STE 1400 OVERLAND PARK, KS 66201-4041 jzakoura@foulston.com

/S/ KCC Docket Room

KCC Docket Room