BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION **OF THE STATE OF KANSAS**

In the Matter of the Joint Application of) Evergy Kansas Central, Inc. and Evergy Kansas South, Inc. for Approval of their) Annual Energy Cost Correction) Adjustment Factor

357 Docket No. 25-EKCE-XXX-ACA

JOINT APPLICATION

)

COME NOW Evergy Kansas Central, Inc. and Evergy Kansas South, Inc. (collectively referred to as "Evergy Kansas Central") and file this Joint Application for approval of their Annual Correction Adjustment (ACA) factors under their Retail Energy Cost Adjustment (RECA) clauses. In support of this Joint Application, Evergy Kansas Central states:

1. Evergy Kansas Central is a corporation duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Kansas and is engaged, among other matters, in the retail electric public utility business, as defined by K.S.A. 66-104, in legally designated areas within the state of Kansas. Evergy Kansas Central holds certificates of convenience and authority issued by this Commission authorizing it to engage in such utility business.

2. With this Application, Evergy Kansas Central is submitting its annual ACA filing required by its RECA tariff to be filed on or before March 20 each year, in order to determine the amount of costs recovered under the RECA during the previous calendar year and the amount of costs actually incurred for fuel and wholesale purchased power during that calendar year. As part of this ACA filing, Evergy Kansas Central calculates the amount it either over- or underrecovered during the previous calendar year and that amount – the ACA factor – is added to or subtracted from the RECA rate beginning April 1 through March 31 of the following year.

3. The testimony of Elizabeth A. Herrington and Jessica L. Tucker are attached to this Joint Application. Ms. Herrington explains the calculations and assumptions underlying the

calculation of the total over-recovered amount requested ACA factor. Ms. Tucker addresses Evergy Kansas Central's quarterly RECA submittals, market drivers of the variance between 2024 actual fuel and purchased power costs when compared to 2023 actual costs and the 2024 RECA forecast, Evergy Kansas Central's fuel procurement practices, and the impact of the Southwest Power Pool Integrated Market on Evergy Kansas Central's planning and operations.

4. There are two exhibits attached to Ms. Herrington's testimony and incorporated herein by reference. Exhibit A summarizes the actual energy costs incurred and all components of the RECA incurred by Evergy Kansas Central during the ACA period beginning January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. Exhibit A also shows the over/under recovery of energy costs and the calculation of the ACA factor for the period January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, to be reflected in the Evergy Kansas Central RECA beginning on April 1, 2025. Because there was an over-recovery of costs, Evergy Kansas Central's ACA will be \$-0.0125 cents/kWh. Exhibit B has the same information contained in Exhibit A by month for the 2024 ACA period.

5. Evergy Kansas Central submits that the energy costs recovered through the RECA mechanism for the period January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, were reasonable and complied in all respects with applicable standards established by the Commission in Docket No. 106,850-U (75-GIMC-009-GIG) and Docket No. 05-WSEE-981-RTS.

6. Some information contained in the exhibits to Ms. Herrington's testimony have not been publicly disclosed and, if disclosed, could place Evergy Kansas Central at a significant competitive disadvantage in negotiating future fuel contracts. Therefore, a redacted version of Ms. Herrington's exhibits is also enclosed. Accordingly, Evergy Kansas Central requests

Exhibits A and B that are marked confidential be designated and treated as confidential in accordance with applicable Commission and statutory standards and practices.

7. In addition to the undersigned, all correspondence, pleadings, orders, decisions and communications regarding this proceeding should be sent to:

Linda Nunn Manager - Regulatory Affairs Evergy, Inc. 1200 Main Street – 19th Floor Kansas City, Missouri 64105 Phone: (816) 652-1292 Email: linda.nunn@evergy.com

And

Leslie R. Wines Senior Executive Administrative Assistant Evergy, Inc. 818 South Kansas Ave Topeka, Kansas 66612 Phone: (785) 575-1584 Email: <u>leslie.wines@evergy.com</u>

WHEREFORE, Evergy Kansas Central requests that an ACA factor of \$-0.0125

cents/kWh for the period April 2025 through March 2026 be approved by the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>|s| Cathryn I. Dinges</u>

Cathryn J. Dinges (#20848) Senior Director and Regulatory Affairs Counsel 818 South Kansas Avenue Topeka, Kansas 66612 Telephone: (785) 575-8344 Fax: (785) 575-8136 Cathy.Dinges@evergy.com

Counsel for Evergy Kansas Central, Inc.

STATE OF KANSAS)) ss: COUNTY OF SHAWNEE)

VERIFICATION

Cathy Dinges, being duly sworn upon his oath deposes and states that she is the Sr Director and Regulatory Affairs Counsel for Evergy Inc., that she has read and is familiar with the foregoing Application and attests that the statements contained therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Cathyn Vingas

Cathryn J. Dinges

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of March, 2025.

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Notary Public

Dey 30, 2026 My Appointment Expires

NOTARY PUBLIC - State of Kansas LESLIE R MY APPT. EXPIRES 30/2026

BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

ELIZABETH A. HERRINGTON

EVERGY KANSAS CENTRAL

DOCKET NO. 25-EKCE-XXX-ACA

1 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

2 A. Elizabeth A. Herrington, 1200 Main, Kansas City, Missouri 64105-2122.

3 Q. BY WHOM AND IN WHAT CAPACITY ARE YOU EMPLOYED?

4 A. I am employed by Evergy Metro, Inc. and serve as Senior Director, Power,

5 Energy and Revenue Accounting for Evergy Metro, Inc. d/b/a Evergy

6 Kansas Metro ("Evergy Kansas Metro") and Evergy Missouri Metro ("Evergy

- 7 Missouri Metro"), Evergy Kansas Central, Inc. and Evergy South, Inc.,
- 8 collectively d/b/a as Evergy Kansas Central ("Evergy Kansas Central"), and

9 Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West ("Evergy Missouri

10 West"). They are the operating utilities of Evergy, Inc. ("Evergy").

11 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND 12 BUSINESS EXPERIENCE.

A. I graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia in May 1992 with a
 Bachelor of Science in Accountancy. In October 1997, I joined the

Company as a staff accountant and have held several roles such as
 Supervisor - Accounts Receivable, Supervisor - Regulatory Accounting,
 Manager - Revenue and Fuel Accounting, Manager - Energy Accounting,
 Senior Manager – Accounting, and Director of Energy and Revenue
 Accounting before assuming my current role.

6 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS 7 PROCEEDING?

A. My testimony supports Evergy Kansas Central's request for Commission
approval of the 2025 ACA amount and associated true-up factor related to
the Company's Retail Energy Cost Adjustment ("RECA") tariff. I will explain
the actual revenues and expenses behind the 2024 RECA mechanism and
the resulting ACA true-up factor to be effective and applied for 2025.

13 Q. PLEASE PROVIDE A GENERAL BACKGROUND OF THE FILING AND 14 WHY IT IS BEING MADE AT THIS TIME.

15 Α. On December 28, 2005, the Commission issued an order in Evergy Kansas 16 Central's rate proceeding, Docket No. 05-WSEE-981-RTS (981 Docket). 17 The Commission approved implementation of a fuel clause for Evergy 18 Kansas Central's Kansas retail customers in the 981 Docket. The Retail 19 Energy Cost Adjustment (RECA) tariff requires Evergy Kansas Central to 20 "true-up" the projected energy costs to actual energy costs on or before 21 March 20th of each year. Additionally, in Docket No. 18-WSEE-328-RTS, 22 the Commission ordered the lost revenue from the expiration of Westar's 23 purchase power agreement ("PPA") with Mid-Kansas Electric Company

1 ("MKEC") to be recovered from customers through the RECA beginning 2 January 3, 2019, as an addition to the ACA true-up process until such time 3 as base rates could be appropriately adjusted in Kansas Central's next rate 4 case. Finally, On June 23, 2022, as a part of Docket 21-EKME-329-GIE the 5 Commission ordered that the Company should recover amounts incurred 6 during the 2021 cold weather event known as Winter Storm Uri as an 7 addition to the ACA true up process over a two year period beginning with 8 the 2023 ACA.

9

10 WERE THERE ANY CHANGES MADE TO THE RECA TARIFF IN 2024?

A. Yes. As Ordered in Docket 23-EKCE-775-RTS, MKEC language was
 removed from the WR factor, short-term capacity revenues and expenses
 were added to the Purchased Power section, long-term capacity revenues
 and expenses for contracts entered into after December 21, 2023, were
 added to the Purchased Power section and the reference to Solar kWh tariff
 in the non-requirements section was removed as the Solar kWh tariff was
 cancelled.

18 Q. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE IMPACTING THIS ACA FILING THAT 19 SHOULD BE MENTIONED?

A. Yes. As of December 31, 2024, substantially all of the MKEC lost revenue
 and Uri amounts have been recovered from customers and the Company is
 no longer incurring costs for these items. However, the 2024 ACA amount
 that still includes these items continues to be collected through March 31,

2025, per the RECA tariff, and will create a substantial over collection for
 the 2026 ACA filing.

Q: HOW MUCH IS THE OVERCOLLECTION FOR THE MKEC LOST
REVENUES AND WINTER STORM URI THROUGH MARCH 31, 2025?
A: At the time of this filing the Company will have not completed all billing
cycles through March 31, 2025. However, a close estimate can be provided
for each. The Company estimates it will have over collected **
for MKEC and **

9 Q: WILL THE MKEC LOST REVENUE AND WINTER STORM URI 10 AMOUNTS EVER BE TRUED UP IN THE ACA?

11 **A**: Not without requesting an exception to the RECA tariff. Due to the tariff 12 continuing to collect or return monies to and from customers through March 13 31 of the subsequent year, the MKEC lost revenue and Winter Storm Uri 14 amounts will continue to be over, and then under, collected for the 15 foreseeable future because no further costs are being incurred. Therefore, 16 the Company is requesting to include the January 2025 through March 2025 17 over collected amounts in this filing in an attempt to create a final, immaterial 18 true up at the end of 2025 to be absorbed by the ACA. This action will also 19 return the large over collection created by the tariff to customers in a timelier 20 fashion.

Q. ARE THERE ANY EXHIBITS FILED WITH EVERGY KANSAS CENTRAL'S ACA APPLICATION PREPARED BY YOU OR PREPARED UNDER YOUR DIRECT SUPERVISION?

- 1 **A.** Yes. There are two exhibits, A and B.
- 2 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE EXHIBITS.

A. Exhibit A summarizes components of the RECA calculation incurred by
Evergy Kansas Central during the ACA period beginning January 1, 2024
through December 31, 2024, used to derive the 2025 Annual Correction
Adjustment for Evergy Kansas Central. Exhibit B illustrates the same
information as Exhibit A but shows the individual monthly components for
the ACA period calculations.

9 Q. DID EVERGY KANSAS CENTRAL HAVE AN (OVER)/UNDER 10 RECOVERY BALANCE AT THE END OF DECEMBER 2024?

11 Α. At the end of 2024 there was an under-recovery. As described in Exhibit B, 12 the under-recovery balance for the year January 2024 through December 13 **. In summary, Evergy Kansas Central incurred 2024 is ** 14 ** of fuel expense and purchased power less certain offsets 15 to provide electric service to non-requirements customers and non-fuel 16 ** from retail delta. Evergy Kansas Central recovered ** 17 customers through the RECA and wholesale customers during the same 18 time period.

19Q.PLEASE DESCRIBE THE COMPONENTS OF THE 2024 UNDER20RECOVERY.

A. The 2024 under recovery is made up of fuel expense and purchased power
 22 ** offset by
 23 certain costs to provide electric service to non-requirements customers



1 calendar year, based on a rolling three-year average, beginning with the 2 three-year period ending December 2020, Evergy Kansas Central will be 3 allowed to include a charge in the ACA filing to the benefit of Evergy Kansas 4 Central that equates to the difference between the actual production and 5 the 1,193,878 MWhs, multiplied by \$20.70/MWh. In the event that the 6 Western Plains Wind Farm has a capacity factor of less than 44.57%, 7 producing less than 1,095,556 MWH's in any calendar year, based on a 8 rolling three-year average beginning in 2020 and using the three-year 9 average for 2018-2020, there will be a credit in the ACA filings to return to 10 ratepayers any shortfall in MWh's from 1,095,556 MWhs, multiplied by 11 \$20.70/MWh. The three-year rolling average for 2022 through 2024 was 12 45.82%, which falls between the lower end cap of 44.57% and the upper 13 cap of 48.57%. Therefore, there is no adjustment for the Western Plains 14 Wind Farm in this ACA filing.

15Q:WHAT ACTION IS THE COMPANY REQUESTING FROM THE16COMMISSION FOR THE PORTION OF THE OVER-RECOVERY IT17PROPSOSES TO RECOVER THROUGH THIS ACA FILING?

A: Evergy Kansas Central recommends that the Commission approve its ACA
 factor that will result in Evergy reimbursing the Kansas retail customers the
 over-recovery amount over a twelve-month period beginning April 1, 2025
 in accordance with the Company's RECA tariff. As shown in Exhibit A, this
 over-collection results in an ACA factor of \$-0.0125 cents per kWh which
 would be added to the RECA factors for each month beginning April 1,

5	Q.	DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?
4		above.
3		through March 2025 due to MKEC and Winter Storm Uri as described
2		return the amounts over recovered from customers during January 2025
1		2025. Additionally, the Company is requesting an exception to the tariff to

A. Yes.

EVERGY KANSAS CENTRAL, IN RETAIL ENERGY COST ADJUST Energy Cost Adjustment Calcula	IMENT REPORT			Exhibit A	25-EKCE-XXX-ACA
	ANNUAL (CORRECTION ADJUSTMENT		Public	
Annual Correction Factor for the A	ACA Year Ending	2024			
(a) Annual Correction Adjustment Fac	(b) <u>ctor</u>	(c)	(d) Cost	_	(e) kWh
1 Actual Fuel Costs		F _A =			
Fuel2 Account 5013 Account 5184 Account 5475 Total Fuel Costs	Actual Costs				
6 Actual Purchased Power Energy Co	sts	P _A =			
7 Actual Emission Cost/Revenue		E _A =			
8 Actual Cost to Achieve to Non - Req	uirements Customers	NRCA _A =			
9 Actual Fuel Revenues Collected for	ACA Year	FAR _A =			
10 Wholesale Non-Fuel Delta		WR =			
11 Western Plains Wind Farm Excess ((after year 2020)	WPWF _E =			
12 Western Plains Wind Farm Deficien	cy (after year 2020)	WPWF _D =			
13 Actual ACA Remaining from the pre-	vious ACA year	ACAB =		1	
14 Total (F _A +P _A +E _A -NRCA _A -FAR _A +/-W	/R+WPWF _E -WPWF _D)+ACAB		\$ (2,399,118)	<u>)</u>	
15 kWhs delivered to all Requirement C	Customers during the billing year			S _A =	19,172,164,876 kWh
16 Projected Annual Correction Adjustn ACAF	nent Factor _P = <u>(F_A+P_A+E_A-NRCA_A-FAR_A+/-WR+M</u> .01 x S _A	/PWF _F -WPWF _D)+ACAB =		(0.0125)	¢/kWh

EV 202

GY KANSAS CENTRAL, INC ctual RECA Monthly Update									E	xhibit B age 1 of 1	5-EKCE-XXX-ACA	
	January 2024	February 2024	March 2024	April 2024	May 2024	June 2024	July 2024	August 2024	September 2024	October 2024	November December 2024 2024	YTD 2024
1 F _A Component of the RECA Tariff - Fuel Costs												
2 3 Account 501 4 Account 518 5 Account 547												
6 Total Fuel Costs F _A Component (line 3 + line 4 + line 5)												
 8 P_A Component of the RECA Tariff - Purchased Power Costs 												
9 0 Purchased Power 1 Gain/Loss on Sales of Renewable Energy Credits 2 Renewable Energy Revenues												
3 Total Fuel Costs P _A Component (line 10 + line 11 + line 12) 4												
5 E _A Component of the RECA Tariff - Emission Allowances												
।6 ।7 Total Emission Cost/(Revenue) - E _A Component ।8												
9 NRCA _A Component of the RECA Tariff - Cost to Achieve Non-Requirements												
1 Actual Cost to Achieve to Non-Requirements Customers - NRCA _A Component 2 3												
 FAR_A Component of the RECA Tariff - Actual Fuel Adjustment Revenues 												
26 Wholesale Customer Fuel Revenues (GFR) 27 Retail Fuel Revenues 28 DRPS Wind Farm Revenues 29 Uncollected for Previous Month												
0 Uncollected for Current Month 1 Total Fuel Adjustment Revenues - FAR _A (line 26 + line 27+ line 28 + line 29 + line 30) 32	_											
33 WR Component Wholesale Non-fuel in Base Rates vs. 2018 Actual 34												
35 Demand Difference 36 VOM Difference 37 Total Wholesale Non-Fuel Difference (Line 35 + Line 36) 38												
99 Total Costs (line 6 + line 13 + line 17 - line 21 - line 37) 90												
1 RECA (Over)/Under Recovery for 2024 (line 39 - line 31)												
ACAB Component of the RECA Tariff - Actual ACA Balance From Previous ACA Year												
45 Actual ACA Recovery from Prior Year 46 MKEC and URI Recovery for Jan 2025 - March 2025 47 ACA Amount from Previous Year's Filing											_	
8 Total Actual ACA Remaining From the Previous ACA Year (ACAB)											1	
19 50 Total (F _A +P _A +E _A -NRCA _A -FAR _A +/-WR+WPWF _E -WPWF _D)+ACAB 51											5	6 (2,399,118
52 S _A Component of the RECA Tariff - kWh Delivered to Company's Requirements Customers												
4 Total kWhs delivered to Company's Requirements Customers											1	9,172,164,876

STATE OF KANSAS)) ss: COUNTY OF SHAWNEE)

VERIFICATION

Elizabeth Herrington, being duly sworn upon her oath deposes and states that she is the Sr. Director, Power, Energy and Revenue Accounting, for Evergy, Inc., that she has read and is familiar with the foregoing Direct Testimony, and attests that the statements contained therein are true and correct to the best of her knowledge, information and belief.

liz delle

Elizabeth Herrington

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of March, 2025.

Sesli B-Telines

My Appointment Expires May 30, 2026

A	NOTARY PUBLIC - State of Kansas
-8-1	LESLIE R. WINES
	MY APPT. EXPIRES 5 (30/ 2026

BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

JESSICA L. TUCKER

EVERGY KANSAS CENTRAL

DOCKET NO. 25-EKCE-XXX-ACA

1 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

A. My name is Jessica L. Tucker. My business address is 1200 Main, Kansas
City, Missouri 64105-2122.

4 Q. BY WHOM AND IN WHAT CAPACITY ARE YOU EMPLOYED?

- 5 Α. I am employed by Evergy Metro, Inc. and serve as Senior Manager, Fuels 6 and Emissions for Evergy Metro, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Kansas Metro ("Evergy 7 Kansas Metro"), Evergy Kansas Central, Inc. and Evergy South, Inc., 8 collectively d/b/a as Evergy Kansas Central ("Evergy Kansas Central"), 9 Evergy Metro, Inc. d/b/a as Evergy Missouri Metro ("Evergy Missouri 10 Metro"), and Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West 11 ("Evergy Missouri West"). They are the operating utilities of Evergy, Inc. 12 ("Evergy").
- 13 Q: WHAT ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES?

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

5Q:PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, AND6EMPLOYMENT HISTORY.

7 A. I graduated Summa Cum Laude from Kansas State University in

8 December 1999 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture. I began 9 my career in the energy industry in January 2001 with Aquila as an 10 Associate Hourly Trader. In this role, my efforts were focused on 11 executing short term physical power transactions in the real time market 12 across various North American Electric Reliability Corporation ("NERC") 13 regions. My employment with Evergy Metro (f/k/a KCP&L) began in 14 August of 2002 as an Hourly Trader on the real time desk. From August 15 2002 to May 2006, my role focused on buying and selling power in the real 16 time market. In June 2006, I was promoted to Interchange Marketer, 17 which focused my trading activity on day ahead and monthly power 18 transactions. I was also a part of the Company's RTO integration team 19 that prepared the generation dispatching and trading area for participation 20 in the Southwest Power Pool ("SPP") Energy Imbalance Service ("EIS") 21 market, which launched on February 1, 2007. In November 2010, I was 22 promoted to Manager, System Operations (Power). My primary 23 responsibility was to oversee 24x7 Power Control Center functions, which

	consisted of real time and day ahead power trading, power scheduling,
	and generation dispatching operations. This not only included overseeing
	our participation in the SPP market, but compliance with applicable NERC
	Reliability Standards as well. I was also responsible for preparing the
	dispatching and trading group for participation in the SPP Integrated
	Marketplace ("IM"), which launched on March 1, 2014. In April 2015, I
	was promoted to Senior Manager, Power System Operations. In July
	2017, I moved into the role of Senior Manager, Fuels & Emissions within
	the Fuels group.
Q:	HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED IN A PROCEEDING AT THE
	KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION ("KCC" OR "COMMISSION")
	OR BEFORE ANY OTHER UTILITY REGULATORY AGENCY?
A:	Yes. I have testified in several dockets before the Missouri Public Service
	Commission and/or KCC regarding certain topics associated with the
	Southwest Power Pool Integrated Marketplace or fuel-related subject
	matter.
Q.	WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?
Α.	I will address five topics:
	• A summary of the information provided in the Company's quarterly
	RECA submittals made on December 20, 2023, March 20, 2024, June
	20, 2024, and September 20, 2024,
	A comparison of 2024 fuel and purchased power costs to 2023 fuel and
	purchased power costs,
	A: Q.

1		 A comparison of the projected 2024 RECA to its 2024 ACA,
2		 Fuel procurement planning and practices, and
3		• A discussion of how the Southwest Power Pool ("SPP") Integrated
4		Marketplace ("IM") provides value to Evergy Kansas Central ("EKC") and
5		the impact it has on planning and operations.
6		INFORMATION PROVIDED IN QUARTERLY RECA SUBMITTALS
7	Q.	WHAT INFORMATION DOES THE COMPANY SUBMIT WHEN IT
8		SUBMITS ITS RECA FACTORS EACH QUARTER?
9	Α.	Evergy Kansas Central's RECA tariff identifies several items that go into
10		the calculation of the RECA factors. Items included in the quarterly
11		projections are fuel and purchased power costs, transmission costs not
12		recovered through the Transmission Delivery Charge ("TDC"), emission
13		allowances and costs to achieve sales to non-requirements customers.
14		On or before the 20th day of the month preceding each calendar quarter,
15		the Company submits to the Commission a report containing projected
16		quarterly RECA factor on a dollars per kWh basis. In this report, the
17		Company shows the total costs, revenues, and kWh used to calculate the
18		dollars per kWh factor.
19	Q.	WERE THERE ANY CHANGES TO THIS QUARTERLY PROCESS IN
20		2024?
21	A:	No, there were no changes to the quarterly process in 2024. There were,
22		however, changes to the RECA Tariff which are described in the testimony
23		of Elizabeth Herrington.

1		COMPARISON OF COSTS FOR 2024 and 2023
2	Q.	HOW DID REALIZED FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER COSTS FOR
3		2024 COMPARE WITH THOSE REALIZED DURING 2023?
4	Α.	As described in the exhibits provided with Ms. Herrington's testimony, for
5		2024, total fuel and purchased power costs less certain offsets to provide
6		electric service to non-requirements customers and non-fuel delta, which
7		are used to calculate the ACA factor were ** ******************************
8		and purchased power costs less certain offsets to provide electric service
9		to non-requirements customers and non-fuel delta, excluding the impacts
10		of Winter Storm Uri, were **
11	Q.	WHY DID FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER COSTS VARY FROM 2023
12		TO 2024?
13	Α.	The key drivers for the variance in Evergy Kansas Central's actual fuel and
14		purchased power costs in 2024 as compared to the costs in 2023 were
15		changes in market commodity prices, generation availability, and phaseout
16		of the Mid-Kansas Electric Company ("MKEC") lost revenue credit. In
17		accordance with the Order in docket 23-EKCE-775-RTS, the MKEC amount
18		is included in base rates and no longer included in the Actual Cost
19		Adjustment (ACA).
20		PROJECTED 2024 RECA VERSUS ACTUAL 2024 ACA
21	Q.	WHAT TYPE OF MODELING IS USED TO DEVELOP THE QUARTERLY
22		RECA FORECAST?

1 Α. In 2024, EKC RECA forecasts were generated using the PROMOD® IV 2 ("PROMOD") software, which is similar to other fundamental price 3 forecasting models that are commonly used in the industry. PROMOD is 4 provided by Hitachi Energy (formerly ABB). PROMOD incorporates details 5 in generating unit characteristics, transmission grid topology and 6 constraints, and market system operations to simulate power flows within 7 and between various energy markets, including but not limited to, 8 Independent System Operators ("ISO"), Regional Transmission 9 Organizations ("RTO"), and other North American Electric Reliability 10 Corporation regions. PROMOD performs a security constrained unit 11 commitment and co-optimized economic dispatch to generate Locational 12 Marginal Prices ("LMP") at the nodal level, similar to how ISOs and RTOs 13 set schedules and determine prices. PROMOD incorporates the latest 14 forecasts or assumptions for commodity and market pricing, generating unit 15 operations and load requirements to generate expected plant dispatch and 16 resulting fuel and purchased power costs.

Q. HOW DID ACTUAL COSTS REFLECTED IN THIS ACA FILING
 COMPARE TO PROJECTED RECA COSTS INCLUDED IN QUARTERLY
 FILINGS FOR 2024?

1Q.WHAT WERE THE DRIVERS OF THE VARIANCE BETWEEN ACTUAL2FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER COSTS IN 2024 AS COMPARED TO3THE RECA FORECAST?

- A. Although various components of EKC's 2024 actual fuel and purchased
 power costs, such as cost of fuel, generation availability, and energy
 demand, deviated on a month-to-month basis from the RECA quarterly
 forecasts, those variances were not the major drivers of the 2024 overall
 result, which was a total under-collection of ** _____**. The majority of the
 variance that drove the under-collection was due to the January 2024 winter
 weather event known as Winter Storm Heather.
- 11

FUEL PROCUREMENT PLANNING AND PROCESSES

- 12 Q: PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE COMPANY BUYS NUCLEAR FUEL
- 13 A: Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation ("Wolf Creek") purchases 14 uranium and has it processed for use as fuel in its reactor. This process 15 involves conversion of uranium concentrates to uranium hexafluoride, 16 enrichment of uranium hexafluoride and fabrication of nuclear fuel 17 assemblies. As of December 31, 2024, Wolf Creek has on hand or under 18 contract all of the uranium concentrates required for operation ** 19 ** with requirements for the ** 20 **. The station also has ** **11** ** of the uranium enrichment and 21 conversion services required for operation through ** ** and 22 has under contract all of the uranium fuel rod fabrication services required
- 23 to operate Wolf Creek **

1Q.PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW EVERGY KANSAS CENTRAL ACQUIRES2ITS NATURAL GAS REQUIREMENTS.

Α. 3 Evergy Kansas Central's natural gas-fired generation resources are located 4 on the Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline ("SSCGP"), Kansas Gas Service 5 intra-state pipeline ("KGS"), and ONEOK Gas Transportation, L.L.C., 6 pipeline ("OGT"). Evergy Kansas Central's firm capacity continues under 7 contract, as of April 1, 2025 to equal 121,425 MMBtu/day firm production 8 zone capacity and 125,580 MMBtu/day market zone capacity on SSCGP. 9 Evergy Kansas Central procured a seasonal 25,000 MMBtu/day of firm 10 market zone capacity on SSCGP that will end on March 31, 2025 and 11 currently has about 40,000 MMBtu/day capacity on OGT Interruptible 12 Transport Storage. Evergy Kansas Central does not have firm transport on 13 KGS or OGT. If Evergy Kansas Central had to run all its natural gas-fired 14 capacity at once, its Maximum Daily Quantity ("MDQ") would be about 15 397,000 MMBtu/Day. In the event of a natural gas shortage or other 16 emergency event, some of Evergy Kansas Central's simple cycle gas 17 turbines can operate on #2 diesel. Evergy Kansas Central typically procures 18 physical natural gas on a short-term basis (daily). These physical 19 purchases are from suppliers such as ETC Gas Marketing, Enlink Gas 20 Marketing, Southwest Energy, KOCH Energy Services, Williams Gas 21 Marketing or Spire Marketing.

22 Q. HOW ARE COAL REQUIREMENTS DETERMINED?

1 Α. As discussed above, Evergy Kansas Central utilizes PROMOD modeling 2 software. It is from PROMOD's generation and fuel burn forecast that 3 Evergy Kansas Central determines the anticipated fuel requirements for its 4 generating units. This forecast is most relevant to determining coal 5 procurement needs as natural gas purchases are typically made on a 6 shorter-term basis based on more operational dispatch forecasts. 7 Pertaining to fuel oil, usage for a given day or hour is typically unpredictable 8 and as such, fuel oil is generally purchased on an as-required basis to 9 replenish onsite oil inventory or to stock up in anticipation of an event such 10 as extreme weather.

11

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW EVERGY KANSAS CENTRAL BUYS COAL.

- 12 Α. Generally, Evergy Kansas Central follows a strategy of laddering into a 13 portfolio of contracts for Powder River Basin ("PRB") coal. Evergy Kansas 14 Central's "laddered" portfolio consists of coal supply contracts which were 15 entered into at different times leading up to the operating year. The closer 16 EKC is to a given operating year, the higher the coal commitment 17 percentage will be as compared to expected requirements. When burn 18 projections increase, actual burns prove to be higher than anticipated, or as 19 otherwise needed, supplemental purchases of coal are made on the spot 20 market.
- 21

Q: WHAT DID EKC'S LADDERED PORTFOLIO LOOK LIKE FOR 2024?

A: In January 2024, Evergy Kansas Central had contractual commitments for
 about ** percent of its share of expected coal burn requirements at that

time for 2024. It also had commitments for about ** percent for 2025,
 ** percent for 2026, ** percent for 2027 and ** percent for 2028.
 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ARRANGEMENTS THAT PROVIDE COAL
 AND ITS TRANSPORTATION TO YOUR FACILITIES.

5 Α. For operating year 2024, Jeffrey Energy Center, Lawrence Energy Center, 6 and La Cygne Generating Station coal was purchased in the manner 7 discussed above. Each of the three stations received coal under multiple 8 contracts and from multiple mine sources. All Evergy Kansas Central coal 9 facilities burn low sulfur PRB coal that is produced in Wyoming. On 10 occasion La Cygne Unit 1 may utilize bituminous coal to assist with various 11 operational issues or coal pile management, but that bituminous coal is 12 already onsite and in inventory from previous years prior to its transition to 13 100% PRB coal. There are no plans at this time to purchase any bituminous 14 coal for La Cygne in the future.

15 In 2024, coal for Jeffrey Energy Center originated at the Black/West 16 Thunder, Cordero, and North Antelope Rochelle Mine ("NARM") in the 17 Southern PRB ("SPRB") region of Wyoming. From the mines, the coal was 18 transported to Jeffrey Energy Center by the Union Pacific Railroad ("UP") 19 under a contract. Coal for Lawrence Energy Center originated at the 20 Black/West Thunder and NARM mines in the SPRB region of Wyoming and 21 was transported to the station by BNSF Railway Company ("BNSF") under 22 tariff service. Finally, 2024 coal for La Cygne Generating Station originated 23 at the Belle Ayr, Black/West Thunder, Caballo, and NARM mines in the

1 SPRB region of Wyoming. From the mines, the coal was transported to 2 Kansas City by UP, where the trains were then interchanged to the Canadian Pacific Kansas City ("CPKC") railroad for delivery from Kansas 3 4 City to the station. Both the originating and delivery movements to La 5 Cygne were in contract service. Up until early 2023, the short haul from 6 Kansas City to La Cygne Generating Station had been handled by the 7 Kansas City Southern Railway Company ("KCS"), however Canadian 8 Pacific Railway ("CP") and KCS combined to form CPKC in April 2023.

9 Q. DO EVERGY KANSAS CENTRAL'S COAL FIRED FACILITIES HAVE 10 COMPETITIVE OPTIONS FOR COAL DELIVERY?

11 Α. Competition for coal transportation service to Jeffrey is very limited. Prior 12 to 2021, the principal coal source for Jeffrey Energy Center was the Eagle 13 Butte mine, which is captive to the BNSF. As a result, transportation to 14 Jeffrey previously required both BNSF and UP movements. Beginning in 15 2021, coal for Jeffrey Energy Center could be sourced at mines located on 16 the BNSF-UP joint line, such that the coal could be transported via more 17 efficient single line service on UP. Jeffrey Energy Center is served only by 18 UP, however, so at this juncture, there are no further competitive options 19 for the station. Lawrence Energy Center is served only by the BNSF. The 20 rail infrastructure that would have to be installed for either generating facility 21 to provide competitive access to both railroads would be complex to 22 complete and very expensive, with uncertain results.

For La Cygne Generating Station, as explained above, there are two separate rail movements involved in the transportation of coal from Wyoming to the station. The origination portion of the movement (Wyoming to Kansas City) is competitive, as it can be served by either BNSF or UP. The delivery portion of the movement, however, can only be handled by CPKC. Therefore, a portion of La Cygne coal transportation service is competitive, and a portion is not.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE EVERGY KANSAS CENTRAL'S FLEET OF
 RAILCARS USED TO DELIVER COAL.

A. Currently, Evergy Kansas Central has enough equipment to operate as
 many as eleven train sets to serve Jeffrey and Lawrence, plus spare
 railcars. As many as eight train sets are available to serve Jeffrey Energy
 Center and three sets for Lawrence Energy Center.

14 Q. DOES EVERGY KANSAS CENTRAL LEASE ALL OF ITS TRAIN SETS?

- A. No. Evergy Kansas Central both owns and leases railcars. For those
 leased railcars, the next lease expiration dates are in the last half of 2025.
 EKC owns a total of 261 railcars or roughly two train sets.
- 18Q.DOES THE COMPANY UPDATE ITS FUEL PROCUREMENT AND19PLANNING PROCESS TO ADJUST FOR CHANGES IN THE20MARKETPLACE?
- A. Yes. EKC routinely reviews fuel market conditions and market drivers. We
 monitor market data, industry publications and consultant reports in an effort
 to avoid high prices and to take advantage of lower prices.

 1
 Q.
 DID THE COMPANY MAKE ANY CHANGES TO ITS COAL AND

 2
 NATURAL GAS PROCUREMENT AND PLANNING PROCESS FOR

 3
 2024?

A. Although EKC transitioned to a ladder strategy beginning in 2021, there
were some further refinements to the ladder strategy made for 2023 and
beyond coal procurement. As shared with KCC Staff in an August 19, 2022
Coal Procurement Strategy Update discussion, these refinements included,
among others, **

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While there was volatility in the natural gas market, no change was made to Evergy's gas procurement and planning process as a result. Natural gas is purchased on a short-term (daily) basis and thus the process already enables ongoing adjustments to market conditions each day and no adjustment was required.

17 SPP INTEGRATED MARKETPLACE VALUE AND IMPLICATIONS

18Q.HAS THE SPP IM CHANGED HOW YOU DETERMINE YOUR19GENERATION AND FUEL REQUIREMENTS?

A. Yes, as previously discussed, our short-term modeling processes attempt
 to simulate SPP IM operations and thereby produce a generation and fuel
 burn forecast for our generating facilities. This allows Evergy Kansas

Central to estimate our fuel requirements to meet expected SPP generation
 dispatch.

Q. HAS THE SPP IM CHANGED HOW EVERGY KANSAS CENTRAL OPERATES AND MANAGES ITS GENERATION FLEET ON A DAY TO DAY BASIS?

6 Α. Yes, the SPP IM requires Evergy Kansas Central to offer generating units 7 into the daily market to be available to help meet total RTO demand and in 8 turn, Evergy Kansas Central purchases energy from the RTO necessary to 9 meet our customers' load requirements. Based on regional generation 10 needs, the SPP IM may require Evergy Kansas Central to operate facilities 11 we might not run on our own accord to meet our customers' load obligation 12 or require EKC to reduce generation at facilities we might otherwise operate 13 at higher capacities had they been dispatched by Evergy Kansas Central 14 alone. These SPP operating and dispatching requirements are derived from 15 a least cost generation modeling solution based on loads by area, available 16 generation, transmission constraints, fuel prices, environmental constraints, 17 wind generation availability and other power plant operating criteria.

18 Q. HOW DOES THE SPP IM IMPACT FUEL & PURCHASE POWER 19 COSTS?

A. As the Consolidated Balancing Authority ("CBA"), SPP determines the generation that will be committed and dispatched for an operating day to serve the load of the market. Those commitments and dispatches for Evergy Kansas Central resources drive fuel costs. However, the revenue

received from the market for that generation goes to offset the purchase
 power costs associated with serving the Evergy Kansas Central load.

3 Q. HOW DOES THE SPP IM DETERMINE HOW UNITS WILL BE 4 COMMITTED AND DISPATCHED?

5 Α. The SPP IM uses a sophisticated algorithm to determine the most 6 economical mix of generation required to meet the combined SPP load 7 requirement. This algorithm considers many factors beyond the fuel cost of 8 individual generation units. The algorithm calculates the all-in unit costs 9 that include start-up costs, minimum runtime, unit heat rates at various 10 output levels, environmental constraints, transmission constraints, and 11 many other factors. This calculation allows SPP to determine the optimal 12 blend of generation resources to meet SPP members' load, regardless of 13 the unit owner, and to best utilize the transmission system to meet the load 14 requirements of all member utilities. The results achieved by the SPP's 15 modeling and dispatching capabilities utilizing all the region's generating 16 resources would not have been possible prior to the SPP IM.

17 Q: PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE SPP IM PROVIDES VALUE TO YOUR 18 CUSTOMERS.

A. The SPP IM provides Evergy Kansas Central and other SPP member
 companies opportunities for either enhanced revenues or economic
 purchases such as energy and ancillary services. A benefit of the SPP IM
 is the enhanced ability of the SPP to dispatch energy and ancillary services

from the most economical resources of all SPP members on a sub-hourly
 basis.

Q. ARE THESE REVENUE STREAMS AND COST SAVINGS PASSED ON TO EVERGY KANSAS CENTRAL'S CUSTOMERS?

- 5 A. Yes. Our customers receive the benefits of the SPP dispatch savings and
 6 generating revenue offsets through the RECA.
- Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER COMMENTS RELATED TO THE
 8 EFFICIENCY OF THE SPP MARKET?
- 9 Α. Yes. An important point to consider is all SPP member utilities and 10 generating companies are required to fully participate in the sale of 11 generation and the purchase of load. Prior to the SPP IM, generation 12 resources and utilities were not required to buy from or sell electricity to 13 other SPP members. Under the SPP IM, all SPP member companies are 14 now required to offer and sell electricity from their generating units into the 15 SPP IM, ensuring the most economical blend of resources are available to 16 the SPP member utilities. Again, this would not be possible without the SPP 17 IM.

18 Q: HAS THE COMPANY PERFORMED ANY ANALYSIS OF THE SPP IM'S 19 BENEFIT FOR EVERGY KANSAS CENTRAL CUSTOMERS?

A: Yes. A full, in-depth cost-benefit analysis is beyond the scope of the Company's resources to produce. However, consistent with the approach utilized for the Evergy Metro analysis, a study that focuses on the single market benefit associated with the CBA in the SPP IM structure was

conducted to provide a sense of the benefit that the SPP IM has provided.
It should be noted that this study is not able to quantify the many other
benefits of the SPP IM such as increased transmission construction,
improved settlements, and wind generation improvements etc. However,
the study looked at the resulting Locational Marginal Pricing ("LMP") for
Evergy Kansas Central's native load improvement as a proxy for the
cost/benefit to serve native load by participating in the SPP IM.

8 Q: PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE ANALYSIS WAS CONDUCTED.

9 A: The analysis attempts to compare and quantify the effect of Evergy Kansas 10 Central's load and generation being balanced by the CBA as a member of 11 the SPP IM as compared to existing outside of SPP as a stand-alone 12 Balancing Authority ("BA"). Two PROMOD based simulations for calendar 13 year 2024 were performed:

- Simulation 1: Assumes the SPP IM market with CBA for all of
 SPP for the entire year.
- Simulation 2: Assumes Evergy entities operate as a standalone BA outside of the SPP IM for the full year.

18To calculate the benefit, the Evergy Kansas Central LMP in each19simulation was compared and the change in the cost to serve native load20for Evergy Kansas Central was valued.

The final results estimate a benefit of **** Constant of **** for customers as shown in the Confidential Schedule JLT-1; however as discussed above, this is not inclusive of the many other benefits that the SPP IM provides.

1 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

2 A. Yes, it does. Thank you

SCHEDULE JLT-1

WR 2024 Load Price



STATE OF KANSAS) \$5: COUNTY OF SHAWNEE

VERIFICATION

Jessica Tucker, being duly sworn upon her oath deposes and states that she is the Sr Manager Fuels and Emissions, for Evergy, Inc., that she has read and is familiar with the foregoing Direct Testimony, and attests that the statements contained therein are true and correct to the best of her knowledge, information and belief.

Jessica tucker

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of March 2025.

Seslie Bulines

My Appointment Expires May 30, 2026

A	NOTARY PUBLIC - St	ate of Kansas				
-1-1	LESLIE R. WINES					
	MY APPT. EXPIRES	30/2026				