

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

In the Matter of the Investigation into the)
Sustainability Transformation Plan of Evergy) Docket No. 21-EKME-088-GIE
Metro, Inc., Evergy Kansas Central, Inc.)
and Evergy South, Inc. (collectively, Evergy).)

SIERRA CLUB PETITION TO INTERVENE

Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-521 and K.A.R. 82-1-225, Sierra Club respectfully petitions the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (“Commission”) to permit Sierra Club to intervene in the above-captioned docket. In support of its petition, Sierra Club asserts the following:

1. On August 19, 2020, Commission Staff petitioned the Commission (“Staff’s Petition”) for an order initiating a general investigation into Evergy’s Sustainability Transformation Plan (“STP”). The Commission subsequently issued its *Order Opening General Investigation* on August 27, 2020, setting an initial intervention deadline of September 11, 2020 for stakeholders interested in working together to develop a procedural schedule.
2. In the Executive Summary of its STP filing in Docket No. 20-EKME-514-GIE, Evergy stated that “[t]he STP is part of [its] long-term energy plan and aligns with [Evergy’s] 20-year Integrated Resource Plan (“IRP”) and provides a nearer term view of the actions Evergy will take to continue [its] work to create a forward-thinking, sustainable energy company.” Thus, the STP and IRP are related resource planning exercises.

3. Sierra Club is a national organization existing and organized under the nonprofit corporation laws of the state of California. Sierra Club has over 800,000 members nationally and over 5,500 members in Kansas. Many of Sierra Club's Kansas members are Evergy customers, including Zack Pistora, Sierra Club's Kansas lobbyist, who resides in Linwood, KS. Sierra Club's members are directly affected by the rates, policies, terms, and conditions governing Evergy's provision of electricity to them. These members have strong and direct financial and policy interests in having their electricity provided in a dependable, least-cost, least-risk, and environmentally responsible manner, which are interests at issue in this proceeding. Given the broad subject matters implicated by the STP, Sierra Club members may be affected by the Commission's eventual order(s) in this docket.
4. Sierra Club's national office is located at 2101 Webster, Suite 1300, Oakland, California 94612. The Kansas Chapter of Sierra Club's address is P.O. Box 8186, Topeka, Kansas, 66608-0186. Sierra Club has years of experience working on energy and electric generation issues throughout the United States, including in Kansas. Sierra Club advocates for robust renewable energy and energy efficiency investments, utilizing financial tools like securitization when warranted, that produce safe and sustainable jobs while also reducing electric system costs for both utilities and ratepayers by reducing reliance on increasingly non-competitive fossil-fired power plants. Sierra Club also advocates that a clean energy transition should center low-income communities and communities of color, who are often disproportionately harmed by fossil-fired and other pollution. Sierra Club has jointly or individually intervened and/or provided testimony on resource planning and related issues in

proceedings in Kansas and a number of other states including Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia.

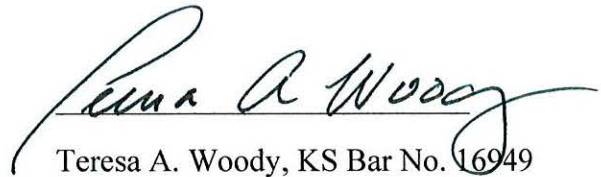
5. Staff's Petition notes in paragraph 5 that, "[a]s part of the STP, Evergy acknowledges the need for stakeholder collaboration with respect to its proposed plan. In light of Evergy's election to pursue its STP, Staff hereby requests the initiation of a new investigative docket to provide Staff, stakeholders, and Evergy an avenue to collaborate and fully vet the STP." (internal citations omitted)
6. Sierra Club has a significant interest in all aspects of Evergy's STP. Indeed, Sierra Club has advocated for Evergy and its predecessors to adopt more sustainable practices for well over a decade.¹ To that end, Sierra Club has participated in numerous recent Commission dockets related to Evergy and its predecessors, including but not limited to docket numbers 16-KCPE-593-ACQ, 18-WSEE-328-RTS, 18-KCPE-095-MER, and 19-KCPE-096-CPL.
7. More specifically, in Docket Nos. 16-KCPE-593-ACQ, 18-KCPE-095-MER, and 19-KCPE-096-CPL, Sierra Club filed briefs, comments, and testimony regarding, among other issues, the importance of Evergy producing an IRP, along with what an IRP should entail. Sierra Club filed many of these pleadings at a time when no other party discussed an IRP. Accordingly, Sierra Club has a demonstrated and significant interest in resource planning in general, and Evergy's IRP in particular.

¹ See, e.g., Environmental, community groups announce energy agreement with KCP&L, available at <https://www.power-grid.com/2007/03/20/environmental-community-groups-announce-energy-agreement-with-kcpl/>.

8. In Appendix A of Staff's Petition, Staff writes that "major segments of the capital expenditures contemplated in the STP will be specifically modeled and analyzed in Evergy's 2021 Triennial IRP. Therefore, a procedural process should be considered to determine how the relevant information from the 2021 Triennial IRP can be incorporated into the STP general investigation so that a complete record can be established." The Commission subsequently adopted Staff's Report and Recommendation in its entirety.
9. Sierra Club, on behalf of its Evergy ratepayer members and staff, is interested in participating in this docket to provide the Commission with economic, legal, and technical information, as needed, to help develop a record that will provide the Commission with evidence on issues that may not otherwise be analyzed.
10. Sierra Club's interests in advancing decarbonization via clean, low-cost energy resources is different from those of the general public—often, Sierra Club's preferred policies differ from other environmental interests—and may be substantially affected by this proceeding. Sierra Club is uniquely situated to represent the interests of its members in this proceeding as a result of its expertise and experience in energy policy and law, and regulations that affect the market for energy generation.
11. Granting Sierra Club intervention would serve the interests of justice and will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings.
12. Sierra Club respectfully requests the right to intervene without limitation and to fully participate in all aspects of this docket.
13. In addition to signatory counsel, please address communications and correspondence to Sierra Club, including service of all notices and orders of the Commission, to:

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WHEREFORE, Sierra Club respectfully requests that the Kansas Corporation Commission grant its Petition for Intervention in this docket.

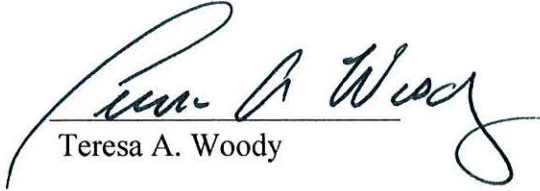


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VERIFICATION

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss
COUNTY OF JACKSON)

I, Teresa A. Woody, of lawful age and being duly sworn, state and affirm the following: that I am counsel for Sierra Club; I have read and reviewed the above and foregoing Petition; and the contents thereof are true and correct to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.


Teresa A. Woody

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me this 11th day of September, 2020.


Notary Public

My commission expires:

12/27/2022



MICHELLE A. HAUGHEY
My Commission Expires
December 27, 2022
Jackson County
Commission #14497465

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that on this 11th day of September, 2020, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Sierra Club Petition to Intervene was electronically delivered to the following individuals:

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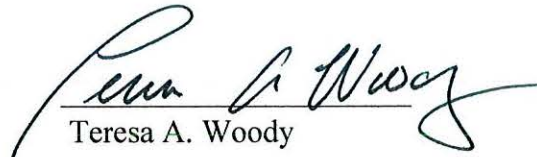
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