## BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

In the Matter of the Triennial Compliance Docket	)	
for the Integrated Resource Plan of Evergy	)	
Kansas Central, Inc. & Evergy Kansas Metro, Inc.	)	Docket No. 24-EKCE-387-CPL
Pursuant to the Commission's Order in Docket	)	
No. 19-KCPE-096-CPL	)	

### **EVERGY RESPONSE TO ALLEGED DEFICIENCY**

COMES NOW, Evergy Kansas Central, Inc. ("Evergy Kansas Central") and Evergy Metro, Inc. ("Evergy Kansas Metro") (collectively referenced hereinafter as "Evergy"), hereby submit to the Kansas Corporation Commission ("Commission") this Response to the outstanding alleged deficiency submitted by Council for New Energy Economics ("NEE") regarding Evergy's Triennial 2024 Integrated Resource Plan ("2024 IRP").

- 1. The Integrated Resource Plan and Capital Plan Framework (the "Framework") was set forth in the Commission's Order on February 6, 2020, in Docket No. 19-KCPE-096-CPL.
- 2. The Framework includes the following requirement: "If any Party finds any deficiencies, it shall work with Evergy and the other Parties to reach, within forty-five (45) days of the date that the report or comments were submitted, a joint agreement on a plan to remedy the identified deficiencies. If full agreement cannot be reached, this situation should be reported to the Commission through a joint filing as soon as possible, but no later than forty-five (45) days after the date on which the report or comments were submitted. The joint filing should set out in a brief narrative description those areas on which agreement cannot be reached. If full agreement on remedying deficiencies is not reached, then within sixty (60) days from the date on which the Parties submitted a report or comments relating to Evergy's compliance filing, Evergy may file a response and the Parties may file comments in response to each other's comments. The

Commission will issue an order which indicates on what items, if any, a hearing will be held and which also establishes a procedural schedule if necessary."

- 3. On December 2, 2024, Evergy, NEE, and Sierra Club made a Joint Filing summarizing the alleged deficiencies expressed by the parties regarding Evergy's Triennial 2024 IRP, addressed proposed resolutions to several alleged deficiencies and, in all but one instance, agreed that alleged deficiencies remaining unresolved do not need to be brought to a hearing before the Commission.
- 4. NEE Deficiency 7 is the only alleged deficiency remaining unresolved and without confirmation that Commission intervention is not required. NEE Deficiency 7 states that Evergy should evaluate natural gas price scenarios that are better aligned with historical volatility and realized costs within the region.
- 5. Evergy does not agree this is a deficiency within the Kansas Framework, nor is a hearing necessary for resolution. Evergy evaluated natural gas price risk in the IRP. In addition to a base forecast, Evergy incorporated high and low natural gas price scenarios based on EIA Annual Energy Outlook long-term forecasts that consider long-term fundamental factors influencing natural gas supply, demand and prices. All three scenarios were used in the economic evaluation of the resource plans in the IRP. The purpose of this process is to determine whether Evergy's 2024 IRP met the requirements of the IRP Framework, and this issue is outside that scope. Staff comments conclude that "Evergy's 2024 IRP is consistent with the IRP Framework adopted in 2020". 1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Staff's Report and Recommendation, October 14, 2024.

## WHEREFORE, Evergy respectfully requests the Commission find that its Triennial 2024

IRP successfully meets the requirements of the IRP Framework.

Respectfully submitted,

## [s] Cathryn J. Dinges

Cathryn J. Dinges, #20848 Senior Director and Regulatory Affairs Counsel 818 South Kansas Avenue Topeka, KS 66612 Telephone: (785) 575-8344

Cathy.Dinges@evergy.com

ATTORNEY FOR EVERGY KANSAS CENTRAL AND EVERGY KANSAS METRO

## **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF MISSOURI	)
	) ss
COUNTY OF JACKSON	)

Cathryn J. Dinges, upon oath first duly sworn, states that she is Senior Director and Regulatory Affairs Counsel for Evergy Kansas Central, Inc. and Evergy Kansas South, Inc., that she has reviewed the foregoing pleading, that she is familiar with the contents thereof, and that the statements contained therein are true and correct to the best of her knowledge and belief.

Cathryn J. Dinges

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13th day of December 2024.

ANTHONY R. WESTENKIRCHNER NOTARY PUBLIC - NOTARY SEAL STATE OF MISSOURI MY COMMISSION EXPIRES APRIL 26, 2025 PLATTE COUNTY COMMISSION #17279952

Notary Public

My Appointment Expires: 4/2u/w25

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above was electronically served, hand-delivered or mailed, postage prepaid, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December 2024 to:

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

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

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

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

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

LEE M SMITHYMAN, ATTORNEY FOULSTON SIEFKIN LLP 7500 COLLEGE BOULEVARD, STE 1400 OVERLAND PARK, KS 66201-4041 lsmithyman@foulston.com CONNOR A THOMPSON, ATTORNEY FOULSTON SIEFKIN LLP 7500 COLLEGE BOULEVARD, STE 1400 OVERLAND PARK, KS 66201-4041 cthompson@foulston.com

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

SARAH RUBENSTEIN, ATTORNEY GREAT RIVERS ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER 319 N FOURTH STREET, SUITE 800 SAINT LOUIS, MO 63102 srubenstein@greatriverslaw.org

TERRY M. JARRETT, Attorney at Law HEALY LAW OFFICES, LLC 306 MONROE STREET JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101 terry@healylawoffices.com

HEATHER H. STARNES HEALY LAW OFFICES, LLC 12 Perdido Circle Little Rock, AR 72211 heather@healylawoffices.com

KIMBERLY B FRANK, Partner K & L GATES, LLP 1601 K STREET NW WASHINGTON, DC 20006 Kimberly.Frank@klgates.com

NATHAN HOWE, Partner K & L GATES, LLP One Newark Center 1085 Raymond Blvd. Newark, NJ 07102 Nathan.howe@klgates.com TERESA A. WOODY
KANSAS APPLESEED CENTER FOR LAW
AND JUSTICE, INC.
211 E. 8th Street
Suite D
Lawrence, KS 66044
twoody@kansasappleseed.org

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

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

SUSAN B. CUNNINGHAM, SVP,
Regulatory and Government Affairs, General
Counsel
KANSAS ELECTRIC POWER CO-OP, INC.
600 SW CORPORATE VIEW
PO BOX 4877
TOPEKA, KS 66604-0877
scunningham@kepco.org

REBECCA FOWLER, MANAGER, REGULATORY AFFAIRS KANSAS ELECTRIC POWER CO-OP, INC. 600 SW CORPORATE VIEW PO BOX 4877 TOPEKA, KS 66604-0877 rfowler@kepco.org

BRAD HUTTON, FINANCIAL/REGULATO RY SPECIALIST KANSAS ELECTRIC POWER CO-OP, INC. 600 SW CORPORATE VIEW PO BOX 4877 TOPEKA, KS 66604-0877 bhutton@kepco.org

PAUL MAHLBERG, GENERAL MANAGER KANSAS MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGENCY 6300 W 95TH ST OVERLAND PARK, KS 66212-1431 mahlberg@kmea.com TERRI J PEMBERTON, GENERAL COUNSEL KANSAS MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGENCY 6300 W 95TH ST OVERLAND PARK, KS 66212-1431 pemberton@kmea.com

DARREN PRINCE, MANAGER, REGULATORY & RATES KANSAS MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGENCY 6300 W 95TH ST OVERLAND PARK, KS 66212-1431 prince@kmea.com

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

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

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

JOSHUA D. BEDEL, GENERAL MANAGER MCPHERSON BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 401 W KANSAS AVE PO BOX 768 MCPHERSON, KS 67460 JOSHB@MCPHERSONPOWER.COM

DUSTIN RINGER
MCPHERSON BOARD OF PUBLIC
UTILITIES
401 W KANSAS AVE
PO BOX 768
MCPHERSON, KS 67460
dustinr@mcphersonpower.com

AARON ROME, VP OF ENERGY SUPPLY MIDWEST ENERGY, INC.
1330 CANTERBURY DRIVE PO BOX 898
HAYS, KS 67601-0898
arome@mwenergy.com

ASHOK GUPTA, EXPERT NATIONAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL 20 N WACKER DRIVE SUITE 1600 CHICAGO, IL 60606 agupta@nrdc.org

JARED R. JEVONS, ATTORNEY POLSINELLI PC 900 W 48TH PLACE STE 900 KANSAS CITY, MO 64112 JJEVONS@POLSINELLI.COM

ANDREW O. SCHULTE, ATTORNEY POLSINELLI PC 900 W 48TH PLACE STE 900 KANSAS CITY, MO 64112 aschulte@polsinelli.com

SUNIL BECTOR, ATTORNEY SIERRA CLUB 2101 WEBSTER, SUITE 1300 OAKLAND, CA 94312-3011 sunil.bector@sierraclub.org TONY MENDOZA SIERRA CLUB 2101 WEBSTER, SUITE 1300 OAKLAND, CA 94312-3011 tony.mendoza@sierraclub.org

ROBERT R. TITUS TITUS LAW FIRM, LLC 7304 W. 130th St. Suite 190 Overland Park, KS 66213 rob@tituslawkc.com

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

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

# **[s]** Cathryn 9. Dinges Cathryn J. Dinges