

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

Before the Commissioners: Andrew J. French, Chairperson
 Dwight D. Keen
 Annie Kuether

In the Matter of the Application of Evergy)
Kansas Metro, Inc., Evergy Kansas South, Inc.)
and Evergy Kansas Central, Inc. for Approval) Docket No. 22-EKME-254-TAR
of its Demand-Side Management Portfolio)
Pursuant to the Kansas Energy Efficiency)
Investment Act (“KEEIA”), K.S.A. 66-1283)

**SCHEDULING ORDER FOR EVALUATION, MEASUREMENT AND
VERIFICATION METHODOLOGY**

This matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission). Having examined its pleadings and records, the Commission finds and concludes as follows:

1. On December 17, 2021, pursuant to the Kansas Energy Efficiency Investment Act (KEEIA), K.S.A. 66-1283, Evergy filed an Application seeking approval of its proposed Demand-Side Management (DSM) Portfolio.

2. On August 1, 2022, Evergy, Staff, CURB, and the Environmental Groups¹ filed a Motion to Approve Non-Unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement on DSM Programs (Initial Program Settlement). Under the Initial Program Settlement: (1) the budgets of programs were reduced by as much as 28%; (2) modified savings targets aligned with settlement budgets; (3) certain program components from the Whole Business Efficiency and Hard-to-Reach Business programs were removed; (4) budget guardrails and other limitations on Hard-to-Reach Homes program were established; (5) the screw-in LEDs budget was removed from Whole Home

¹ The Environmental Groups are the Climate + Energy Project (CEP), Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), the Sierra Club and Kansas Appleseed.

Efficiency program; (6) the On-Bill Financing program was converted to a PAYS tariff; (6) the budget for Pilot Incubator Program was reduced by 80% for years 1 and 2; (7) a Staff-directed auditor would be hired for Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification (EM&V), with EM&V methodology submitted to the Commission for expedited approval; and (8) a collaborative process to refine the DSM framework in Kansas would be established.²

3. On September 1, 2023, the Commission approved the Initial Program Settlement and Initial Financial Settlement, with modifications.³ The modifications include: (1) lowering the proposed EO level from 18% retention of net benefits Earnings Opportunity to 15%;⁴ and (2) requiring a more robust EM&V than contained in the Initial Program Settlement.⁵ As a result of those modifications, the Commission directed Evergy to coordinate with Staff to file an updated timeline for implementation, including new proposed effective tariff dates.⁶

4. On January 24, 2024, Evergy and Staff filed a Joint Motion for Approval of Evaluation, Measurement and Verification Methodology and Updated Metrics and Timeline, seeking: (1) expedited approval, preferably by March 1, 2024, of the KEEIA EM&V Methodology, proposed changes to the Initial Program and Financial Settlements, and updated implementation timeline; and (2) suggesting a February 9, 2024 deadline for any party to file comments on the Joint Motion.⁷

5. The Commission agrees with Staff and Evergy's suggestion to give parties until February 9, 2024, to comment on the Joint Motion for Approval of Evaluation, Measurement and

² Order on Evergy's Application and Settlement Agreements, Sept. 1, 2023, ¶ 12.

³ *Id.*, ¶ 21.

⁴ *Id.*, ¶ 44.

⁵ *Id.*, ¶ 50.

⁶ *Id.*, ¶ 63.

⁷ Joint Motion for Approval of Evaluation, Measurement and Verification Methodology and Updated Metrics and Timeline, Jan. 24, 2024, ¶ 11.

Verification Methodology and Updated Metrics and Timeline. Likewise, the Commission will expedite its order, with the goal of issuing an order by March 1, 2024.

THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

A. Comments on Joint Motion for Approval of Evaluation, Measurement and Verification Methodology and Updated Metrics and Timeline are due February 9, 2024.

B. The Commission will expedite its order on the Joint Motion for Approval of Evaluation, Measurement and Verification Methodology and Updated Metrics and Timeline, seeking expedited approval, with the intent of issuing an order by March 1, 2024.

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

French, Chairperson; Keen, Commissioner; Kuether, Commissioner

Dated: 01/30/2024



Lynn M. Retz
Executive Director

BGF

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

22-EKME-254-TAR

I, the undersigned, certify that a true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following by means of electronic service on 01/30/2024.

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