## **BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

)

)

)

)

)

)

In the Matter of the Application of Evergy Metro, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri Metro and Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West for an Accounting Authority Order Allowing the Companies to Record and Preserve Costs Related to COVID-19 Expenses

File No. EU-2020-0350

## Public Counsel's Response to Commission Order Directing Filing

The Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) responds to the Public Service Commission's (Commission) Order Directing Filing as follows:

1. On September 3, 2020, the Commission ordered parties to advise the Commission as to what extent parties will request remote appearances of counsel and witnesses at the evidentiary hearing for the above captioned case, as well as any other accommodations parties may seek. The Commission also asked parties to articulate any objections to a virtual hearing on this case by September 16, 2020.

2. Counsel for OPC plans to appear in person at the evidentiary hearing, and OPC witnesses will be available to appear in person as well. OPC does not plan to ask for the privilege of appearing remotely, but plans to accommodate any Commission order limiting the appearance of witnesses or otherwise changing the logistics of the September 30 to October 1, 2020, evidentiary hearing.

3. OPC does not object to the use of a virtual hearing.

WHEREFORE, the OPC responds to the Commission's Order Directing Filing.

Respectfully,

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

<u>/s/ Caleb Hall</u> Caleb Hall, #68112 Senior Counsel 200 Madison Street, Suite 650 Jefferson City, MO 65102 P: (573) 751-4857 F: (573) 751-5562 Caleb.hall@opc.mo.gov

Attorney for the Office of the Public Counsel

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served, either electronically or by hand delivery or by First Class United States Mail, postage prepaid, on this 16th Day of September, 2020, with notice of the same being sent to all counsel of record.

/s/ Caleb Hall