BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Evergy Missouri Metro and Evergy Missouri West's Notice of Intent to File Applications for Authority to Establish a Demand-Side Programs Investment Mechanism

File No. EO-2019-0132

STAFF OBJECTION TO PROPOSED MEEIA EXTENSION

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COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff") and for its Objection to Evergy Metro Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri Metro ("Metro") and Evergy Missouri West Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West ("West"), (collectively, "Evergy") proposed extension of its MEEIA 2020-2022 Plan through December 31, 2023, respectfully states:

1. On January 31, 2022, Evergy filed an application to modify its Demand-Side Management and Portfolio Plan for its MEEIA 2020-2022 Plan in order to extend the plan an additional year, through December 31, 2023.

After reviewing the application, Staff has several concerns it would like to investigate further. These include, but are not limited to: 1) the establishment of a new Income-Eligible Single-Family program, 2) the continuation of certain pilot programs such as PAYS and Urban Heat Island, 3) the transition of certain pilots to permanent programs,
the streamlining of the EM&V scope for the extension year, and 5) the Company's earnings opportunity proposal for the extension year. Due to its magnitude Staff must object in order to give it additional time to analyze the application and discuss any Staff concerns with Evergy and other stakeholders.

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3. This does not constitute a comprehensive list of Staff's objections to the application, and if this matter were to go to hearing, Staff reserves the right to address further issues than those discussed herein.

4. Staff believes that further analysis and discussions with Evergy could help to alleviate its concerns. However, at this time, Staff must object to the application.

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully submits its Objection for the Commission's consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

<u>/s/ Nicole Mers</u>

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Attorney for the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 25th day of February, 2022.

<u>/s/ Nicole Mers</u>