

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

ORDER ON REMOTE HEARING

Issue Date: September 23, 2020

Effective Date: September 23, 2020

On May 6, 2020, Evergy Metro Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri Metro and Evergy Missouri West, Inc. d/b/a Evergy Missouri West applied for an accounting authority order to govern costs and financial impacts associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

On July 1, 2020, the Commission issued its *Order Setting Procedural Schedule* and set a hearing date of September 30-October 1, 2020, with the hearing to be conducted in the Governor Office Building in Jefferson City. On September 3, 2020, the Commission directed the parties to advise to what extent each party anticipated requesting (1) hearing by telephone or video conference; (2) appearance of counsel and/or witnesses by telephone or video conference; and (3) the reasons for such requests. In addition, the Commission directed the parties to address whether they object to the use of a virtual hearing in this matter.

In response to the Commission's order, no party has indicated an objection to a virtual hearing. Several parties indicated they would request that witnesses be permitted to appear by telephone or video. Counsel for several parties volunteered to appear remotely to minimize the number of people in the hearing room. Other parties indicated

they would request remote appearance for all witnesses and counsel because of the risks of COVID-19 exposure, particularly during travel.

Given the number of parties involved in this case, the likely duration of the hearing, and the fact that no parties have objected to the use of a virtual hearing, the Commission will conduct the evidentiary hearing in this matter through a video and/or telephone conference.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. All parties shall appear for hearing via telephone and video conference.
2. A telephone and video conference, also accessible by Webex, has been established for the hearing set to begin at 9 a.m. September 30, 2020. The conference may be accessed by phone by dialing, toll-free 1 (855) 718-6621 and entering access code **133 959 9979**, followed by #, at the appropriate time. As an alternative to the toll-free line, the conference may also be accessed by dialing 1 (650) 479-3207.
3. A Webex link will also be distributed by e-mail to all parties.
4. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Jana C. Jacobs, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo (2016).

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 23rd day of September, 2020.