BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

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In the Matter of the Application of Evergy Kansas Metro, Inc., Evergy Kansas South, Inc. and Evergy Kansas Central, Inc. for Approvalof its Demand-Side Management Portfolio Pursuant to the Energy Efficiency Investment Act (KEEIA), K.S.A. 66-1283.

) Docket No. 22-EKME-254-TAR

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS

ALICE NAPOLEON

ON BEHALF OF

THE CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD

August 3, 2022

- **O**. Please state your name, title, and employer. 1 My name is Alice Napoleon. I am a Principal Associate at Synapse Energy Economics, 2 A. Inc. ("Synapse Energy Economics") located at 485 Massachusetts Avenue, Suite 3, 3 Cambridge, MA 02139. 4 5 Have you previously testified in this docket? 6 **Q**. Yes. On behalf of CURB, I provided direct and cross-answering testimony in this docket, A. 7 Docket No. 22-EKME-254-TAR ("Docket 22-254"), regarding the 2023-2026 Demand-8 Side Management ("DSM") Portfolio and updated Energy Efficiency Rider ("EER") filed 9 by Evergy Kansas Metro, Inc. ("Evergy Kansas Metro") and Evergy Kansas Central, Inc. 10 and Evergy Kansas South, Inc. (referred to together as "Evergy Kansas Central") 11 (collectively referred to herein as "Evergy" or the "Company") pursuant to the Kansas 12 Energy Efficiency Investment Act ("KEEIA"). My educational and professional 13 background is described in this previous testimony. 14 15 What is the purpose of your testimony? Q. 16 My testimony supports the Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement-KEEIA A. 17 Programs filed with the Motion to Approve Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement 18 on DSM Programs on August 1, 2022, as well as the Non-unanimous Partial Settlement 19 Agreement – Financial Recovery filed with the Motion to Approve Non-unanimous Partial 20
- 21 Settlement Agreement on Financial Recovery.

Q. Please provide a brief background of this proceeding.

A. On December 17, 2021, Evergy filed an application seeking approval for its Demand-Side Management Program Portfolio and Recovery Mechanism.¹ This application provided projected energy savings, costs, and benefits for nine proposed programs, including four residential programs, four business programs, and the pilot incubator program.²

In addition to CURB, a number of other parties requested and were granted 6 intervention in this docket. These include: Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos"), Black 7 Hills/Kansas Gas Utility Company, LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy ("Black Hills"), and 8 Kansas Gas Service ("KGS") (collectively, the "Gas Utilities"); Climate + Energy Project 9 ("CEP"); Kansas Industrial Consumers Group, Inc., Associated Purchasing Services 10 ("APS"), Spirit AeroSystems, Inc. ("Spirit"), Occidental Chemical Corporation ("Oxy-11 Chem"), and The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company ("Goodyear") (collectively referred 12 to as "KIC"); Natural Resources Defense Council ("NRDC"); and Sierra Club and Kansas 13 Appleseed Center for Law and Justice, Inc. ("Kansas Appleseed"), collectively referred to 14 herein as "the Parties." 15 During this docket, CURB issued 61 data requests and participated in numerous 16

16 During this docket, CURB issued 61 data requests and participated in numerous 17 meetings and technical conferences as part of its review of Evergy's application. CEP, the 18 Gas Utilities, KCC Staff, NRDC, and Sierra Club and Kansas Appleseed also issued 19 extensive informational requests.

¹ Application of Evergy Kansas Metro, Inc., Evergy Kansas South, Inc. and Evergy Kansas Central, Inc. for Approval of Demand-Side

Management Program Portfolio and Recovery Mechanism. Dec. 17, 2021. Docket No. 22-EKME-254-TAR.

² Evergy Kansas Metro and Evergy Kansas Central. KEEIA 2023 – 2026 Demand-Side Management Portfolio Filing, December 17, 2021, p. 7. Hereafter called "2023-2026 DSM Portfolio Filing."

1		Direct testimony was submitted on behalf of the Gas Utilities; CEP; CURB; KCC
2		Staff; NRDC; and Sierra Club and Kansas Appleseed.
3		The Gas Utilities; CEP; CURB; and Sierra Club and Kansas Appleseed submitted
4		cross-answering testimony.
5		A Settlement Conference commenced on July 26, 2022. All parties participated in
6		the Settlement Conference and settlement discussions continued until agreements were
7		filed on August 1, 2022. In addition to Evergy, participants in settlement discussions
8		included CURB; KCC Staff; the Gas Utilities; NRDC; KIC; CEP; and Sierra Club and
9		Kansas Appleseed.
10		
11	Q.	Has a settlement agreement been reached regarding the Company's DSM Portfolio?
11 12	Q. A.	Has a settlement agreement been reached regarding the Company's DSM Portfolio?Yes. On August 1, 2022, the Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement—KEEIA
12		Yes. On August 1, 2022, the Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement-KEEIA
12 13		Yes. On August 1, 2022, the Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement—KEEIA Programs ("Programs Agreement"), attached to the Motion to Approve Non-unanimous
12 13 14		Yes. On August 1, 2022, the Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement—KEEIA Programs ("Programs Agreement"), attached to the Motion to Approve Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement on DSM Programs ("Motion on Programs"), was filed with
12 13 14 15		Yes. On August 1, 2022, the Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement—KEEIA Programs ("Programs Agreement"), attached to the Motion to Approve Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement on DSM Programs ("Motion on Programs"), was filed with the KCC. The same day, the Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement – Financial
12 13 14 15 16		Yes. On August 1, 2022, the Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement—KEEIA Programs ("Programs Agreement"), attached to the Motion to Approve Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement on DSM Programs ("Motion on Programs"), was filed with the KCC. The same day, the Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement – Financial Recovery ("Financial Recovery Agreement"), attached to the Motion to Approve Non-
12 13 14 15 16 17		Yes. On August 1, 2022, the Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement—KEEIA Programs ("Programs Agreement"), attached to the Motion to Approve Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement on DSM Programs ("Motion on Programs"), was filed with the KCC. The same day, the Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement – Financial Recovery ("Financial Recovery Agreement"), attached to the Motion to Approve Non- unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement on Financial Recovery ("Motion on Financial
12 13 14 15 16 17 18		Yes. On August 1, 2022, the Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement—KEEIA Programs ("Programs Agreement"), attached to the Motion to Approve Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement on DSM Programs ("Motion on Programs"), was filed with the KCC. The same day, the Non-unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement – Financial Recovery ("Financial Recovery Agreement"), attached to the Motion to Approve Non- unanimous Partial Settlement Agreement on Financial Recovery ("Motion on Financial Recovery"), was filed with the KCC.

opposition to the Programs Agreement. 1 The signatories to the Financial Recovery Agreement are Evergy, CEP, CURB, 2 NRDC, and Sierra Club and Kansas Appleseed (collectively, "Financial Recovery 3 Signatories"). It is my understanding that KCC Staff and KIC oppose the Financial 4 Recovery Agreement. The Gas Utilities have not taken any position regarding the Financial 5 Recovery Agreement. 6 7 Q. Please describe the Programs Agreement. 8 9 A. The terms of the Programs Agreement can be summarized in terms of overall budget and savings target changes, program offers, evaluation and approvals, and the collaborative 10 process. 11 12 Please outline the key terms regarding overall budget and savings targets. **Q**. 13 Key terms of the overall budget and savings targets include the following: 14 A. The settlement program budget for both the Central and Metro service areas is 15 \$96 million over four years if no metrics are achieved, up to \$122 million if all 16 metrics are achieved. Relative to Evergy's initially proposed budgets, these 17 represent 72% of Evergy's initially proposed budget if no metrics are achieved, 18 19 and up to 90% if all metrics are achieved. In light of the new settlement budget figures, if all metrics are achieved, the 20 • settlement programs' projected first-year savings over the plan term are about 21

1		70% of Evergy's initial proposed GWh savings and about 50% of the originally
2		proposed MW savings. ³
3		• If Evergy changes portfolio budgets by more than 10% on an annual basis,
4		Evergy will seek KCC approval for the change and will notify other
5		stakeholders.
6		
7	Q.	Please summarize the provisions regarding the program offers in the Programs
8		Agreement.
9	А.	The Programs Agreement recommends approval of Evergy's application with the
10		following modifications and stipulations to the proposal:
11		Business programs
12		• The Programs Agreement recommends adopting Evergy's initially
13		proposed budgets for the Business Product and Business Operational
14		components of the Whole Business Efficiency program for all years.
15		• The Programs Agreement proposes to remove components targeting
16		new construction from the Whole Business Efficiency and the Hard-to-
17		Reach Business (HTR Business) programs.
18		• The Programs Agreement calls for removing the Business Comfort and
19		Enhanced Business Comfort component (except the custom HVAC
20		measure) from the Whole Business Efficiency and HTR Business

³ Evergy, Confidential KEEIA settlement financial summary 7-29 Stip version – full budget, Metrics tab.

1		programs, respectively. If Evergy is able to redesign the Business
2		Comfort and/or Enhanced Business Comfort components to pass all
3		benefit-cost tests in years 3 and 4, Evergy can request approval of these
4		components, along with a corresponding marketing budget. At 18
5		months after launch, Evergy will present the Whole Business
6		Efficiency, HTR Business, and Business Energy Education programs
7		performance metrics to meet to "unlock" additional budgets for program
8		years 3 and 4.
9	0	To address concerns about low participant cost test results, Evergy will
10		assess business customer interest in the programs through surveys and
11		also review benefit-cost analyses to try to improve the results.
11 12	0	also review benefit-cost analyses to try to improve the results. The Programs Agreement calls for reducing the Business Energy
	0	
12	0	The Programs Agreement calls for reducing the Business Energy
12 13	0	The Programs Agreement calls for reducing the Business Energy Education budget consistent with the smaller business portfolio. The
12 13 14	0	The Programs Agreement calls for reducing the Business Energy Education budget consistent with the smaller business portfolio. The combined total of the Residential Energy Education and Business
12 13 14 15	0	The Programs Agreement calls for reducing the Business Energy Education budget consistent with the smaller business portfolio. The combined total of the Residential Energy Education and Business Energy Education budgets would be capped at 5% of total portfolio cost.
12 13 14 15 16	0	The Programs Agreement calls for reducing the Business Energy Education budget consistent with the smaller business portfolio. The combined total of the Residential Energy Education and Business Energy Education budgets would be capped at 5% of total portfolio cost. Evergy will present a complete business marketing plan to stakeholders
12 13 14 15 16 17		The Programs Agreement calls for reducing the Business Energy Education budget consistent with the smaller business portfolio. The combined total of the Residential Energy Education and Business Energy Education budgets would be capped at 5% of total portfolio cost. Evergy will present a complete business marketing plan to stakeholders within six months of program approval.

6

1	Residential programs
2	• Hard-to-Reach Homes (HTR Homes)
3	• The HTR Homes budget will be 10 percent of the total portfolio
4	budget, but split into 5% towards weatherization and 5% for
5	non-weatherization efforts; if the program is effective, Evergy
6	can recommend expansion of it in years 3 and 4. The signatories
7	agree to work with Evergy over the next two years to define
8	effectiveness criteria for determining the appropriate budget.
9	 Evergy will add a specific income-eligible multi-family
10	component with a defined budget and savings targets.
11	 Evergy will work directly with partner agencies for
12	weatherization funding and administration.
13	• Evergy will work with stakeholders on reporting requirements
14	and identifying eligibility criteria, to initially include all
15	households earning up to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.
16	• Whole Home Efficiency
17	• To be consistent with new federal general service lamp rules, the
18	Programs Agreement recommends removing retail screw-in
19	LEDs from this program and making a corresponding reduction
20	in the budget and savings target.

1	 Residential Energy Education
2	• The Programs Agreement calls for the combined total of the
3	Residential Energy Education and Business Energy Education
4	budgets to be capped at 5% of total portfolio cost. Evergy will
5	present a complete marketing plan to stakeholders within six
6	months of program approval.
7	On-Bill Financing
8	• The Programs Agreement calls for this to take the form of a Pay As You
9	Save (PAYS®) program, run by a third party administrator. Per the
10	Programs Agreement, 80 percent of a customer's annual bill savings
11	from energy efficiency improvements would go toward paying for the
12	cost of the upgrade, while the customer retains 20 percent of the bill
13	savings to cut their energy costs. It also calls for the option to extend the
14	term so that participants realize savings during the repayment period.
15	\circ Since the PAYS® debt obligation is attached to the account, the
16	Programs Agreement added various protections to ensure that property
17	owners and successor occupants are notified and agree to the repayment
18	terms. Finally, it provides the terms under which bad debt can be created
19	from the program.
20	• For Home Demand Response, Evergy adopts its proposed budget and targets
21	but will focus on year-round event call opportunities.

1		Pilot Incubator
2		• Under the Programs Agreement, the Pilot Incubator program budget
3		will be reduced by 80 percent in years 1 and 2, and it will have metrics
4		to meet to "unlock" additional budgets for program years 3 and 4.
5		• Evergy will consider specific proposals made by intervenors, such as
6		efforts targeted to low income areas, for inclusion in the Incubator. The
7		Pilot Incubator budget would also provide funding or training for work
8		force development specific to multi-family properties and would fund
9		research to analyze customer energy efficiency and disconnection data.
10		In addition, Evergy may target customers who have a history of
11		delinquent payments or disconnections to participate in the HTR
12		Program.
13		
14	Q.	Please outline the key Programs Agreement terms regarding evaluation and
15		approvals.
16	A.	Key terms in the Programs Agreement for evaluation and approvals include the following:
17		• To provide increased confidence in the reported savings, a Staff-directed
18		auditor will review and provide feedback on Evergy's proposed Evaluation,
19		Measurement, and Verification (EM&V) plan; will audit program
20		implementers and customer installations; and will review and provide feedback
21		on Evergy's EM&V results.

9

1		• Following the first year of implementation, initial Technical Reference Manual
2		(TRM) savings values will be applied retroactively and be trued up based on
3		the program year 1 evaluation results. Thereafter, changes in TRM savings
4		values arising from program evaluation will be applied prospectively, unless
5		there is greater than a 15% variance at the component level.
6		• Program tracking databases will be accessible to stakeholders.
7		
8	Q.	Please outline the Programs Agreement's terms regarding a collaborative process.
9	A.	The Programs Agreement stipulates a collaborative process to discuss and refine the DSM
10		framework in Kansas going forward. This collaborative process would consider and make
11		recommendations on the following:
12		• Establishment of reporting requirements, including frequency of reporting and
13		data to be reported, including but not limited to savings, spending, and
14		participants (residential, business, income eligible, and residents of distressed
15		community).
16		• Improvements to cost-effectiveness testing practices and modeling
17		transparency within cost-effectiveness calculations and the TRM.
18		• Support for energy efficiency in new construction.
19		• Cost recovery, compensation, decoupling mechanisms and/or alternative
20		methods to support energy efficiency.

10

1	Q.	Please summarize the terms of the Financial Recovery Agreement.
2	A.	The terms of the Financial Recovery Agreement include the following:
3		• Under the Financial Recovery Agreement, program carrying costs will be
4		calculated using the average of 12 months of short-term debt and 6 months of
5		long-term debt.
6		• The negotiated Throughput Disincentive rate (\$/kWh) represents all revenue
7		lost on kWh minus riders, based on the evaluated retrospective value of kWh
8		saved for program year 1 and approved TRM use thereafter. For the purpose of
9		determining lost revenue, only four years of savings after measure install apply.
10		• The Earnings Opportunity (EO) mechanism will adopt Staff's matrix structure
11		as found in the direct testimony of Justin Grady ⁴ : no EO would be earned below
12		75% of performance target levels, and no additional EO would be earned over
13		125% of the targets. The EO award amount is based on the 18% of Net Benefits
14		approach, using the negotiated program carrying costs. Earnings opportunity
15		for the Hard-to-Reach programs will be based on first-year cumulative
16		incremental kWh targets.
17		
18	Q.	Are the Programs Agreement and the Financial Recovery Agreement independent of
1.0		and other?

- 19 each other?
- A. No. Although these agreements were framed as separate for purposes of clearly identifying

⁴ Direct Testimony of Justin Grady on Behalf of the KCC, pgs. 12-14 (June 17, 2022).

1		which parties support or oppose each aspect of settlement, it is important to note that the
2		agreements are interdependent. In other words, if the Commission were not to approve the
3		Financial Recovery Agreement, even if it approves the Programs Agreement, pursuant to
4		K.S.A. 66-1283(c)(1)(C) and Paragraph 11, Evergy could elect not to proceed with
5		programs set forth in the Programs Agreement. The complementary provision appears on
6		Paragraph 10 of the Programs Agreement. If the Commission does not approve both
7		agreements as filed, Evergy may likely withdraw its application and leave Kansas without
8		new energy efficiency offerings. Moreover, the concessions that were made by Evergy in
9		the Programs Agreement were made in conjunction with concessions made by several
10		parties in the Financial Recovery Agreement.
11		In short, CURB views this matter to express settlement conditions which, as a
12		practical matter, should be taken or rejected as a whole. Since neither of these agreements
13		were unanimous, the same five factors for Commission approval apply to both. In view of
14		this understanding, I will refer to both the Programs Agreement and the Financial Recovery
15		Agreement as the "Settlement Agreements" where appropriate.
16		
17	Q.	What criteria does the Commission generally consider when reviewing non-
18		unanimous settlement agreements?

A. It is my understanding that the Commission may accept a non-unanimous settlement agreement if the following five criteria are met: 1) the agreement conforms with applicable law; 2) there was an opportunity for opposing parties to be heard on their reasons for

1		opposition to the agreement; 3) the agreement is supported by substantial competent
2		evidence; 4) the agreement results in just and reasonable rates or charges; and 5) the results
3		of the agreement are in the public interest. ⁵
4		
5	Q.	Do the Settlement Agreements presented in this case conform to applicable law?
6	A.	I have been advised by CURB's attorneys that the Settlement Agreements conform to
7		applicable law. However, since I am not an attorney, I defer further discussion of this
8		criterion to CURB's Post-Hearing Brief.
9		
10	Q.	Was there an opportunity for opposing parties to be heard on their reasons for
11		opposition to these agreements?
11 12	A.	opposition to these agreements? Yes, there have been opportunities for parties to express opposition to these agreements.
	A.	
12	A.	Yes, there have been opportunities for parties to express opposition to these agreements.
12 13	A.	Yes, there have been opportunities for parties to express opposition to these agreements. Although I am not an attorney, I believe that the Commission conducted the proceedings
12 13 14	A.	Yes, there have been opportunities for parties to express opposition to these agreements. Although I am not an attorney, I believe that the Commission conducted the proceedings in a reasonable manner that gave all interested persons and groups the opportunity to be
12 13 14 15	A.	Yes, there have been opportunities for parties to express opposition to these agreements. Although I am not an attorney, I believe that the Commission conducted the proceedings in a reasonable manner that gave all interested persons and groups the opportunity to be heard on their positions during both the drafting of the agreements and the request to
12 13 14 15 16	A.	Yes, there have been opportunities for parties to express opposition to these agreements. Although I am not an attorney, I believe that the Commission conducted the proceedings in a reasonable manner that gave all interested persons and groups the opportunity to be heard on their positions during both the drafting of the agreements and the request to approve the application. All Parties were represented in settlement discussions held at the
12 13 14 15 16 17	A.	Yes, there have been opportunities for parties to express opposition to these agreements. Although I am not an attorney, I believe that the Commission conducted the proceedings in a reasonable manner that gave all interested persons and groups the opportunity to be heard on their positions during both the drafting of the agreements and the request to approve the application. All Parties were represented in settlement discussions held at the KCC Office in Topeka on July 26–28, 2022, with virtual participation available. There

⁵ See Order Approving Contested Settlement Agreement, ¶11, Docket No. 08-ATMG-280-RTS (May 12, 2012).

1		Hearing and Post-Hearing Briefs are also contemplated by the schedule. However,
2		inasmuch as this question calls for an opinion as to whether due process rights were
3		observed, CURB's counsel will further address this issue in its brief.
4		
5	Q.	Is the Programs Agreement supported by substantial competent evidence?
6	A.	Yes, the Programs Agreement is supported by substantial competent evidence in the record.
7		The initial application was supported by the direct testimony of several witnesses on behalf
8		of the Company. All parties, including CURB, exchanged information through written
9		discovery requests and technical conferences. The procedural schedule in this case was
10		modified in order to conduct further meetings and discovery prior to filing direct testimony.
11		Parties filed testimony contemplating changes to the DSM program offered in the initial
12		application. That testimony formed the basis for the terms of the Settlement Agreements
13		that deviated from what was originally offered by Evergy. In other words, the testimony of
14		the various parties forms support for the terms of the Settlement Agreements that departs
15		from the DSM program that Evergy filed with the Commission. The agreements are
16		supported by my testimony and, I expect, will be supported by the testimony of other
17		Signatories.

Q. Is the Financial Recovery Agreement supported by substantial competent evidence?

A. Yes. Again, Evergy's initial Application was supported with the direct testimony of several
 witnesses. The Company responded to a large number of written discovery requests, and

1	parties discussed financial terms at several meetings. Considered in conjunction with the
2	Programs Agreement, there is substantial evidence that the Financial Recovery Agreement
3	terms will result in net benefits for ratepayers while providing the Company with many
4	incentives to provide effective DSM programs. Specifically, the combination of the EO
5	and TD as agreed to in settlement will provide an incentive for Evergy to pursue energy
6	efficiency, as corroborated by Evergy's testimony.

7

8 Q. Will the Settlement Agreements result in just and reasonable rates/charges?

Yes, I believe approval of both agreements, conjunctively, will result in just and reasonable A. 9 rates/charges. My experience as a consultant in the field of utility regulation and energy 10 efficiency is that ratepayers and utilities can benefit greatly through efforts like the ones 11 Evergy is taking with this application. Although there have been a number of concerns and 12 reservations brought forward regarding the "richness" of Evergy's proposed lost revenue 13 and performance incentives, the terms of the agreements represent a significant reduction 14 in cost to ratepayers relative to the initial proposal. Based on my discussions with CURB 15 staff, I find that CURB values the growth of energy efficiency in Kansas. To that end, the 16 projected benefits and degree of collaboration and review that will follow this portfolio 17 represents a good first step in realizing the potentially substantial benefits from energy 18 efficiency. The agreements are projected to provide millions in net benefits.⁶ The 19 agreements are estimated to produce maximum annual rate impact percentages that are on 20

⁶ See Evergy, Confidential KEEIA EEDR Riders Calculator/stip version, Program Data tab.

the low side of the range of what is considered reasonable in other jurisdictions. The highest 1 impacts occur in recovery year 4 in both service areas and for both residential and for non-2 3 residential customers. In all other years, percentage rate impacts are even smaller. These rate impacts should be considered relative to the substantial projected net benefits of the 4 programs and will be balanced by bill impacts as more and more customers have the 5 opportunity to participate in the programs to achieve bill savings throughout the life of the 6 programs. CURB and other intervenors intend to work alongside Staff and Evergy to 7 evaluate the programs' results and to make meaningful changes so that the most ratepayers 8 can experience the most benefits, both financially and in terms of personal consumption 9 goals. CURB believes that the Settlement Agreements provide a reasonable balance in the 10 inherently competing interests of the utility and ratepayers with energy efficiency 11 considerations. I am comfortable with the review process and improvements to 12 transparency from the Programs Agreement to ensure that these programs do not become 13 an unreasonable windfall for Evergy without providing commensurate benefits for all 14 ratepayers. 15

16

Q. Is the Programs Agreement in the public interest?

A. Yes. There is a wide range of representation among the supporting Parties: the Company;
 KCC Staff, representing the public interest generally; CURB, representing residential and
 small commercial customers; and CEP, NRDC, Sierra Club and Kansas Appleseed
 representing environmental justice interests.

1		Under this agreement, low-income customers will have access to solid programs
2		that will empower them to manage their energy bills and to reduce individual energy
3		burdens. Further, the data that Evergy will collect pursuant to the Programs Agreement will
4		enable Evergy and stakeholders to improve program targeting and reach. As Evergy and
5		regulators gain more experience with energy efficiency as a growing part of its energy
6		resource portfolio, modifications and additions can be made to address shortcomings and
7		inefficiencies. The insight and availability of new data can be used by the Commission and
8		other groups to look at meaningful next steps to continue building up DSM in Kansas.
9		
10	Q.	Are the results of the Financial Recovery Agreement in the public interest?
11	A.	Yes. While the KCC Staff is not a signatory to the Financial Recovery Agreement, as I
12		have described previously in this testimony, the benefits of implementing DSM programs
13		in Kansas outweigh the costs to which Staff objects. Part of the consideration for
14		implementing energy efficiency measures is how to incentivize the participating utility to
15		perform work with the ultimate result of reduced energy consumption and sales. In the
16		present case, that incentive is coming in the forms of the EO and TD. In discussing the
17		history of energy efficiency in Kansas with CURB, it is apparent that much time, effort,
18		and resources have been expended at each opportunity to implement more expansive plans.
19		I agree with CURB and other parties that energy efficiency is long overdue for a bigger
20		role in meeting the energy needs of Evergy ratepayers. While this form of financial
21		recovery may be larger than provided in some other states, the alternative with the status

1 quo is even less palatable as the world works to shift away from more "traditional" 2 generation sources.

While I did recommend decoupling as a preferable manner to address the issue, 3 Evergy is the party who must choose to implement the programs at the end of the day. As 4 stated above, both agreements recognize Evergy's ability to not proceed with any new 5 programs if the Commission deviates from either agreement. I do find sufficient 6 reassurances that the signatories to the Programs Agreement have agreed to meet and study 7 the idea of decoupling and how to integrate it into Kansas ratemaking. Getting started on 8 offering energy efficiency programs now through this docket will produce valuable data 9 and experience to make future discussions on energy efficiency more detailed and clear-10 eyed. With the above considerations in mind, I believe that the agreements are in the public 11 interest at this time. 12

- 13
- 14

Q. What do you recommend?

A. I support both agreements and believe they each satisfy the Commission's established criteria for approval of a non-unanimous settlement agreement. It is important to note that most parties, including the KCC Staff, support the Programs Agreement. I believe this shows a large consensus among various stakeholders towards implementing more energy efficiency programs in Kansas. While both the KCC Staff and KIC oppose the Financial Recovery Agreement, the one cannot survive without the other. Thus, if the Commission rejects the Financial Recovery Agreement, even if it approves the Programs Agreement,

1		Evergy will very likely decide that none of the Programs Agreement will be implemented.
2		Therefore, CURB views these documents practically as one whole agreement. There were
3		many improvements to the programs offered by Evergy in exchange for agreement to terms
4		in the Financial Recovery Agreement.
5		One important aspect to CURB is that a collaborative effort will take place to
6		further discuss issues, such as program transparency, decoupling, and other measures that
7		will lead to an optimum DSM portfolio being offered in Kansas. While no party professes
8		that the Settlement Agreements provides for a perfect DSM offering, there is a mechanism
9		for improvement, and the terms of the Settlement Agreements, as a whole, are reasonable
10		to most of the parties. Therefore, I recommend the Commission reject Evergy's initial
11		proposed DSM Portfolio and, instead, approve both the Financial Recovery Agreement and
12		Programs Agreement as filed.
13		
14	Q.	Does this conclude your testimony?

15 A. Yes, it does.

VERIFICATION

))

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STATE OF MAINE COUNTY OF KENNEBEC

SS:

Alice Napoleon, being duly sworn upon her oath, deposes and states that she is a consultant for the Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board, that she has read and is familiar with the foregoing *Testimony in Support of Settlement Agreement*, and that the statements made herein are true and correct to the best of her knowledge, information, and belief.

ice Alice Napoleon

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 3rd day of August, 2022.

MOUSEN My

My Commission expires: JUNE 16th, 2028

Madison J. Myatt Notary Rublic, State of Maine My Commission Expires June 10, 2028

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

22-EKME-254-TAR

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was served by electronic service on this 3^{rd} day of August, 2022, to the following:

JAMES G. FLAHERTY, ATTORNEY ANDERSON & BYRD, L.L.P. 216 S HICKORY PO BOX 17 OTTAWA, KS 66067 jflaherty@andersonbyrd.com

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