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Introduction

Evergy, Inc. (NYSE: EVRG), provides clean, safe, and reliable energy to approximately 1.6 million customers in Kansas and Missouri. Today, half the power supplied to homes and businesses by Evergy comes from emission-free sources, creating more reliable energy with less impact to the environment. Evergy is committed to delivering safe, reliable, affordable, and sustainable energy to customers while employing a diverse workforce, being a great place to work for employees, and supporting the communities we serve.

Sustainability is important to us and has consistently been at the forefront of what we do. Since 2005, we reduced carbon emissions by 51 percent, and sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide by 98 percent and 89 percent, respectively. We have received numerous awards for innovative and sustainable business practices, and we regularly work with our stakeholders in an effort to sustainably operate our business. Additionally, we have made significant gains in adding renewable energy assets to our generation portfolio and plan to add even more.

Benefits to All Stakeholders

Throughout this report, callouts specifically outline Evergy's emphasis on stakeholder value as we continue to advance our Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) initiatives. The products and services we offer serve as a foundation of modern life and enables innovation and drives sustainable growth for all stakeholders – affordable, cleaner energy for customers; a rewarding and professional work environment for employees; value for investors; and growth for the communities we serve.

BENEFIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

Evergy's strategic plan accelerates work to create a forward-thinking, customer-centric, and sustainable energy company. With an emphasis on grid modernization, generation transition, improved customer experience, and cost competitiveness, the plan creates benefits for customers, communities, shareholders, and the environment. Targeted capital investments will improve grid reliability, reduce restoration times, and increase overall grid resiliency, while enabling long-term and sustainable cost savings. These benefits will enhance economic development and provide regionally competitive rates that benefit customers and communities, while the continued generation transition advances Evergy's sustainability goals and the sustainability goals of many of our customers.

Lower Carbon Future

Creating value for stakeholders is a central consideration for us as we continue to move forward to a cleaner energy future. This focus on stakeholder value is reflected in our Sustainability Transformation Plan (STP), which enhances the company's work as a forward-thinking, sustainable energy company.

The plan seeks to modernize the grid, reduce costs and continue the company's efforts to reduce its carbon footprint, while maintaining reliability and affordability for customers. To help inform the goals and objectives of the STP, Evergy updated its triannual Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) resulting in the announcement of our plan to reduce carbon emissions by 70% through 2030 (relative to 2005 levels). Building on this trajectory, our goal is to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2045, assuming key technology, policy, and regulatory enablers are in place.

When considering a lower carbon strategy, Evergy's analysis and stakeholder engagement includes multiple components:

What is an IRP?

An IRP is an electric utility's plan to meet expected electricity demand during a long-term planning horizon, typically 15 to 20 years. Evergy is responsible for creating the plan and sharing it with the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) and the Missouri Public Service Commission (MPSC). While there is no resource plan approval requirement, involving regulators and other stakeholders in plan development is beneficial in many ways. This transparency helps identify areas for consideration in addition to regulators' views of potential cost recovery.

- Value and affordability. Balancing priorities and managing costs to provide the energy customers need at a competitive price.
- · Safety. Keeping the safety of our employees, customers, and communities at the core of our plans.
- · Reliability. Ensuring our customers have the power they need when they need it.
- · Flexibility. Adapting our plans as conditions evolve to best serve our stakeholders.
- Environmental stewardship. Managing our resources for the benefit of current and future generations.

Achieving a lower carbon future includes pursuing legislative and regulatory mechanisms to support the transition of the company's generation fleet. For example, in 2021, Evergy supported securitization legislation in Kansas and Missouri. Securitization facilitates the cost-effective retirement of coal-fired generation by allowing for the issuance of low-cost, highly-rated, bonds to reduce the financial impact of, and customer costs associated with, retirements of these facilities.

Environmental, Social, and Governance Reporting

Evergy provides quantitative and qualitative data regarding various ESG areas of focus, including those relating to emissions, waste, and water on its <u>investor relations website</u>. There has been a proliferation in recent years of alternative formats for reporting ESG matters, and Evergy has been a leader in interacting with its constituents to determine which of these frameworks are most important to its stakeholders. This report outlines the broad-reaching benefits of Evergy's ESG focus.

For ease of use, the table below provides a comprehensive list of Evergy's public filings that are related to ESG reporting, as well as other resources mentioned in this report.

Investor Website	investors.evergy.com
Evergy ESG Metrics	investors.evergy.com/ESGMetrics
Evergy TCFD Report	investors.evergy.com/TCFD
Evergy SASB Report	investors.evergy.com/SASB
IRP Overview	investors.evergy.com/IRP2021

Environmental

Emissions Reductions

Since 2005, we have reduced carbon emissions by 51%, and sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide by 98% and 89%, respectively. Beyond these achieved reductions, Evergy has a goal to reduce carbon emissions by 70% through 2030 (relative to 2005 levels). Building on this trajectory, **our goal is to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2045**, assuming key technology, policy, and regulatory enablers are in place.

BENEFIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

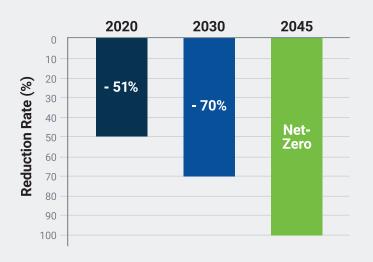
As Evergy reduces our carbon intensity and emissions footprint, all customers benefit from a reduction in their carbon footprint, helping many to meet their own established carbon targets. Additionally, cleaner air and water benefit the health of our communities.



Evergy's plan includes:

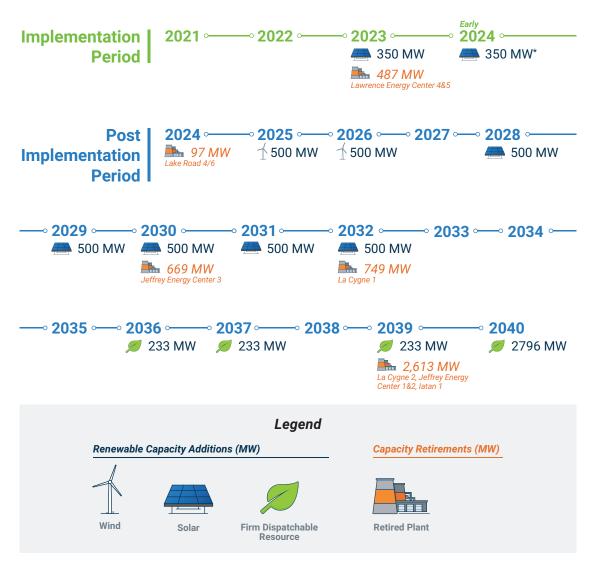
- More than 1,200 MWs of fossil retirements and 3,200 MWs of renewable generation additions including both solar and wind over the next 10 years.
- Continued responsible transition of existing fossil generation from baseload to reliable, flexible back-up capacity, lowering operating costs and carbon emissions.
- Retirement of nearly all remaining coal generation by 2040 with nearly 4,500 MWs of renewable and zerocarbon emitting firm, dispatchable resources.

Carbon Emission Reduction Goals^{*}



*Assuming key technology, policy, and regulatory enablers are in place.

The following is a summary of Evergy's generation transition plan as set forth in its most recent IRP.



*Construction of 350 MW of solar will begin prior to filing of next triennial IRP, with in-service date likely later in 2024.

Vehicle Emissions Reductions

Evergy has implemented vehicle engine idling restrictions to reduce air pollutants associated with our vehicle fleet. Employees are educated on these requirements as a part of Evergy's annual compliance training.

Evergy has also developed a network of charging stations to support electric vehicle drivers. Evergy's Clean Charge Network (CCN) includes more than 2,000 charging ports at retail, workplace, and other public locations. This network supports more than 7,000 electric vehicle drivers in our service area – a 500% increase since inception of Evergy's CCN in 2015.



Adapting to Climate Change

Evergy seeks to manage the impact of climate-related risks on our business and our ability to safely provide electricity to customers. Severe weather and related events, including tornadoes, snow, fire, rain, flooding and ice storms, can be destructive and cause outages and property damage that impairs our ability to provide dependable electricity to our customers and also results in adverse financial outcomes.

In December 2015, the Financial Stability Board (FSB) established an industry-led Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) to help investors understand the financial system's exposures to climate-related risks. The Task Force developed a framework that includes recommendations about how companies can disclose the extent to which climate is addressed in governance, strategy, and risk management. In 2020, Evergy integrated a climate change risk assessment into its existing Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) process and published its first <u>TCFD report</u>, which explains in detail how we manage relevant climate-related risks and opportunities.

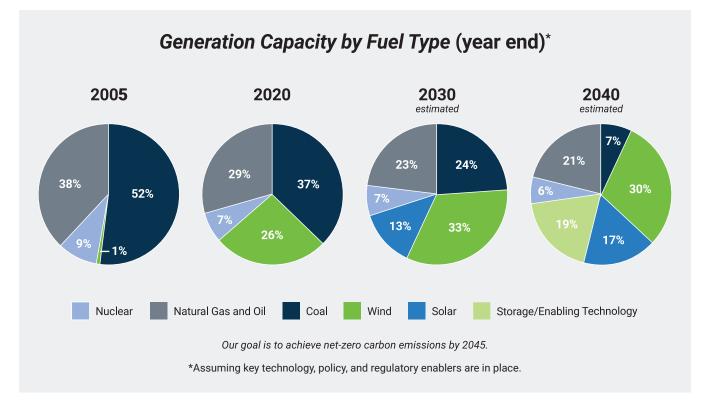
Stakeholder Engagement

Effective engagement with our stakeholders is important as we move the company forward. For example, as part of the STP process we engaged the KCC and MPSC Commissioners and staff, and others interested on three topics: grid modernization, operational efficiencies and customer experience. As part of the IRP process, we held a series of meetings with stakeholders to explore how Evergy will meet the long-term energy, service, and reliability needs of its customers.

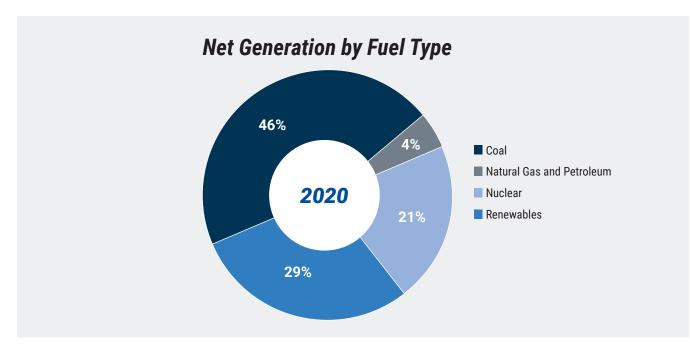
We also routinely survey customers on a variety of topics. For example, in an October 2020 survey, 72% of our customers considered climate change to be very or somewhat serious and more than half support Evergy investing in additional renewable generation that would reduce carbon emissions and make the electric grid more reliable. The feedback, comments, and suggestions offered helped inform our carbon reduction targets and renewable investment plans. This transparent public engagement provides a valuable input in our decision making process.

Beyond customer and community focused engagement, Evergy was also one of the initial members in Edison Electric Institute (EEI) and Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) groups focused on reporting uniform and consistent ESG data and information for the benefit of stakeholders interested in the industry's sustainability progress. In addition, we have an active Investor Relations department that engages with investors on a daily basis and routinely meets with investors to share our story and gain market perspective.

Generation Transition



Evergy now produces nearly a third of our customers' power annually from renewable sources. When combined with the production from our Wolf Creek Nuclear Generating Station, more than half the power to homes and businesses we serve comes from emission-free sources.



Wind

Evergy has been expanding wind energy production in the Midwest for years. With almost 4,400 megawatts of wind generation that we own or have under contract projected by year end 2021, our wind portfolio helps fuel Kansas' state ranking as the second largest producer of renewable generation as a percentage of total generation in the United States.



Surpassed 70 million megawatt hours of wind energy generation in 2020.

4,283 MW

BENEFIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

Adding renewable resources to Evergy's already impressive portfolio helps to lower our carbon intensity. In addition, our specialized programs provide customers access to renewable generation sources that were previously inaccessible due to physical access or considered cost prohibitive. These programs empower consumers to customize solutions to meet their individual needs.

Solar

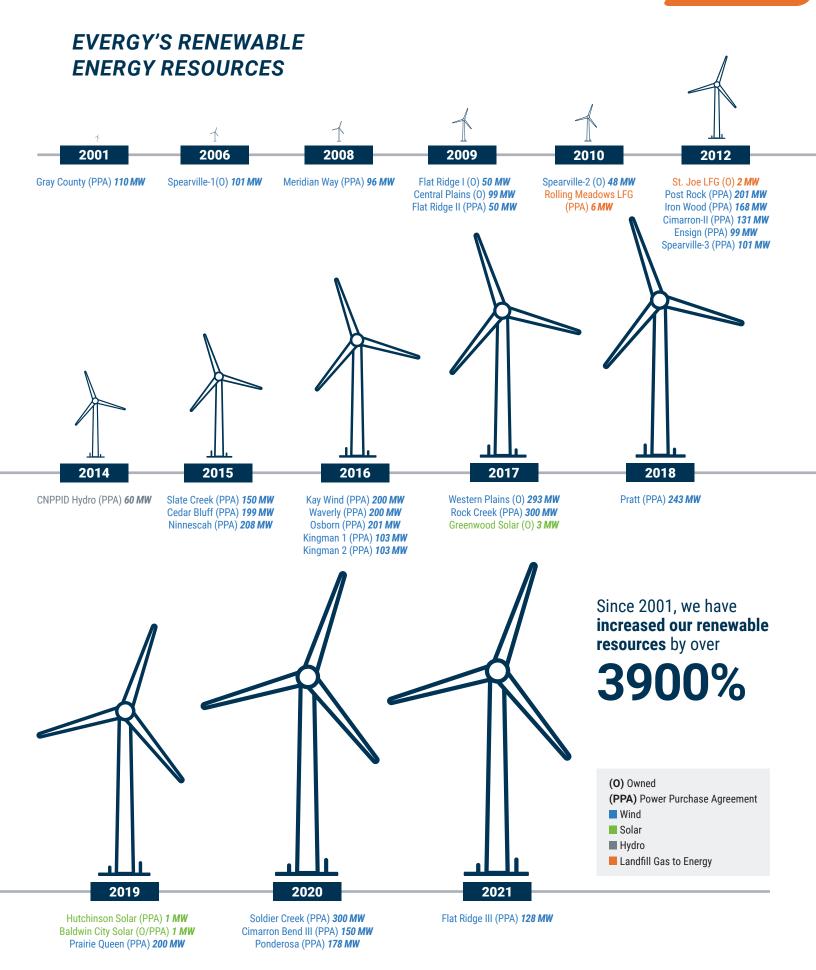
In 2016, Evergy completed construction of a solar array at our Greenwood Energy Center in Greenwood, MO, with a capacity of 3 megawatts. In 2017, we launched a second utility-scale solar project in Hutchinson, KS, which has a capacity of 1.2 megawatts. Additionally, Evergy owns or funds 25 other solar projects with 6.5 megawatts of total combined capacity.

Evergy partnered with Baldwin City, KS, to build a solar farm in 2019. The facility produces enough energy to power more than 180 homes in Baldwin City. The solar farm was built on a pollinator friendly native grass blend – which offers a safe habitat for bees and butterflies and requires minimal ground maintenance.



In April 2021, we broke ground on the 40-acre West Plains solar array — the array will be just under 11 megawatts and will be constructed with over 26,000 panels. The site is projected to be completed by Spring of 2022.

Evergy plans to add 700 megawatts of utility scale solar by 2024.



Hydro Energy

Since 2014, Evergy has purchased renewable energy from Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District's three hydroelectric plants totaling 60 megawatts of capacity.

Biogas Energy

The 3 million tons of decomposing waste in St. Joseph, MO's landfill continually produces methane, which our Evergy landfill gas plant converts into enough electricity to power up to 1,000 homes annually. Landfill gas is an important source of waste-based, renewable energy that can generate distributed base load power. Evergy also purchases power from Rolling Meadows in Topeka, KS, a 6-megawatt landfill gas-to-energy plant that has been producing electricity for our customers since 2010.

Renewable Programs

Renewables Direct

Evergy's green tariff program, Renewables Direct, offers large commercial and industrial customers a turn-key solution to procure wind energy.



Nearly 60 customers participate in the program. New entrants include the University of Kansas Edwards Campus in Overland Park, KS, which recently signed a 20-year agreement with Evergy. Additionally, the Kansas City International Airport and City of Kansas City, MO, police stations, fire stations, and other facilities have transitioned to renewable energy and receive 100 percent of their electricity from the Cimarron Bend Wind Farm through the Renewables Direct program.

"Participation in Evergy's Renewable Direct program is a significant and necessary step to cut emissions from internal operations and reduce our carbon footprint," said **Andy Savastino, City of Kansas City, Missouri Chief Environmental Officer**. "Through early adoption of this program, we hope to pave the way for other organizations to do the same."

Through the program, Boehringer Ingelheim transitioned to renewable energy at its largest U.S. manufacturing site in St. Joseph, MO and estimates the change will reduce carbon emissions at the site by 76 percent.

GENERATION TRANSITIO

Solar and Wind Subscription

Evergy's subscription-based solar and wind programs provide customers with renewable energy solutions without having to manage the complexity of installing and maintaining their own solar array or wind turbines through this local, community-based initiative. This program allows customers to offset a portion of their average energy usage (up to 50% in MO and 100% in KS) from our local renewable energy resources.



Environmental Conservation

Evergy's employees and retirees across Missouri and Kansas routinely come together to positively affect the environment in our communities through volunteerism and environmental programs.



Since 1989, our volunteer, employee-driven *Green Team* has completed thousands of projects restoring hundreds of acres of wetlands, thousands of acres of prairie and planting more than 30,000 trees. Partnering with agencies, non-profits, and schools, we protect, preserve, and educate.

In 2020, faced with a global pandemic, Evergy implemented unique volunteerism plans to provide meaningful volunteer opportunities while abiding by recommended COVID-19 preventive measures. Evergy Green Team volunteers partnered with Bridging the Gap, a Kansas City area Non-Profit, to hand out hundreds of trees at a "no contact" tree donation event as well as deliver trees to recipients in our communities.



With the help of Evergy's sponsorship and the Green Team's volunteer work, **MO Hives KC** was able to advance their mission to educate and involve urban residents in the creation, preservation and expansion of pollinator habitats in the Kansas City metro area, utilizing vacant land to support community health and wellness.

BENEFIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

Evergy's long history of environmental conservation has benefited our communities by supporting conservation projects and organizations in our service territory and beyond. Additionally, the protection measures for both flora and fauna that have been implemented protect our environment, benefiting generations to come.



In 2020, Evergy helped MO Hives KC establish a community garden and urban apiary (bee farm) in the metro KC area. Community gardens are vital for food production, particularly in urban areas where "food deserts" (areas that are under-served by traditional and economical grocers) are common. By creating a healthy urban apiary modal that can be duplicated elsewhere, this partnership has helped MO Hives inspire communities, provide experiential learning opportunities, amplify community garden yields, increase bee populations, and beautify previously blighted property.

Wildlife Conservation

Evergy has been participating as a member of the Rights-of-Way as Habitat Working Group since 2018. This group represents more than 200 organizations from across private industry, government agencies, non-profit organizations, and academia in the United States and Canada with a purpose to collaborate and identify best management practices for habitat conservation on working landscapes, specifically our power line rights-of-ways.

Evergy was also an early supporter of the monarch butterfly Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA). This CCAA is a formal agreement between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and non-federal property owners, like Evergy, to voluntarily commit to enhance, restore or maintain habitat to benefit the monarch butterfly with the goal that listing this species as endangered or threatened will become unnecessary. By enrolling in this CCAA, Evergy has committed to conserving over 20,000 acres of monarch butterfly habitat on our rights-of-ways and company-owned lands throughout Kansas and Missouri.



Evergy has a long history of avian protection efforts throughout Kansas and Missouri. As part of this commitment, Evergy has recently formed an "Avian Protection Advisory Group" comprised of representatives from various workgroups across the company. This group works to maintain and implement Evergy's Avian Protection Plan and will also serve as a standing advisory group to ensure effective communication across the company on avian protection projects moving forward.

Vegetation Management



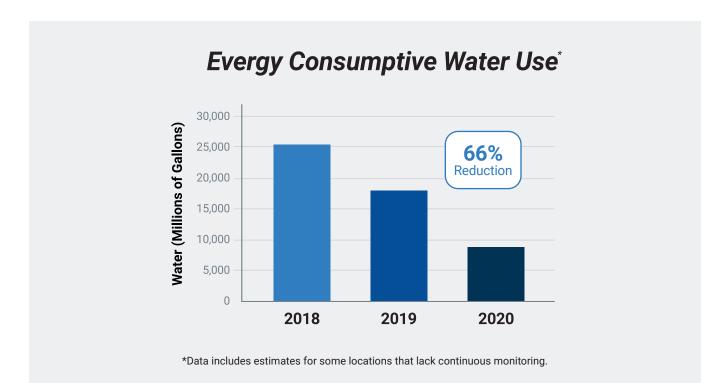
Evergy was recognized as a 2020 Tree Line USA recipient by the Arbor Day Foundation. Tree Line USA is a national program recognizing public and private utilities for practices that protect and enhance America's urban forests. A collaboration of the Foundation and the National Association of State Foresters, Tree Line USA promotes the dual goals of delivering safe and reliable electricity while maintaining healthy community trees. By successfully meeting Tree Line USA

standards — training employees in quality tree-care practices, educating the public about planting trees for energy conservation and helping homeowners plant appropriate trees near utility lines — Evergy not only helps provide beautiful trees for the future, but also yields long-term savings for customers.

Water Conservation

Evergy recognizes the use of natural resources in our operations. Water utilized from groundwater wells and natural surface water resources are vital to our ability to produce electricity for our customers. To responsibly use our water resources, Evergy routinely implements process improvements to decrease water usage and increase our ability to recycle and reuse water. Over the last several years, Evergy has undertaken projects at our major production sites that reduced water usage by 1.5 million gallons of water per day and increased water re-use and recycling by over 2 million gallons of water per day. A focus in our operations has been to treat and reuse water associated with air emissions control technologies and coal combustion residuals (CCR) handling. At latan Generating Station, Jeffrey Energy Center, and Lawrence Energy Center, Evergy has implemented recycling to eliminate or greatly reduce

water discharge associated with air emissions scrubbers. At Jeffrey Energy Center recent upgrades to our ash handling systems will eliminate the use of water in ash transfer operations. These operational changes not only reduce our need to utilize water resources but also decrease our wastewater discharge to the environment. Based on improvements like these, increases in renewable generation, and fossil plant retirements, Evergy has seen a significant reduction in consumptive water use over the previous three year period.



Economic Development & Customer Programs

As a leading and trusted energy partner, Evergy seeks to attract new customers and find solutions to help existing customers expand their businesses.

BENEFIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

Attracting and retaining customers is key to increasing stakeholder value. Additionally, by serving as a catalyst for local growth, Evergy helps to create jobs and contributes to the local economies we serve.

EVERGY IN 2020 Economic Development by the Numbers



Recognition for Economic Development

Evergy continues to engage with stakeholders to improve and evolve the economic development landscape.



Kansas Department of Commerce launches the **Kansas Certified Sites Program** based on the program created by the Evergy Economic Development Team.



AEDO Recertification – originally accredited in 2016, Evergy is one of two utilities to achieve AEDO status in the nation.



Site Selection Magazine names Evergy a **Top U.S. Utility in** Economic Development.

Energy Solutions

Evergy's Energy Solutions Program works to create and provide opportunities for our customers, big or small. Evergy works to lead discussions within legislative and regulatory frameworks with the goal of turning good policies into tools for our customers. The programs listed below help attract and retain businesses in Kansas and Missouri by helping our customers meet their own sustainability-related goals.

Program	Details	
Trees Initiative	Partnering with Bridging the Gap and National Arbor Foundation to distribute young trees and information about how to plant them to provide energy savings for years to come around homes. Additionally, Evergy's Green Team partners with these organizations to provide and plant young trees and native vegetation in communities throughout its service territory.	
Benchmarking (BEAT)	Evergy is supporting the Kansas City, Missouri benchmarking ordinance by providing building owners with multiple tenants the ability to aggregate information and gain an Energy Star score as the first step to identifying energy savings opportunities for large buildings.	
Urban Heat Island	Study of opportunities to help mitigate the impact of rising temperatures in urban areas due to thermal radiation of buildings, sidewalks, and blacktop.	
Water Nexus Report	Study completed to review activity associated with energy efficiency that can also conserve water. Project includes systemic solutions like large water treatment plant pumps and equipment, to individual residential solutions like low flow showerheads.	
Income Eligible Programs	 Weatherization – Program modeled after DOE Low-income Weatherization Assistance Program to deliver weatherization measures free of charge to qualified homes and customers. 	
	 Multi-Family – Free in-unit upgrades like lighting, faucet aerators, smart power strips direct installed by Evergy to help improve efficiency for tenants as well as holistic rebates to building owners for investing in upgrades to common area lighting, building HVAC, and insulation. 	
	 Low income Leadership Assistance Collaborative – started in Sept 2020 as a group of Kansas City area companies to exchange ideas on how to best serve the low income customers in our footprint with the variety of programs focused on energy and health and safety. 	
	 Pay As You Save – Coming in 2021 as a way to assist customers who might not otherwise invest in energy efficiency programs to pay down the investment with the savings from the energy savings measures (HVAC, insulation, lighting, etc). 	
Energy Efficiency Programs	Portfolio of programs (primarily in Missouri) to provide customers (residential and business) with opportunities to invest in energy efficiency to drive long term energy savings with a quicker payback. Also incentivizing customers to help manage Evergy's peak system demand with business incentives and residential thermostat incentives.	

Program	Details
Electrification	 Transit partnerships – Evergy provides financial and technical support to local transit authorities as they take initial steps towards electrifying their bus fleets.
	 Evergy fleet commitment - Evergy has committed to 100% of new light duty vehicle purchases and 30% of medium duty vehicle purchases having plug in technology by 2030. A total of 60% of our light duty fleet will be electrified by 2030.
	• <i>Midwest utility memorandum</i> - Evergy along with several other regional utilities, has signed a memorandum of cooperation to promote the construction of the Midwest multi-state coordinated foundational electric vehicle charging network. The goal is to foster public confidence and provide convenient, fast-charging resources for EVs traveling long distances throughout the Midwest.
	 EV Charging Stations - The Clean Charge Network is powered by renewable energy and is backed by renewable energy credits.
<i>Time of Use</i> (pilots)	Pilots across Evergy's service territory directed at providing price signals to help customers shift demand from peak hours in order to reduce their bill and manage the Evergy system peak load.
Regional Building Energy Exchange	Climate Action Kansas City's Regional Building Energy Exchange (BE-Ex) will serve as a one-stop-shop to fast-track implementation of known innovative solutions and emerging trends for the built environment. Climate Action Kansas City (CAKC) is a compact of elected officials and community leaders that works throughout the Kansas City region to draw down greenhouse gases and improve climate resilience. The BE-Ex brings world class resources, direct assistance, and tangible value to the current and future owners and occupants of Kansas City buildings. This program aims to provide direct support and financing services to building owners, policy makers, property managers, architects, engineers, and others in the Kansas City metropolitan region to promote a high performance built environment and help the Kansas City region meet ambitious climate goals, create jobs, accelerate innovation and grow its economy. Evergy has provided a grant to support this program and is actively engaged with CAKC in the strategic planning stage of this initiative.

Innovation

Innovation is critical in the transition of our generation fleet and is required to respond to the evolving needs of our customers, employees, and investors. Great care is taken to innovate responsibly, focusing on sustainability, affordability, and reliability.

BENEFIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

Innovation is key to providing safe, reliable, affordable, and sustainable service to our customers, ensuring long-term gains for our investors, and acquiring, retaining, and developing the talent to meet our evolving business needs.

Innovating Reliability

As Evergy transforms its generation fleet, it has to learn new ways to perform maintenance in a cost effective way on new renewable assets. Evergy has invested in, and partners with SkySpecs, a company that was founded to provide autonomous drone inspections of wind turbines and provide software solutions to process the large amounts of data associated with these inspections. This innovative solution has limited turbine downtime related to inspections and aided in the reprioritization and tracking of follow-on repairs.



"SkySpecs is thrilled to work closely with Evergy to help digitize operational and maintenance activities and optimize utility scale wind through the use of our Horizon software and automated drone data collection solutions. With Evergy as both investors in SkySpecs and early adopters of our digitization solutions, SkySpecs is able to rapidly develop and test new innovations for the wind industry that will help us all scale wind to reach global renewable energy targets."

Danny Ellis, CEO SkySpecs

Innovating Sustainability

We know that to meet our carbon reduction targets the nation needs to explore new technologies and processes to not only generate carbon-free electricity but also to capture and sequester carbon when possible. Evergy's Environmental Services Group, in partnership with the Kansas Geological Survey (KGS) and Linde, Inc. has been awarded a project by the Department of Energy (DOE) to support their Office of Fossil Energy's goal to advance energy storage solutions toward commercial deployment. The overall objective of this project is to conduct a feasibility study for a power-to-hydrogen system "inside the fence" of a fossil fuel electricity generating unit in the State of Kansas. Two Evergy generating sites, Hutchinson and Gordon Evans Energy Centers, are being evaluated as part of this project. Both site locations are being considered due to potential underground salt cavern hydrogen storage capacity. The feasibility phase of this project may set the stage for subsequent site-specific projects integrating relatively mature combinations of energy storage technologies with specific fossil fueled assets. This project is a continuation of the strong working relationship between Evergy's Environmental Services

Group, KGS and Linde, Inc. This is the second DOE funded project the team has been awarded. The team worked together on several phases of the DOE funded Carbon Storage Assurance Facility Enterprise (CarbonSAFE) project which focused on developing geological storage sites for storage of 50 million metric tons or greater of carbon dioxide captured from industrial source emissions located in the State of Kansas. For the CarbonSAFE project, the team conducted a pre-feasibility analysis at Evergy's Jeffrey Energy Center. Both projects expand our knowledge regarding potential pathways to reduce our CO2 emissions and overall carbon footprint.

Innovating Flexibility

As Evergy continues to transition to a less carbon intensive generation portfolio, the company has also invested resources to make its existing baseload generation facilities more flexible and more efficient in the face of a changing market environment. Examples include:

- Changing maintenance practices and by using predictive maintenance techniques that utilize technology, data analytics, and monitoring techniques to identify equipment failures before they happen.
- Changing operations practices through adapting baseload coal units to be more flexible and responsive to the needs of the market, focusing specifically on sustained low load operation well below historical norms, load ramp rates, improved unit startup durations, and more seasonal operations.

These efforts will allow our current coal fleet to be there for the reliability our customers have come to depend on, but also run less often helping to decrease our carbon emissions.

Evergy Culture

Empowering Better Futures

Evergy strives to be an employer of choice by providing competitive total rewards to employees. We are also focused on an inclusive, equitable and diverse culture that empowers better futures for our employees and communities.

BENEFIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

Developing a workforce that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive is critical as Evergy strives to be an employer of choice in our industry. The best employees bring the best results, which ultimately adds value to our customers, communities and investors alike. Providing competitive benefits, focusing on employee well-being, performing routine employee engagement surveys and acting on the results all help recruit and retain the best employees.

Employee Benefits

Evergy is committed to attracting and retaining a talented and diverse workforce to propel the company to become the best energy company. Evergy offers a comprehensive and competitive Total Rewards program that encompasses compensation, benefits and wellbeing. Evergy's employee base represents a broad range of backgrounds and experiences. As such, we offer a wide range of benefits to provide a healthy foundation for career and life. One result of these efforts is being recognized by local and national organizations for our focus on employee wellbeing, including being named a **2021 Healthiest Employee Honoree** by Kansas City Business Journal.

Total Rewards Package

Performance Based Pay

- Attract and retain the talent we need to drive outstanding performance.
- Total rewards that recognize employees total contributions.
- Competitive base pay package that considers each employee's performance, skills and experience.
- Recognition and feedback provided on achievement against goals and demonstration of the company's core values.

Incentives and Recognition

- Incentive programs for eligible employees to align performance with the achievement of corporate goals and objectives.
- Sharing scorecard and providing quarterly updates to employees.
- Encourage employees to collaborate and innovate across departmental lines to achieve outstanding performance.
- Metrics are measured to drive performance: safety, financial performance, operational performance, and enhanced customer experience.
- Employees share in the success as goals are achieved.

Benefits*

We look out for every employee's health, wellness, and financial footing with a comprehensive benefits package including:

- Choice of medical, dental and vision plans
- Paid parental leave
- Life and accident insurance
- Long-term disability insurance
- Medical and dependent care
 reimbursement accounts
- Health Savings account
- Paid vacation, company holidays and personal days
- 401(k) plan with matching contributions from the company
- Education assistance
- Wellbeing program
- Retirement plans

*Pay and benefit programs may vary based on the position. Some employees are under collective bargaining agreements that outline the benefits they may receive. If the information conflicts with the terms of the written plan documents governing the plan, the plan document will control. Compensation and benefit plans are subject to change and Evergy has the right to end, suspend or amend any of its plans at any time in whole or in part.

We promote professional and cultural development opportunities through various initiatives to help foster an inclusive and engaged workforce.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Evergy is focused on being a diverse, equitable, and inclusive company that empowers better futures for our employees and our communities.

Diversity adds depth to our company and makes us stronger. At Evergy, it's our obligation to make sure we are aware of the way our actions, consciously or unconsciously, impact our stakeholders and our company culture. We strive to take proactive steps to continually improve fostering diversity, equity and inclusion (DE&I). In 2021, we added a discretionary diversity, equity and inclusion modifier to our executive annual incentive plan to further promote and reinforce our commitment to DE&I. We will measure our overall growth and engagement in four main pillars: talent pipeline, employee engagement, employee development, and supplier diversity.



Talent Pipeline: We will take actions to expand the talent pool of diverse and underrepresented employees

Targeted Diversity Recruiting Strategy: Evergy created a Diversity Recruiter position in 2021 and implemented targeted recruiting strategies that allow us to attract top talent from diverse candidate pools. We expanded existing strategies to focus on historically black colleges and universities students, women, and military veterans. We also employ K-12 outreach, four-year and trade scholarships to broaden our candidate pool. Finally, we established a pre-apprentice line worker program as a pathway for diverse line workers.

Internships: In the face of a global pandemic, our recruiting and Human Resource teams were able to maintain a high level of engagement with new talent. We hired more than 80 interns in 2020, and nearly matched that with 75 in 2021. We have also steadily increased the diversity of our selected interns over the past three years, resulting in 40% female and 32% people of color for our 2021 interns.

Employee Engagement: We will foster a culture of inclusion by enhancing our training offerings, focusing on engagement, supporting our business resource groups, and partnering with our local communities.

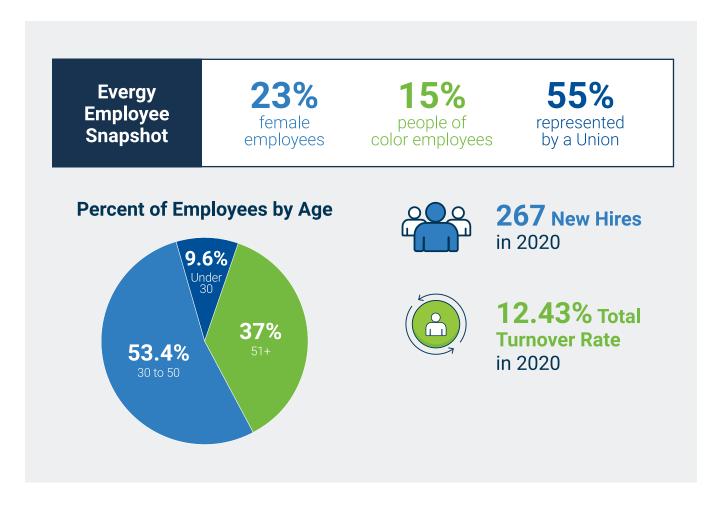
Training Offerings: In 2021, we will be deploying a full suite of tools to educate the workforce on DE&I including: a DE&I talking guide, supplier diversity 101, unconscious bias training, and allyship training, which is training that prepares employees to better support, collaborate with and advocate for people from minority and marginalized groups inside and outside of the workplace.

Formation of DE&I Council: A permanent DE&I Council was formed as an evolution of the DE&I working group formed in 2020. The council will serve as a governing body for Evergy's DE&I department and report to the DE&I Executive Steering Committee comprised of the executive team including David Campbell, Evergy's President and Chief Executive Officer.

EVERGY CULTURE

BRGs: Evergy's 7 Business Resource Groups serve as connection points for employees with common backgrounds or interests, create opportunities for leadership development, and are leveraged to attract and retain talent.

Partnering with Local Communities: This continues to be a driver for engagement at Evergy. We take pride in partnering with local community organizations that serve our underrepresented customers. Please refer to the Community Impact section on page 27 for more details.



Employee Development: We will enhance development processes and tools for diverse and underrepresented employees.

Growth of DE&I office: To help carry out DE&I initiatives, along with the Director of DE&I, Evergy hired two additional DE&I positions: a DE&I training representative and a diversity recruiter. The DE&I department continues to report directly to Evergy's CEO.

Professional Development: Many emerging company leaders will attend McKinsey's black leadership development program in 2021. Also in 2021, a program will be launched to match underrepresented future leaders with next level leaders for guidance, mentorship, and relationship building.

Training: The company created a Diversity Trainer position in 2021, with the responsibility of building a suite of tools to educate the organization.

Supplier Diversity: Evergy's supplier diversity program will continue to maintain and build supplier relationships with minority owned, women owned, veteran owned, local, LGBTQ+, small, and HUB Zone businesses.

For more than 35 years, our Supplier Diversity Initiative (SDI) has opened doors for minority, women, veteran, LGBTQ+, small, and HUB Zone businesses to help them be successful and increase our local economic impact. In 2020, Evergy spent more than \$156 million with diverse suppliers, topping our all-time high for a third year in a row.

Evergy has created meaningful internal strategic alliances across the company to foster innovative and impactful supply chain best practices around supplier diversity. We also ask our suppliers to model our commitment by providing us their diverse supplier plan for all contracts we enter into that are over \$700,000.

Evergy offers a unique diverse supplier mentoring program, *Light Source*. The program pairs emerging local diverse business with an Evergy executive to help guide their ability to work with companies like Evergy. We also partner with many community organizations helping nurture growth and strengthening their networks and capabilities. Such organizations include the Kansas City Procurement Roundtable, Wichita's Diverse Business Committee, diverse chambers of commerce, minority supplier councils, women's business development councils, the state and local chambers of commerce, the small business administration, and others.



Edison Electric

Evergy has earned the EEI Innovation Award for the Light Source program. This award recognizes the implementation and execution of innovation in supplier diversity practices, as well as proven successes and benefits for diverse suppliers and for the company. In total, 34 diverse suppliers have graduated from the program, and nine currently are enrolled. Internally, Evergy has benefited by increasing the pipeline of talented diverse supplier options. The Light Source Mentoring Program also was successfully replicated by two local agencies and one

other electric company. Additionally, Evergy led local efforts to bring a corporate collaboration between Kansas City and Dartmouth College's Tuck School of Business to host its Business Executive Education Program for select diverse businesses. During the two-year nomination period, Evergy's spending with diverse suppliers totaled approximately \$253 million.

In 2020, Evergy showcased 20 diverse suppliers through targeted "Supplier Spotlights" to our business partners. This resulted in the signing of 13 Master Service Agreements (MSA) with diverse suppliers who can be included on bids in 2021.

Many of our diverse suppliers were innovative and adapted swiftly during the pandemic to provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other resources pivotal to our supply chain. This not only helped Evergy employees to stay safe, but also allowed our diverse businesses to continue to thrive.





As a small, woman minority owned environmental business, one of the incredible things about working with a large corporation like Evergy, is their commitment to our planet, finding products that are produced and manufactured sustainably, like our N95/N99 GRCIT Masks with an Activated Bamboo Carbon layer. Green Resources Consulting, where you can breathe the benefits.

Iveth Jalinsky, Founder/CEO

Supplier Diversity Advisory Council

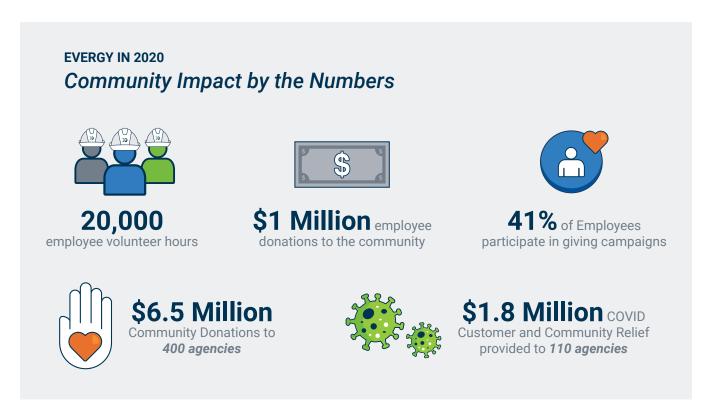
Evergy developed a Supplier Diversity Advisory Council consisting of a cross-section of employees, focused on a diverse member base, with a purpose to promote the growth and sustainability of Evergy's Supplier Diversity Program. This council provides guidance to Evergy's management team on the importance of supplier diversity best practices and on ways to increase the amount of money spent with diverse businesses locally and nationwide. This council is also focused on identifying and nurturing qualified diverse businesses in the communities we serve.

For more information about employee benefits, Evergy's DE&I program as well as information on Evergy's Supplier Code of Conduct please visit the websites below:

- evergy.com/careers/diversity
- evergy.com/careers/benefits
- · evergy.com/partner-with-us/suppliers/supplier-diversity
- · evergy.com/-/media/documents/partnering-with-us/supplier-code-of-conduct.pdf
- <u>evergy.com/DEI</u>

Community Impact

Evergy is committed to empowering a better future for our customers and communities. Making a positive impact in the communities we call home is a foundational component of our business.



In 2020, we officially launched our community impact strategy to focus our resources, including donations, community leadership, volunteerism, and in-kind support. Our community investment program is based on a strategy that helps our customers and region move forward. We look for innovative solutions that address root causes so our efforts and actions truly make an impact in our hometowns.

Evergy Focuses Community Investments in These Areas:

Environmental Leadership: We are committed to creating a sustainable energy future and minimizing our environmental impact.

Community Vitality: Evergy is only as healthy as the communities in which we live and work. We invest in opportunities that retain and attract business as well as stimulate workforce readiness, provide access to opportunities for all ages and backgrounds, and help with basic needs that help communities and people contribute to society.

COVID Community & Customer Relief Program

The coronavirus pandemic and resulting economic crisis created an urgent and unprecedented need in our communities. Evergy pledged up to \$2,200,000 through immediate emergency support, hometown economic recovery grants, customer utility payment funds support and increased employee donation match support. This support was in addition to Evergy's annual \$6,500,000 of community support to hundreds of agencies throughout our service territory.

The strategy aligned with our commitment to communities, customers, and employees.

BENEFIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

Healthy communities help support the long-term growth and stability of our region benefiting our customers, employees, and company overall. Evergy donates millions each year and Evergy's employees give time and money to support our local communities.

Phase 1: Emergency Support / 63 grants totaling \$405,000 – The initial emergency support phase was designed to quickly provide grants to agencies that remained open during the pandemic and provided essential services in the areas of food insecurity, social welfare, emergency services, child and family services, and utility assistance.

Phase 2: Hometown Economic Recovery Program / 44 grants totaling \$800,100 – In June 2020 Evergy announced a program for communities and agencies focused on longer-term recovery efforts. This program mirrored the varied needs of our communities and focused on small business, community and economic development, workforce development, retraining, and placement.

Customer Support Program: \$690,000 granted to assistance funds, employee matches, and customer credits. At the onset of the pandemic, Evergy quickly established a moratorium on disconnects and offered flexible pay arrangements for residential and small business customers. We also made significant investments in Dollar Aide, Project Deserve, and other funds to assist our customers with energy payments during this time of crisis as well as payment credits through the customer contact centers. Special employee giving campaigns encouraged our employees to support these programs and increased donation match by the company complemented the overall effort.

Connecting Our Customers to Resources

While COVID forced us to temporarily close Evergy Connect, our customer walk-in facility, by July 2020 we were able to safely reopen and provide customized support to our customers. A unique barrier was built to allow customers to safely enter our building and work with our specialists in person, or through our 'virtual desk' which allowed for Zoom and other face-to-face platforms.

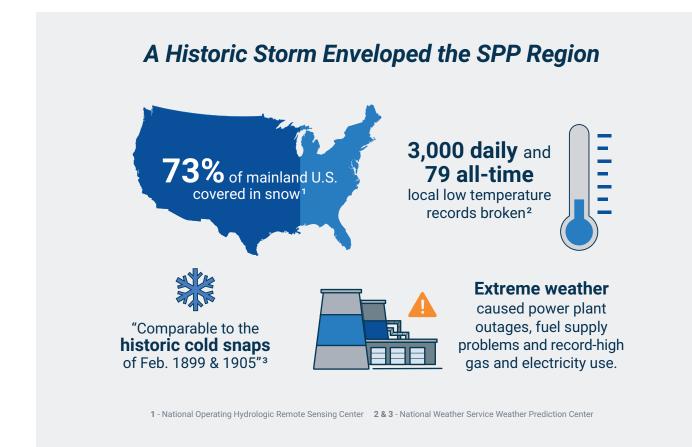
Evergy was one of the first utilities in the nation to begin waiving late fees and not disconnecting service for nonpayment as customers and communities were facing hardship as a result of COVID-19. Evergy quickly began working with regulators and policy leaders to expand the eligibility of utility assistance and improve application processes and deadlines. As a result, we were able to introduce additional payment plans to allow payment flexibility and to provide residential customers with extended payment plan options. This, along with a comprehensive outreach campaign, resulted in more than \$22 million in assistance being provided to eligible customer accounts.

As more federal COVID relief assistance programs emerged, we developed a one-stop shop on Evergy.com for customers to assess the right programs for them and quickly navigate to the program specific application pages.

Safety, Security & Reliability

Winter Storm Emergency

In early 2021, a historic winter storm enveloped much of the country. Extended cold temperatures created fuel and electricity shortages for our region. As members of the Southwest Power Pool (SPP), a regional electricity coordinator, Evergy worked with regional partners to prevent grid damage and minimize outages.



As the cold temperatures moved in, Evergy began cold weather operations processes for generation and distribution facilities. This meant securing additional staffing and ensuring fuel availability. When we received notification from SPP of regional conditions, Evergy began public calls for conservation and ultimately interrupted approximately 325,000 customers across our service territory, at separate times over a two-day period.

These actions prevented the power grid from potentially experiencing uncontrolled outages for greater periods, affecting more customers. Evergy, like others, is studying this event to inform our planning in reliability and stability.

Safety

Safety is a core value at Evergy, and we value safety at all times and in all situations. 2020 was a remarkable year for Evergy regarding our safety performance, improving upon the previous year's performance in multiple metrics. Those metrics can be found in our most recent EEI Data Template here: investors.evergy.com/sustainability

In addition to those improvements, we continue to provide educational programs for customers and contractors about electricity safety, tree trimming and planting. Employees visit area schools to teach students electrical safety as well.

BENEFIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

Providing a reliable, safe, and secure power grid to our customers ensures that Evergy's business is stable and able to endure hardships, both expected and unexpected, while still providing returns to investors.

Lastly, the pandemic created unique circumstances that required timely and prudent action. We partnered with the Truman Medical Center to host employee COVID vaccination centers at many of our own facilities to safely roll out an employee vaccination plan.

Security

Electricity is the backbone of our communities, so the security and reliability of the power grid is of utmost importance. Evergy has a vast security network to protect against physical and cyber threats. Through robust security, business continuity and crisis management planning, Evergy seeks to maintain a secure, reliable power supply and distribution network for our customers. Additionally, Evergy works with state and federal agencies to ensure that our program is in sync with government direction. For example, Evergy participates in a biannual nationwide security exercise known as GridEx. Entities take lessons learned from this exercise and implement them in their programs.

Nuclear Security

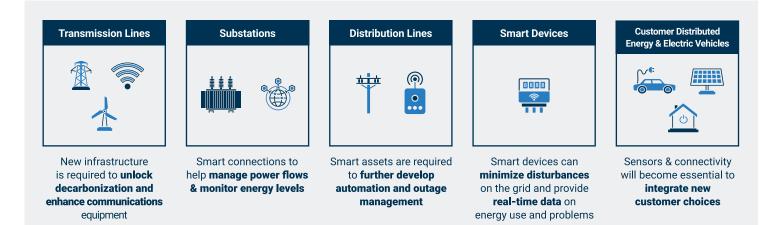
Evergy's Wolf Creek Generating Station (Wolf Creek) provides our customers with emission-free electricity. Our highly-trained operators and employees protect the reactor core using redundant and diverse safety systems, along with comprehensive testing and preventive maintenance to ensure high performance. The nuclear energy industry is relentless in its pursuit of safety through high quality plant construction, continuous preventive maintenance, and ongoing reactor operator training. America's nuclear plants are designed and licensed under a defense-in-depth safety approach that includes multiple safety systems and backup power supplies. Evergy has benefited from a comprehensive benchmarking effort that establishes world-class standards for plant operations. This effort includes examining plants in other countries to ensure that the best practices in the world are emulated.

In 2020, Wolf Creek moved from a traditional practice of running at 100 percent power around the clock to flexible power operations, which aligns power output with market demands. This model exemplifies Evergy's focus on innovation and supports Evergy's Sustainability Transformation Plan by creating cost efficiencies during low grid-demand periods.

In May 2021, Wolf Creek safely completed our 24th scheduled refueling and maintenance outage. The plant operated continuously for 416 days between refueling outages. Prior to that, Wolf Creek achieved consecutive 491 and 495-day continuous runs between outages.

Reliability

Grid modernization plays a critical role in Evergy's Sustainability Transformation Plan. As technologies evolve, our grid capabilities must evolve as well. The STP includes capital investments to replace aged infrastructure and to enable grid automation, data handling and analytics capabilities, and communications infrastructure that improves grid reliability, reduces restoration times, and increases overall grid resiliency. The five-year capital expenditure plan includes approximately \$9.2 billion in total infrastructure investment across our transmission and distribution network, generating facilities, customer systems, and other platforms.



Beyond those large capital investments, Evergy has always been focused on improving predictive maintenance programs to reduce outages and operational costs. Currently, we are utilizing drones to more safely and efficiently inspect equipment to reduce the likelihood of outages due to equipment failure and build long-term grid resiliency for the benefit of our customers.

Evergy was selected in late 2020 by the Kansas Department of Transportation to continue Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) research for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to help with UAS integration into the national airspace system. The research initiative, known as the BEYOND program, tackles the remaining UAS integration challenges and reviews safety concerns using drones beyond the visual line of site. The BEYOND program is slated for a 3 to 4-year research period and once completed, Evergy plans to secure a waiver allowing for non-line of sight operations.

The BEYOND program is currently taking into account the merging of various technologies into one system and ensuring safe repeatable operations. To effectively operate a drone beyond the visual line of site of the pilot, it takes many different technology systems in order to make this a reality. Garmin, Black and Veatch, Kansas State University, The University of Kansas, and Wichita State University are just a few of the other groups involved in the program led by the Kansas Department of Transportation.

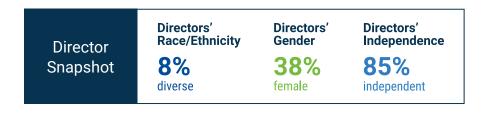




Governance

Board Oversight

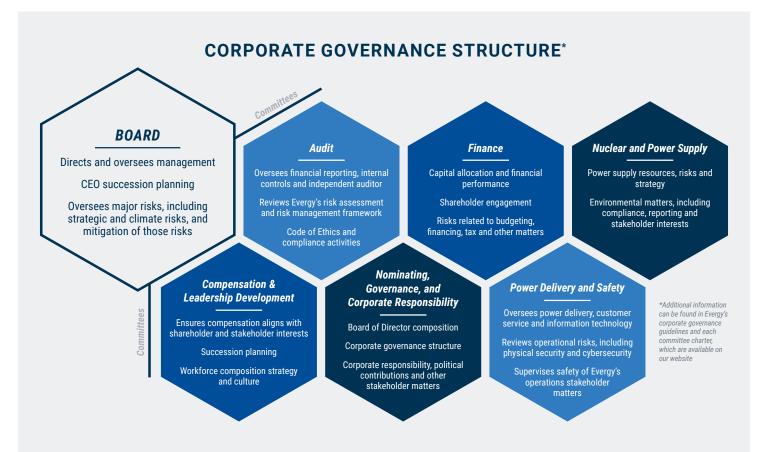
Each member of Evergy's Board of Directors (Board) is elected by shareholders annually, and approximately 85% of the members of the Board are independent. The Board annually appoints a Lead Independent Director, and the Board holds standing executive sessions comprised of only independent directors to ensure that adequate independent oversight exists on the Board.



The Board has formed six separate committees to help oversee Evergy's operations.

BENEFIT TO STAKEHOLDERS

A strong governance structure ensures that Evergy has policies and controls in place to ensure that we conduct our business in an ethical and effective manner. This governance structure helps to ensure that external stakeholders continue to benefit as Evergy makes important, business-enabling decisions.



Management's Role in ESG Matters

Evergy has also established a management structure to oversee and drive ESG matters. For many years, Evergy has had a working group comprised of representatives of Evergy's corporate governance, investor relations, environmental stewardship, operations, public affairs and community relations, and diversity, equity, and inclusion teams to monitor and lay the foundation for ESG business objectives and reporting. In addition, Evergy has an ESG Steering Committee comprised of our President and Chief Executive Officer, and numerous Executive Vice Presidents, Senior Vice Presidents, and Vice Presidents to identify company priorities and provide a platform and resources to implement ESG initiatives and engage with the Board committees responsible for ESG matters.

ESG GOVERNANCE



ESG Working Group

Comprised of multiple department heads across Evergy

- Oversee specific ESG business objectives
 - · Provide relevant information and data to support ESG reporting
 - Communicate and carry out ESG initiatives within specific business units

Conservation and Sustainability ESG program management

- Coordinate Steering Committee and Working Group
 - · Gather data and report externally
 - Participate in industry stakeholder projects, which includes mapping to industry frameworks (SASB, TCFD, EEI, EPRI, etc.)

The Board is also responsible for the annual review and approval of our Code of Ethics. Given that ethical behavior is critical to our success, we work hard to ensure that our employees are familiar with company expectations by conducting annual ethics and compliance training, sending quarterly ethics focused communications to all employees, providing ethical decision making scenarios for leaders to use to foster conversation, and providing various means of raising concerns including a third-party anonymous concerns line.

All of the committee charters, governance documents, public policy, and Code of Ethics can be found at <u>investors.evergy.com/corporate-governance/documents-charters</u>.



Statements made in this report that are not based on historical facts are forward-looking, may involve risks and uncertainties, and are intended to be as of the date when made. Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements relating to the strategic plan for Evergy, Inc. and its subsidiaries (the "Evergy Companies"), including, without limitation, those related to earnings per share, dividend, operating and maintenance expense and capital investment goals; the outcome of legislative efforts and regulatory and legal proceedings; future energy demand; future power prices; plans with respect to existing and potential future generation resources; the availability and cost of generation resources and energy storage; target emissions reductions; and other matters relating to expected financial performance or affecting future operations. Forward-looking statements are often accompanied by forward-looking words such as "anticipates," "believes," "expects," "estimates," "forecasts," "should," "could," "may," "seeks," "intends," "proposed," "projects," "planned," "target," "outlook," "remain confident," "goal," "will" or other words of similar meaning. Forward-looking statements involve risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking information.

In connection with the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, the Evergy Companies are providing a number of risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results to differ from the forward-looking information. These risks, uncertainties and other factors include, but are not limited to: economic and weather conditions and any impact on sales, prices and costs; changes in business strategy or operations; the impact of federal, state and local political, legislative, judicial and regulatory actions or developments, including deregulation, re-regulation, securitization and restructuring of the electric utility industry; decisions of regulators regarding, among other things, customer rates and the prudency of operational decisions such as capital expenditures and asset retirements; changes in applicable laws, regulations, rules, principles or practices, or the interpretations thereof, governing tax, accounting and environmental matters, including air and water guality and waste management and disposal; the impact of climate change, including increased frequency and severity of significant weather events and the extent to which counterparties are willing to do business with, finance the operations of or purchase energy from the Evergy Companies due to the fact that the Evergy Companies operate coal-fired generation; prices and availability of electricity in wholesale markets; market perception of the energy industry and the Evergy Companies; the impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on, among other things, sales, results of operations, financial condition, liquidity and cash flows, and also on operational issues, such as the availability and ability of the Evergy Companies' employees and suppliers to perform the functions that are necessary to operate the Evergy Companies; changes in the energy trading markets in which the Evergy Companies participate, including retroactive repricing of transactions by regional transmission organizations (RTO) and independent system operators; financial market conditions and performance, including changes in interest rates and credit spreads and in availability and cost of capital and the effects on derivatives and hedges, nuclear decommissioning trust and pension plan assets and costs; impairments of long-lived assets or goodwill; credit ratings; inflation rates; the transition to a replacement for the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) benchmark interest rate; effectiveness of risk management policies and procedures and the ability of counterparties to satisfy their contractual commitments; impact of physical and cybersecurity breaches, criminal activity, terrorist attacks and other disruptions to the Evergy Companies' facilities or information technology infrastructure or the facilities and infrastructure of third-party service providers on which the Evergy Companies rely; ability to carry out marketing and sales plans; cost, availability, quality and timely provision of equipment, supplies, labor and fuel; ability to achieve generation goals and the occurrence and duration of planned and unplanned generation outages; delays and cost increases of generation, transmission, distribution or other projects; the Evergy Companies' ability to manage their transmission and distribution development plans and transmission joint ventures; the inherent risks associated with the ownership and operation of a nuclear facility, including environmental, health, safety, regulatory and financial risks; workforce risks, including those related to the Evergy Companies' ability to attract and retain gualified personnel, maintain satisfactory relationships with their labor unions and manage costs of, or changes in, retirement, health care and other benefits; disruption, costs and uncertainties caused by or related to the actions of individuals or entities, such as activist shareholders or special interest groups, that seek to influence the Evergy Companies' strategic plan, financial results or operations; the possibility that strategic initiatives, including mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, and long-term financial plans, may not create the value that they are expected to achieve in a timely manner or at all; difficulties in maintaining relationships with customers, employees, regulators or suppliers; and other risks and uncertainties.

This list of factors is not all-inclusive because it is not possible to predict all factors. Additional risks and uncertainties are discussed from time to time in current, quarterly and annual reports filed by the Evergy Companies with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Reports filed by the Evergy Companies with the SEC should also be read for more information regarding risk factors. Each forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date of the particular statement. The Evergy Companies undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law.



