

**EVERGY, INC.**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**CORPORATE GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES**  
**Amended and Restated: December 13, 2023**

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Introduction

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Evergy, Inc. (the “Company”) has adopted these corporate governance guidelines consistent with their fiduciary obligations and ethical responsibilities.

These guidelines are reviewed by the Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee periodically and revised as necessary to assist in fulfilling the Board’s obligations.

**Corporate Governance Guidelines**

**1. Board Responsibilities**

The Board is elected by the shareholders and is the ultimate decision-making body of the Company, except for matters reserved to the shareholders. The Board has responsibility for directing, overseeing, and monitoring the performance of management, who are charged by the Board with conducting the day-to-day business of the Company. Directors of the Board (the “Directors”) fulfill their responsibilities consistent with their fiduciary duties, and in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. Directors may, as appropriate, take into consideration the interests of other stakeholders, including customers, employees, and the members of communities in which the Company operates. The Board oversees that the assets and operations of the Company are properly managed and safeguarded and that appropriate processes and controls are maintained. The Board reviews, monitors, and, where appropriate, approves fundamental financial and business strategies and major corporate actions. The Board also has responsibility for the review and effectiveness of the senior leadership and corporate structure of the Company.

The Board is responsible for the oversight of all major risks (as well as mitigation plans) of the Company including strategic, financial, operational, and compliance risks. The Board has delegated some specific risk oversight responsibility to its committees, as provided in the committee charters. The Board provides advice and counsel to the Chief Executive Officer (the “CEO”) and other “Officers” of the Company. For purposes of these guidelines, “Officer” shall mean the CEO, Chief Financial Officer, President, Chief Operating Officer, or any Vice President of the Company.

The Board will review the Company's succession planning, including succession planning in the event of an emergency or retirement of the CEO. The CEO will provide, at least annually, a report to the Board of potential successors for the CEO position. The CEO will also provide, at least annually, a report to the Board on succession and development plans for all senior management positions and will review and discuss such report with the Board.

The Board believes that the Company should conduct business in an ethical manner and consistent with the Company's Code of Ethics (the "Code"), which serves as the guiding document for the lawful and ethical business conduct of the Board, the Company's employees, and its agents.

The Board is committed to understanding the business of the Company. A Director is expected to spend the time and effort required to properly discharge such Director's responsibilities, including attending and actively participating in Board and committee meetings and reviewing in advance meeting materials. Each Director is encouraged to attend the annual meeting of shareholders.

Each new Director shall participate in an initial orientation program that includes background information about the Company's business, general information about the Board and its committees, and a review of a Director's duties and responsibilities.

All Directors are encouraged to periodically attend corporate governance educational programs related to their service on the Board, as well as ongoing training related to the Company's business. The Directors shall also receive reimbursement for reasonable expenses associated with attending Board-related educational programs.

## **2. Selection and Composition of the Board**

The By-laws provide that the number of directors shall be set from time to time by the Board within a specified range. A majority of the members of the Board shall be independent as determined in accordance with the listing standards of the Nasdaq Stock Market or other market on which Evergy's securities are listed (the "Stock Exchange") as well as other independence standards the Board may wish to adopt. To assist it in determining each Director's independence, the Board has established the categorical standards listed in Appendix A. The Board will affirmatively determine the independence of each director annually.

The Chair of the Board ("Chair"), who may also be the CEO, shall be a Director and preside at all meetings of the Board and all executive sessions of non-management members of the Board at which he or she is present. The non-management members of the Board shall schedule regular executive sessions before or after each regularly scheduled Board and committee meeting with no members of management present. The Chair will also be available for discussion with individual Directors regarding key issues, individual performance, or any other matters relating to enhanced board effectiveness. These discussions may be initiated by either party.

The independent directors of the Board shall elect on an annual basis an independent director as Lead Independent Director, if the Chair is not independent. The independent members of the Board shall periodically, but not less than annually, hold executive sessions before or after a scheduled Board and/or committee meeting with only independent directors present. The Lead Independent Director may call meetings of independent directors and is responsible for (i) presiding over meetings of the independent directors of the Board, (ii) developing the agenda for such executive sessions of independent directors, (iii) serving as liaison between the Chair and the independent directors, (iv) reviewing meeting agendas, (v) reviewing meeting schedules, and (vi) other duties as the Board may from time to time delegate to the Lead Independent Director.

The Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee is responsible for evaluating and recommending to the Board qualified candidates to become members of the Board and recommending that the Board select candidates for any vacancies or directorships to be filled by the Board or by shareholders at any annual or special meeting. Shareholders also can nominate directors in accordance with the By-laws of the Company. Director candidates are selected based on their practical wisdom, mature judgment, and diversity of backgrounds, financial acumen, and business experience. Candidates should possess the highest levels of personal and professional ethics, integrity, and values. The Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee may also consider in its assessment the Board's diversity in its broadest sense, including, but not limited to, geography, age, gender, and ethnicity.

All Directors serving on the Board as of June 4, 2018 shall have a mandatory retirement age of 75, meaning that such Director will not be eligible to stand for election or re-election at the annual meeting of shareholders following his or her 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. Any Director appointed on or after June 4, 2018 will not be able to stand for election or re-election at the annual meeting of shareholders following the earlier of (i) his or her 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday or (ii) 16 years of service. Any Director who experiences a significant change in primary employment since election to the Board will offer to resign his or her service as a Director, which offer will be evaluated by the Board in light of the individual circumstances.

Directors (other than those who are employed by the Company or any of its subsidiaries) are entitled to receive reasonable compensation for their services on the Board, based on comparable compensation with similar companies in the industry as may be determined from time to time by the Board upon recommendation by the Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee. Directors also receive reimbursement of reasonable expenses when traveling on Board-related business.

Each Director owes certain fiduciary and other duties to the Company and its shareholders. As a result, each Director is expected to devote sufficient time, energy, and attention to effectively fulfill his or her duties and responsibilities. Prior to accepting an additional directorship, including

those on public, significant private, and charitable organizations, each Director is expected to consider the demands on their time and resources that may be posed by the additional directorship.

A Director who serves as the CEO should not serve on the board of directors of more than two (2) public companies or significant private or charitable organizations, including the Company, without prior approval of the Board. No Director may serve on the board of directors of more than four (4) public companies, including the Company, without prior approval of the Board. No member of the Audit Committee may serve on the audit committee of more than three (3) public companies, including the Company, without prior approval of the Board.

Without advance authorization from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, a Director may not accept an invitation to serve as an officer or director of (i) a public utility that is not affiliated with the Company, (ii) an entity that is an underwriter of the Company's securities or (iii) an actual or potential electrical equipment supplier to the Company.

Each Director is required to notify the Chair of the Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee and the Corporate Secretary Office prior to accepting an invitation to serve on the board or audit committee of another public company.

If an actual or potential conflict of interest develops because of a change in the business of the Company or a subsidiary, or in a Director's circumstances (for example, significant and ongoing competition between the Company and a business with which the Director is affiliated), the Director involved should report the matter immediately to the Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee for evaluation and appropriate resolution.

If a Director has a personal interest in a matter before the Board, that Director shall disclose the interest to the full Board, shall recuse himself or herself from discussing the matter further with the Board, and shall not vote on the matter.

### **3. Committee Structure and Responsibilities**

The current committee structure consists of the following standing committees: Audit Committee; Compensation and Leadership Development Committee; Finance Committee; Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee; Nuclear, Power Supply, and Environmental Committee; and Safety and Power Delivery Committee (collectively, the "Standing Committees"). The need for other committees may evolve over time and the Board will initiate discussion in this area if appropriate. Each Standing Committee of the Board will have a written charter that identifies the duties of each committee and that complies with the relevant law and Stock Exchange listing rules, as appropriate. All charters are periodically reviewed by each committee and any changes are subject to approval by the Board. From time to time, the Board may form a new committee (on an ad-hoc or standing basis) or disband a current committee depending on the circumstances. Each Standing Committee also completes a self-assessment annually.

Directors are recommended by the Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee for committee membership subject to Board approval. The Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee will periodically submit to the Board recommendations regarding whether to rotate chairs and/or members within and among committees.

#### **4. Communication with the Board**

Shareholders and other stakeholders can contact the Board by e-mail at [boardofdirectors@evergyinc.com](mailto:boardofdirectors@evergyinc.com) or by regular mail by sending it to the Corporate Secretary. Communications from shareholders related to the duties and responsibilities of the Board or individual Directors are forwarded to the Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee to be handled on behalf of the Board.

#### **5. Board Access to Management**

The Directors have complete access to the Company's Officers and other management. The Board expects that management will be present at, or available to attend, Board meetings to provide insight into business issues and to provide the Board the opportunity to evaluate management skills. The Board will also have access to the Company's auditors and counsel. The Board and each of its committees is also authorized to engage independent legal, financial, or other advisors without obtaining the approval of management.

#### **6. Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure**

Directors are required to maintain the confidentiality of all information regarding Board proceedings and deliberations, and all information regarding the Company, its Officers, and other Directors that the Director learns in his or her capacity as a Director of the Company. Each Director also is expected to respect the role of the CEO as the chief spokesperson for the Company, and should not engage in discussions regarding the Company with third parties, including journalists, investors, analysts, or investment advisors, particularly when confidential or market-sensitive information is involved. In the event it is deemed advantageous for a Director to communicate to journalists, investors, analysts, investment advisors, or other third parties on behalf of the Board of the Company, then the Chair of the Board or the Lead Independent Director, in coordination with the CEO, will be invited to speak on behalf of the Board, or the Chair or the Lead Independent Director, in coordination with the CEO, will designate another Director to make such communication.

#### **7. Preparation of Agenda**

The Chair approves the agenda for each Board meeting, which is prepared by the CEO reflecting input, if any, of the Chair and Lead Independent Director, if any. Any Director may suggest additional items for the agenda through CEO or the Chair, and the agenda will be

distributed approximately at least one (1) week in advance of the Board meeting. At any regular Board meeting, Directors may also raise subjects for discussion that are not on the formal agenda. The agenda for each regular meeting will allow for an executive session for non-management Directors only, as well periodically an executive session for independent Directors only.

**8. Distribution of Board Materials**

In addition to the Board meeting agenda, information that is important to the Board’s understanding of the agenda items and the business of the Company will be distributed to the Directors prior to each Board meeting. Directors will also routinely receive financial information, reports, press releases, analysts’ reports, news clippings, and other information designed to keep them informed as to the Company’s business.

**9. Board Evaluation**

On an annual basis, the Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee conducts an assessment of the effectiveness of the Board and its committees and reviews the results with the Board. To complete this assessment, each Director will be asked to complete one or more questionnaires, as approved by the Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee, and each Director will conduct an interview with the Chair of the Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee (or, if desired, the Lead Independent Director or Chair). Input regarding individual directors will be solicited during the interview. The Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee Chair works with the Lead Independent Director or Chair on individual feedback to any Director, as appropriate.

**10. Stock Ownership**

To further align the interests of the Company’s Directors and Officers with shareholders, the Board has established minimum stock ownership guidelines.

Directors are expected, within five (5) years of their initial election to the Board, to acquire and hold Company stock or Company deferred stock units with a value equal to at least five (5) times the amount of the annual non-employee director cash retainer.

Officers are expected, within five (5) years of their initial appointment as an officer or promotion to next level, to acquire and hold Company stock (including unvested restricted equity and shares owned in a 401(k) plan) with a value equal to the following:

CEO	6 x base salary
President	4 x base salary
Executive/Senior Vice Presidents	3 x base salary
Vice Presidents	2 x base salary

In the event an Officer has not accumulated the specified number of shares during the five-year period, the Board expects such Officer to continue to diligently work toward the specified goal. In addition, the Board expects that until the stock ownership guidelines are met and maintained, an Officer will not dispose of shares under the Company's Long-Term Incentive Plan (and any successor plan), except to satisfy obligations for the payment of taxes relating to those shares. The Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee will periodically assess these stock ownership guidelines, and the stock ownership of Directors and Officers relative to these guidelines, and make recommendations as appropriate.

## APPENDIX A

As specified in the Corporate Governance Guidelines, a majority of the members of the Board shall be independent in accordance with the independence requirements of the Stock Exchange. The Board will make a determination regarding the independence of each Director annually based on all relevant facts and circumstances. The Board has adopted the following categorical standards to be used in connection with such determination. Any Director who meets the following criteria shall be presumed to be independent (except for purposes of serving as a member of the Audit Committee) absent an affirmative determination to the contrary by the Nominating, Governance, and Sustainability Committee.

1. A Director who serves as an executive officer or employee of, or beneficially owns more than a ten (10) percent equity interest in, any corporation, partnership, or other business entity that during the most recently completed fiscal year made payments to the Company or received payments from the Company for goods and services if such payments were less than the greater of five (5) percent of such other entity's gross consolidated revenues for such fiscal year and \$200 thousand.

2. A Director who serves as an executive officer or employee or, or beneficially owns more than a ten (10) percent equity interest in, any bank, corporation, partnership, or other business entity to which the Company was indebted at the end of its most recently completed fiscal year in an amount less than the greater of five (5) percent of such other entity's total consolidated assets at the end of such fiscal year and \$200 thousand.

3. A Director who is a member or employee of a law firm that has provided services to the Company during the most recently completed fiscal year if the total billings of such services were less than the greater of five (5) percent of law firm's gross revenues for such fiscal year and \$200 thousand.

4. A Director who is a partner, executive officer, or employee of any investment banking firm that has performed services for the Company (other than as a participating underwriter in a syndicate) during the most recently completed fiscal year if the total compensation received for such services was less than the greater of five (5) percent of the investment banking firm's consolidated gross revenues for such fiscal year and \$200 thousand.