



2018 Sustainability Report

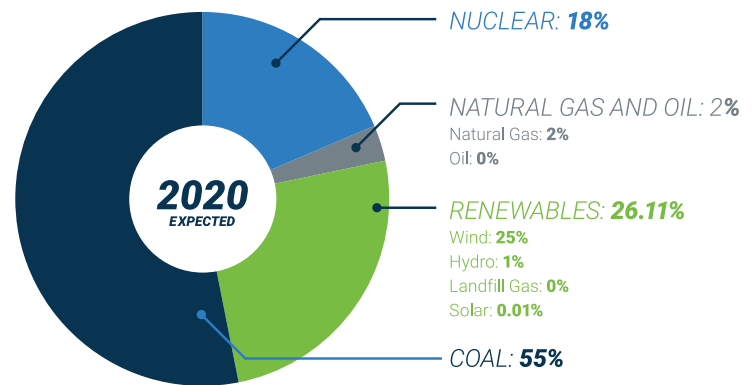
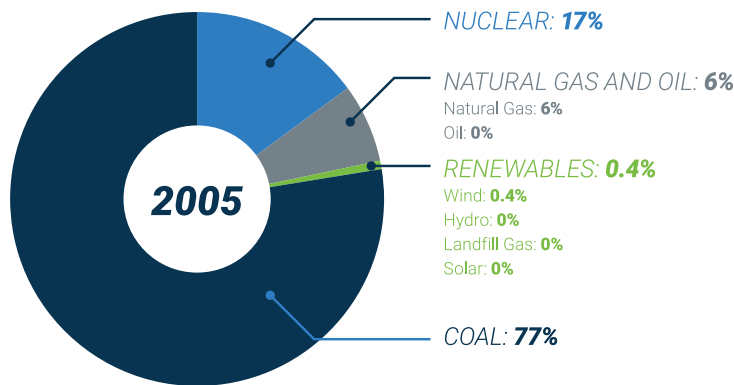


Evergy empowers a better future with sustainable energy.

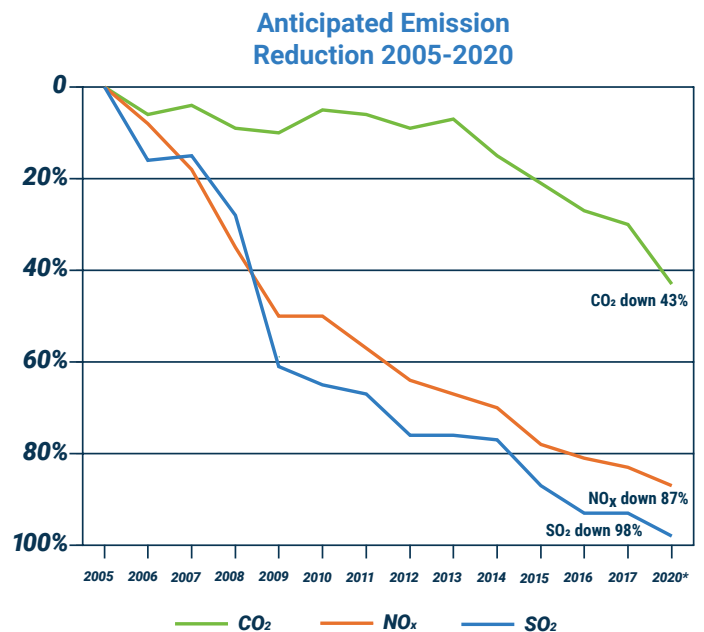
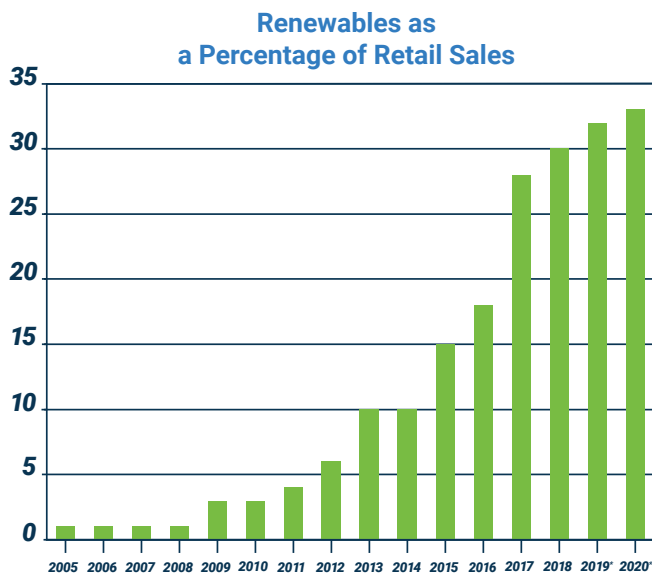
Evergy (NYSE: EVRG) is committed to delivering clean, safe, reliable sources of energy today and well into the future. So, we're embracing alternative energy sources to generate more power with less impact to our environment and adopting new technologies that let our customers manage their energy use in ways that work for them. Whether it's new ways to connect with us, electric vehicle charging stations, or the next innovation around the corner, we're dedicated to empowering a better future.

We're working every day to make our operations cleaner and more sustainable. To track our progress, Evergy's operating companies are participating with other energy companies in the Edison Electric Institute (EEI) program to share Environmental, Sustainability and Governance (ESG) data. The charts below show the company's combined projections as of July 2019.

GENERATION BY FUEL TYPE



2020 PROJECTIONS



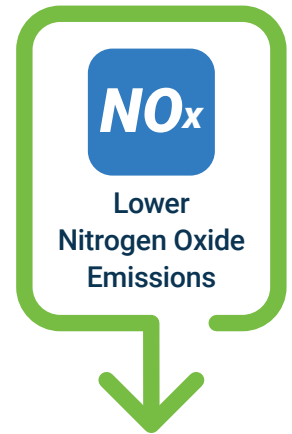
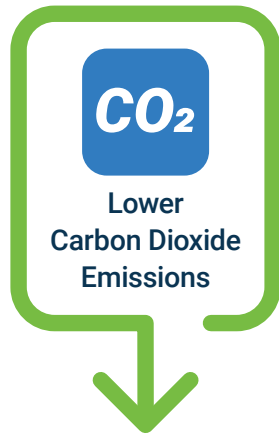
* PROJECTED

Includes owned generation and power purchase agreements.

Missouri RPS requires 15% of electricity sales to customers with renewable sources by 2021. Kansas has voluntary goal of 20% of utility peak by 2020.

These projections are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ from present expectations. A description of some of the risks and uncertainties can be found in the reports that we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Creating a lower carbon future.
Current reductions compared to 2005.



LOWER CARBON FUTURE

Evergy employs a forward-thinking strategy that has enabled us to shift from largely carbon-based generation a few years ago to nearly 50 percent emission-free energy for the homes and businesses we serve in a cost effective and reliable manner. Evergy has retired close to 2,200 MW of fossil generation since 2012. The remaining plants have up-to-date emissions technology. Since 2005, we've reduced carbon dioxide emissions by about 40 percent, reduced sulfur dioxide emissions by 98 percent and reduced nitrogen oxide emissions by 87 percent. Through these actions, we are leading the way toward a lower carbon future.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Evergy has taken, and will continue to take, proactive measures to mitigate the impact of climate change on its businesses. For example, Evergy regularly conducts preparedness exercises for a variety of disruptive events, including storms, which may become more frequent or intense due to climate change. In addition, Evergy has invested, and will continue to invest, in grid resiliency. Much of Evergy's infrastructure is aged, and grid resiliency efforts include building additional transmission and distribution lines, replacing aged infrastructure and proactively managing the vegetation that can damage systems during severe weather. Evergy also monitors water conditions at its generating facilities and focuses on water conservation at these facilities to address resource depletion.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Evergy's energy efficiency solutions help keep costs lower while also helping the environment.

- Reduced electricity needs by customers results in lower carbon emissions.
- Investing in energy efficiency may cost less than building a new power plant.
- Since 2005, our energy efficiency programs have resulted in an annual energy savings of more than one million megawatt hours, enough to power over 80,000 homes.

CLEAN CHARGE NETWORK

Evergy's Clean Charge Network includes more than 1,100 electric vehicle charging stations covering the greater Kansas City metro area and much of eastern and eastern-central Kansas. In a partnership with the Kansas Turnpike Authority and the Kansas Department of Transportation, the company recently expanded the network to include charging stations along the Kansas Turnpike.

Evergy's Clean Charge Network can support more than 10,000 electric vehicles, making the area one of the best places in the nation to drive electric. Personal gas-powered cars account for nearly one-fifth of all U.S. emissions. By banding together to reduce carbon emissions through electric vehicle use, we'll help our region attain EPA regional standards and make Kansas and Missouri a cleaner, better place to live and work.

GREEN BONDS

In June 2016, one of Evergy's operating companies, Westar Energy, issued \$350 million of green bonds. Green bonds are an emerging investment tool that tie the proceeds of a bond issuance to an environmentally-friendly project. The inaugural green bond issuance demonstrates the company's commitment to further developing a full portfolio of renewable energy resources. Please read more about the green bond and its investment use [here](#).

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH MERGER SYNERGIES

The combination of Westar Energy and Great Plains Energy to form Evergy in June 2018 created a \$14 billion company. With 1.6 million customers across Kansas and Missouri and \$14 billion in rate base, our larger size makes us stronger and better able to withstand the changing landscape of our industry.

We achieved our 2018 targeted gross merger savings during the first seven months following the transaction close. Thanks to efficiencies we've found, we've already returned \$60 million in bill credits to customers and expect to continue issuing periodic bill credits as additional savings are realized.

We successfully navigated four rate reviews for our various service areas and have entered a several-year period of rate stability for our customers after a decade of environmental and infrastructure improvements. Additionally, in 2018, we invested more than \$1 billion across the service territory to ensure the continued reliable service our customers expect.





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

BIOGAS ENERGY

The three million tons of decomposing waste in St. Joseph, Missouri's landfill continually produces methane, which our Evergy landfill gas plant converts into enough electricity to power up to 1,000 homes annually. We also purchase electricity from the State Fair Community College Energy Innovation Center located in Pettis County, MO. The Energy Innovation Center is a landfill gas-to-energy plant that can power up to 1,500 homes. In addition to generating electricity, it provides a teaching and learning environment as well as a business incubator for new energy technologies.

Evergy also purchases power from Rolling Meadows, a six-megawatt landfill gas-to-energy plant that has been producing electricity for our customers since 2010. Landfill gas is an important source of waste-based, renewable energy that can generate distributed base load power.

SOLAR

In 2016, we completed a solar plant at our Greenwood Energy Center with a capacity of 3 megawatts of electricity. In 2017, we launched a second utility-scale solar project in Hutchinson, Kansas, 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.

WIND

Evergy has been expanding wind energy in the Midwest for years. With more than 3,300 megawatts of wind capacity, our wind portfolio helps fuel Kansas' #1 state ranking for wind generation as a percentage of total generation. The company expects to add more than 500 additional megawatts between now and 2020.

HYDRO ENERGY

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

Because Evergy has almost 5,000 employees, plus hundreds of retirees, across Missouri and Kansas, we have the opportunity to join together to positively affect the environment in our communities through volunteerism and environmental programs.



GREEN TEAM

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 planted more than 30,000 trees. Partnering with agencies, non-profits, and schools, we protect, preserve and educate, building trails and bridges for environmental access across our region.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

In producing and distributing electricity, Evergy has the opportunity to conserve and enhance associated land and rights-of-way to benefit both the public and wildlife. At power plants, we cooperate with conservation agencies and invite the public to fish, hike, watch wildlife and hunt on the properties adjacent to our plants. Through several youth programs, our volunteers have guided first-time youth hunters and their mentors for decades.

We've developed innovative water treatment technology based on age-old natural processes, which have earned environmental and innovation awards and saved money. By making decisions with the environment in mind, we've created preferred habitat for resident wildlife, as well as sensitive migrants such as bald eagles, peregrine falcons, least terns and trumpet swans.

WATER CONSERVATION

Evergy values natural processes for the cleaning of our water before use and for recycling. Our Jeffrey Energy Center utilizes a wetland system for cleaning wastewater prior to recycling within the plant. Water is used an average of seven times through our process prior to treating and returning to the environment. Our largest energy centers recycle and use internally more than 650 million gallons of water every year.



Photo Credit: Mike Watkins



A commitment to renewables is a commitment to economic and sustainability growth. In conjunction with our other economic tools, our Renewables Direct program can help attract and retain businesses in Kansas and Missouri. It allows commercial and industrial customers to offset a percentage of their energy usage through a renewable resource, offering cost effective and customer friendly opportunities, all while providing clean energy to the grid.

- Renewable-sourced electricity at a price that reflects the cost of generation and delivery
- Cost-effective and customer friendly opportunities, all while providing clean energy to the grid
- The ability to claim a portion of the energy generated by the renewable source as their own and retain all of the renewable attributes
- Structure to add projects in the future to keep up with the growing appetite for renewable sources of our customers
- Hundreds of jobs are expected to be created for the construction and maintenance of the wind farm

EVERGY VENTURES

Energys Ventures is the non-regulated investment affiliate of Energys, Inc. Our investment portfolio includes a wide range of businesses and we are particularly focused on exploring unique opportunities that are aligned with Energys's core mission to foster energy that moves us forward.

Energys Ventures is open to working with innovative and progressive companies within the energy value chain. The electricity sector is undergoing profound transformations enabled by new emerging technologies. These new technologies have the potential to decarbonize and democratize the energy value chain in ways that can help humans thrive. We invest in companies that make these technologies more accessible, cheaper, more efficient, and connected for our utility as well as our customers.



DIVERSE WORKFORCE

Baby boomers are retiring and Evergy is filling those jobs with a more diverse workforce. Through expanded recruiting programs, we're attracting qualified, minority applicants. As part of our efforts, Evergy has created a new Diversity and Inclusion position which reports directly to the CEO and will lead the effort to deliver our company's diversity and inclusion strategy. We're also supporting programs to help prepare minority students for success in the workforce. These programs include our nationally-recognized internship programs; Corporate Big Brother, Big Sisters; Boys and Girls Clubs; and the STEM programs at schools and universities throughout the communities we serve.

SUPPLIER DIVERSITY

A community is only as strong as the businesses that support it. When we contribute to the success of diverse suppliers, we start a cycle where the supplier, Evergy and the local economy all benefit. For more than 30 years, our Supplier Diversity initiative has opened doors to minority, women-owned, and veteran-owned small businesses to help them succeed in their endeavors.

In 2018, Evergy spent more than \$107 million with minority, women, veteran-owned and service disabled veteran-owned small businesses—an all-time high. During the past five years, we've more than doubled the amount spent with diverse suppliers.



Our commitment to the community is based on a simple premise—a healthy company is dependent on a healthy community. It is in this spirit that community involvement is woven into all we do, from community donations and leadership to sound business practices that provide sustainable and affordable energy.

VOLUNTEERISM

Evergy employees live and work in the local communities we serve and are encouraged to volunteer to help strengthen those communities. The company provides matching grants in recognition of employee volunteerism



and promotes many company-sponsored volunteer opportunities.

In 2018, Evergy employees volunteered more than 25,000 hours and served on countless boards and committees for hundreds of organizations that work toward the betterment of Missouri and Kansas.

CORPORATE AND EMPLOYEE GIVING

Evergy promotes an employee giving campaign to encourage philanthropy among employees. Employees can choose from a variety of community organizations, such as United Way, youth programs and food banks, to direct their dollars to the organization of their choice. Through our 2018 campaign, employees contributed \$1.2 million in the communities we serve.

Additionally, through the company’s charitable giving program, Evergy donated \$5.5 million to support civic and charitable organizations dedicated to enhancing the quality of life throughout Evergy’s service area.

CONNECT CENTER

To better engage with customers, the company opened its first Connect Center in 2018. Located on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in downtown Kansas City, Missouri, the Connect staff provides in-person service and account support, as well as providing hands-on energy efficiency demonstrations, smart transportation information and a children’s learning area. The company plans to expand the Connect network with locations in Kansas (Topeka and Wichita).





SAFETY

Safety is a core value at Evergy, where the safety of our employees, contractors and the public are at the forefront of all we do, at all times and in all situations. We provide educational programs for customers and contractors about electricity safety, tree trimming and planting. Employees visit area schools to teach kids electrical safety, as well.

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 maintains a secure, reliable power supply and distribution network for our customers.

NUCLEAR SECURITY

Wolf Creek Nuclear Generation Station provides Evergy 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 quality plant construction, continuous preventive maintenance, and ongoing reactor operator training. This approach doesn't just meet the standards created by the federal government — it exceeds them.

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.



Photo Credit: Mike Hoag

Our Nominating, Governance, and Corporate Responsibility Committees of the Board of Directors oversee our corporate responsibility activities, and reviews and monitors corporate contributions and employee volunteer engagement to support and benefit our business goals and strategy. Our Board of Directors has another committee whose primary mission includes oversight of environmental matters. Evergy's Environmental Compliance and Conservation groups oversee the company's environmental reporting as part of the company's compliance efforts.

As regulated public utilities, Evergy's operating companies provide resource planning as required by the Missouri Public Service Commission and the Kansas Corporation Commission.

Our anonymous Compliance Line provides employees, vendors and others an avenue to raise concerns, report suspected dishonest or improper conduct and take initiative to maintain the ethical culture we expect at our company. To reach the Compliance Line, call **866-266-7595**.