

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Request of The Empire )  
District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty for )  
Authority to File Tariffs Increasing Rates )  
for Electric Service Provided to Customers )  
in its Missouri Service Area )

Case No. ER-2021-0312

**PUBLIC COUNSEL’S RECOMMENDATION  
TO RESERVE A THIRD LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING**

COMES NOW the Office of Public Counsel (Public Counsel) and recommends to the Commission that it not only schedule the two virtual local public hearings it has ordered,<sup>1</sup> but that, in light of the turnout at the local public hearings it held in Empire’s last electric rate case, Case No. ER-2019-0374, the Commission also reserve a time and date for holding a third local public hearing. Public Counsel suggests that by reserving a time a date for a third local public hearing, the Commission will be prepared to hear from members of the public who wish to be heard, but are not heard during the two scheduled hearings because the time allotted proves insufficient for them to be heard. Alternatively, Public Counsel suggests that the Commission take notice of all of the public comments in this case.

Respectfully,

/s/ Nathan Williams

Nathan Williams  
Chief Deputy Public Counsel  
Missouri Bar No. 35512

Office of the Public Counsel  
Post Office Box 2230  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
(573) 526-4975 (Voice)  
(573) 751-5562 (FAX)  
[Nathan.Williams@opc.mo.gov](mailto:Nathan.Williams@opc.mo.gov)

---

<sup>1</sup> Public Counsel is joining in a response that Staff is preparing which jointly recommends that the Commission hold the two local public hearings during the evening of November 22 and starting noon November 23.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021.

/s/ Nathan Williams