BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

)

)

In the Matter of the Petition of The Empire District) Electric Company d/b/a Liberty to Obtain a Financing Order that Authorizes the Issuance of Securitized Utility Tariff Bonds for **Qualified Extraordinary Costs**

Case No. EO-2022-0040

NOTICE OF INTENT

COMES NOW The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty, and, pursuant to RSMo. §393.1700, submits this Notice of Intent with regard to its intended petition to obtain a financing order that authorizes the issuance of securitized utility tariff bonds regarding the extraordinary costs incurred during the anomalous weather event of February 2021 (sometimes referred to as Winter Storm Uri). In this regard, Liberty respectfully states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission (the "Commission"):

1. On July 6, 2021, Missouri House Bill 734 was signed by the Missouri Governor, and RSMo. §§393.1700-393.1715 regarding securitization have now taken effect. RSMo. \$393.1700.2(3)(b) provides that an "electrical corporation shall provide notice of intent to file a petition for a financing order to the commission no less than sixty days in advance of such filing."

2. Liberty intends to file a petition pursuant to RSMo. §393.1700.2(2) to obtain a financing order that authorizes the issuance of securitized utility tariff bonds regarding the extraordinary costs incurred during the anomalous weather event of February 2021. Issues the Commission will be asked to consider and decide in the upcoming case are those addressed by §§393.1700-393.1715 regarding securitization of extraordinary costs.

3. On August 13, 2021, pursuant to Commission Rule 4.017(1) and RSMo. §393.1700, Liberty submitted a Notice of Intended Case Filing, initiating this docket. To the extent that an additional notice filing is required now that the securitization provisions of RSMo.

§§393.1700-393.1715 have taken effect, Liberty submits this Notice of Intent.

WHEREFORE, Liberty submits to the Commission this Notice of Intent and requests such relief as is just and proper under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Diana C. Carter</u> Diana C. Carter MBE #50527 The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty 428 E. Capitol Ave., Suite 303 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 Joplin Office Phone: (417) 626-5976 Cell Phone: (573) 289-1961 E-Mail: Diana.Carter@LibertyUtilities.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the above document was filed in EFIS on this 28th day of August, 2021, and sent by electronic transmission to the Staff of the Commission and the Office of the Public Counsel.

/s/ Diana C. Carter