

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Liberty)
Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC d/b/a Liberty)
Utilities and The Empire District Electric Company) **File No.: WM-2020-0156**
for Authority for Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water), LLC)
d/b/a Liberty Utilities to Acquire the Water Franchises)
and Assets of The Empire District Electric Company.)

ORDER DIRECTING NOTICE, SETTING INTERVENTION DATE, AND DIRECTING STAFF TO FILE A RECOMMENDATION

Issue Date: December 27, 2019

Effective Date: December 27, 2019

On December 27, 2019, Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC d/b/a Liberty Utilities (hereinafter, Liberty Water) and The Empire District Electric Company (hereinafter, Empire)¹ filed a joint application asking the Commission to approve a sale and transfer of water utility assets between the applicants whereby Empire will sell and transfer water utility assets, including all contracts, agreements, franchises, and Certificates of Convenience and Necessity, to Liberty Water.

The application states both applicants are subsidiaries of Liberty Utilities Co (Liberty Utilities) and both are part of the Liberty Utilities Central Region. Per the application, the involved property is located in Lawrence County, Missouri.

The Commission notes Section 393.190.1, RSMo 2016, requires the Commission to notify the county clerk of each county in which any portion of a political subdivision which will be affected by the proposed sale and transfer is located. The Commission will direct notice of the application be given to the Lawrence County Commission, local newspapers,

¹ Hereinafter collectively, the Applicants

members of the General Assembly representing residents of Lawrence County, and the General Counsel for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. The Commission will also set a deadline for interested persons to intervene or file comments addressing the application. Finally, the Commission will direct Staff to file a recommendation on the application.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Commission's Data Center shall provide a copy of this order and the application, excluding attachments, to the County Commission of Lawrence County, Missouri, and the General Counsel of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.
2. The Commission's Public Information officer shall make notice of this order available to the members of the General Assembly representing Lawrence County, Missouri, and to the media serving that county.
3. Any person wishing to intervene in this matter shall file an application to intervene no later than January 31, 2020. Applications to intervene shall be filed in the Commission's Electronic Filing and Information System (EFIS) or with the Secretary of the Commission. Comments on the application may also be filed in EFIS.
4. The Commission's Staff shall file a recommendation on the application no later than March 2, 2020.
5. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Paul T. Graham, Regulatory Law Judge, by
delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on
this 27th day of December, 2019.