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

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In the Matter of The Empire District Electric Company, Liberty Utilities (Central) Co. and Liberty Sub Corp. Concerning an Agreement and Plan of Merger and Certain Related Transactions

File No. EM-2016-0213

## ORDER DIRECTING STAFF TO FILE A PLEADING STATING WHEN IT WILL FILE A RECOMMENDATION

Issue Date: April 19, 2016

Effective Date: April 19, 2016

On March 16, 2016, The Empire District Electric Company, Liberty Utilities (Central) Co. and Liberty Sub Corp. filed a joint application asking the Commission to approve a transaction in which Liberty Utilities (Central) Co. would acquire all of the common stock of Empire. The Commission will need a recommendation from its Staff before acting on the application. Therefore, the Commission will direct its Staff to respond indicating when it will be able to file a recommendation in this matter.

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. No later than April 28, 2016, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall file a pleading stating when it anticipates filing its recommendation in this matter. 2. This order shall be effective when issued.



## BY THE COMMISSION

Morris Z Woodruff

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Michael Bushmann, Senior Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016.