

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

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric)
Company's 2019 Triennial Compliance)
Filing Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-22)

File No. EO-2019-0049

STAFF STATUS REPORT AND STAFF REPORT DATE

COMES NOW Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"), by and through Staff Counsel's Office, and files this Staff Status Report And Staff Report Date. Unless otherwise advised, Staff will file its Report by February 28, 2020, or earlier if possible. In support thereof, Staff states as follows:

1. On June 28, 2019, The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire") filed its 2019 Chapter 22 Electric Resource Plan. 20 CSR 4240-22.080(7) provides that Staff shall conduct a limited review of each triennial compliance filing and shall file a report not later than 150 days after each utility's scheduled triennial compliance filing date. One hundred-fifty days from June 28, 2019 is November 25, 2019.

2. On November 8, 2019, Staff filed in the instant proceeding Staff Notice of Request for Extension of Time to File Staff Report. Staff noted in its pleading that 20 CSR 4240-22.080(15) provides that the Commission may extend or reduce any of the time periods specified in this rule for good cause shown. Staff contended the good cause shown for extending the time period specified for the Staff Report was that Staff's Report would be more comprehensive and provide more insight to certain areas of Empire's filing based on the additional analysis Empire and its consultant agreed to perform

3. Staff advised the Commission that this additional analysis would take Empire and its consultant until approximately November 20, 2019, to produce and provide

to Staff the data/information that Staff requested and that until Staff saw the data/information and workpapers, with formulas intact, Staff would not be able to project how much additional time it would need to file its Report. Thus, Staff proposed to file a Status Report with the Commission no later than December 13, 2019, regarding the date comprising the additional time it would be requesting to file its Staff Report.

4. Undersigned counsel for Staff stated that upon inquiry made to Empire's counsel, Staff counsel was informed that Staff could represent that Empire consents to Staff's request for additional time to file its Report. On November 13, 2019, the Commission issued an Order Establishing Time To Respond To Staff's Request For Extension Of Time To File Report giving Parties until November 15, 2019, to respond to Staff's November 8, 2019 filing. No Party responded. On November 20, 2019, the Commission issued an Order Granting Staff's Request For Extension Of Time To File Report. The Commission also extended the deadline of the Office of the Public Counsel and any intervenor to match the deadline established for the Staff's Report.

5. Empire and its consultant provided analysis in response to Staff's requests for additional data/information, as related in Staff's pleadings for more time to produce the Staff Report. As a consequence, Staff is now advising that it will file its Report no later than February 28, 2020, or earlier if possible.

WHEREFORE Staff files its Staff Status Report And Staff Report Date of February 28, 2020, or earlier if possible.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Steven Dottheim

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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 in File No. EO-2019-0049 this 13th day of December, 2019.

/s/ Steven Dottheim