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

File No. EO-2022-0040

ORDER GIVING NOTICE, SETTING A DEADLINE TO INTERVENE, AND DIRECTING A PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

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Issue Date: January 26, 2022

Effective Date: January 26, 2022

On January 19, 2022, The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty (Liberty) submitted a verified petition for financing order, seeking authority to issue securitized utility tariff bonds regarding the extraordinary costs incurred by Liberty on behalf of its customers during the anomalous weather event of February 2021 ("Winterstorm Uri"). Liberty filed that petition under Section 393.1700, RSMo.

The Commission will provide notice of Liberty's petition and establish a time for filing applications to intervene. The Commission will also order a joint proposed procedural schedule, noting that the controlling statute requires the Commission to establish a procedural schedule permitting a Commission decision no later than 215 days after the date the petition was filed. That requires a decision no later than August 22, 2022.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Commission's Data Center shall provide a copy of this order to the county commission of each county within Liberty's service area, and to each party in Liberty's current general rate case, File No. ER-2021-0312.

2. The Commission's Public Policy and Outreach Department shall make notice of this order available to the members of the General Assembly representing Liberty's service area and to the news media serving therein.

3. Applications to intervene shall be filed no later than February 15, 2022, with the Secretary of the Missouri Public Service Commission or in the Commission's Electronic Filing and Information System (EFIS).

4. No later than February 22, 2022, the parties shall submit a joint proposed procedural schedule.

5. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Morris L. Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 26th day of January, 2022.