

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office in
Jefferson City on the 15th day
of September, 2021.

In the Matter of the Ninth Prudence Review)
of Costs Subject to the Commission-)
Approved Fuel Adjustment Clause of The) **File No. EO-2021-0281**
Empire District Electric Company d/b/a)
Liberty (Empire))

ORDER APPROVING STAFF’S PRUDENCE AUDIT REPORT

Issue Date: September 15, 2021

Effective Date: October 15, 2021

This case was opened on March 4, 2021, to consider the ninth fuel adjustment clause prudence review of The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty (Empire). On August 31, 2021, the Commission’s Staff filed a report regarding its review in which it found no incidence or evidence of imprudence by Empire for the period of September 1, 2019, through February 28, 2021. Ten days have passed since the filing of Staff’s report and no requests for hearing were filed.

In its prudence review, Staff analyzed items affecting Empire’s total fuel costs, purchased power costs, net emission costs, transmission costs, off-system sales revenues, and interest for the twenty-third, twenty-fourth, and twenty-fifth six-month accumulation periods of Empire’s fuel adjustment clause (FAC). Staff reported that fuel costs associated with February 2021 Winter Storm Uri during the twenty-fifth accumulation period were not part of Staff’s prudence review since Empire sought to defer those costs to be considered in other Commission proceedings.¹

¹ See, Commission File Nos. ER-2021-0332 and EO-2022-0040.

The Commission has considered Staff's unopposed report and recommendation. In evaluating prudence, Staff reviewed whether a reasonable person would find that both the information Empire relied on, and the process Empire employed when making the decision under review, were reasonable based on the circumstances at the time the decision was made, without the benefit of hindsight. During its review, Staff found no evidence of imprudence by Empire.

The Commission finds Staff's report and recommendation regarding its prudence review of Empire's fuel and purchased power costs and off-system sales revenue associated with its fuel adjustment clause to be reasonable, and will approve it.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Staff Report for the ninth prudence review of costs related to the fuel adjustment clause for the electric operations of Empire is approved.
2. This order shall become effective on October 15, 2021.
3. This file shall be closed on October 16, 2021.



BY THE COMMISSION

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

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Silvey, Chm., Rupp, Coleman, Holsman, and
Kolkmeier CC., concur.

Dippell, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 15th day of September, 2021.





Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

September 15, 2021

File/Case No. EO-2021-0281

Missouri Public Service Commission

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Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "M".

**Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary**

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.