

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

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric)
Company's d/b/a Liberty (Empire) Fuel Costs) **File No. EU-2021-0274**
Related to the Extraordinary Weather Event)
of February 2021)

**ORDER DIRECTING FILING OF
PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

Issue Date: November 22, 2021

Effective Date: November 22, 2021

On June 1, 2021,¹ the Empire District Electric Company (“Liberty”) filed its Winter Storm Uri AAO Application (Application) requesting an accounting authority order (“AAO”) regarding costs incurred during the extreme weather event of February of 2021. On June 28, the Office of Public Counsel (“OPC”) filed a motion to dismiss Liberty’s AAO application. Liberty responded on July 8, and OPC replied to Liberty’s response on July 13. On October 8, the Commission Staff (Staff) filed its recommendation. On October 22, the Commission ordered Staff and OPC to clarify their respective recommendations and positions and set a deadline for Liberty to file any objection or reply thereto.

On November 5, Staff filed its Staff Clarification, recommending the Commission issue an order approving Liberty’s AAO with the stipulation, however, that carrying costs not be included in the deferral. On November 12, OPC filed its response to the October 22 order, asking the Commission to dismiss Liberty’s application. On November 19, Liberty filed its response to the October 22 order, asking the Commission to deny OPC’s Motion to Dismiss and to authorize Liberty to track and defer to a regulatory

¹ All date references will be to 2021 unless otherwise indicated.

asset the costs associated with Storm URI, including carrying costs. The Commission will order the parties to confer and file a joint proposed procedural schedule.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. No later than December 2, 2021, the parties shall confer and file a joint proposed procedural schedule.
2. The joint proposed procedural schedule shall propose:
 - Deadlines for filing direct, rebuttal, and surrebuttal testimony
 - Deadlines for filing a joint list of issues, order of witnesses, order of cross examination, and order of opening statements
 - Deadlines for filing statements of position
 - Dates for an evidentiary hearing
 - A briefing schedule.
3. 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 22nd day of November, 2021.

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 22nd day of November, 2021.




Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

November 22, 2021

File/Case No. EU-2021-0274

**Missouri Public Service
Commission**

Staff Counsel Department
200 Madison Street, Suite 800
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
staffcounsel@psc.mo.gov

Office of the Public Counsel

Marc Poston
200 Madison Street, Suite 650
P.O. Box 2230
Jefferson City, MO 65102
opc@opc.mo.gov

City of Ozark, Missouri

Douglas Healy
3010 E. Battlefield, Suite A
Springfield, MO 65804
doug@healylawoffices.com

City of Ozark, Missouri

Terry M Jarrett
3010 East Battlefield, Suite A
Springfield, MO 65804
terry@healylawoffices.com

Liberty (Empire)

Diana C Carter
428 E. Capitol Avenue, Suite 303
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Diana.Carter@LibertyUtilities.com

Midwest Energy Consumers Group

David Woodsmall
308 E. High Street, Suite 204
Jefferson City, MO 65101
david.woodsmall@woodsmalllaw.com

**Missouri Public Service
Commission**

Whitney Payne
200 Madison Street, Suite 800
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
whitney.payne@psc.mo.gov

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

Sincerely,



**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.