

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

In the Matter of the Application of The)
Empire District Electric Company d/b/a)
Liberty to Implement Robust and Mutually-) **File No. EO-2022-0078**
Beneficial Energy Efficiency Offerings)
Under the Framework Prescribed by MEEIA)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION REGARDING TARIFFS

COMES NOW Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through the undersigned counsel, and for its Staff Recommendation Regarding Tariffs states it has reviewed the tariffs, and recommends approval for service on and after December 21, 2023, as outlined in the attached memorandum.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Nicole Mers
Deputy Counsel
Bar No. 66766
Attorney for the Staff of the
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, Mo 65102-0360
(573) 751-6651 (Telephone)
(573) 751-9285 (Facsimile)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been hand-delivered, emailed or mailed, postage prepaid, to counsel for all parties on this 6th day of December, 2023.

/s/ Nicole Mers

MEMORANDUM

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case Files
File No. EO-2022-0078, Tariff Tracking No. JE-2024-0071
The Empire District Electric Company, d/b/a Liberty (Empire)

FROM: Amy L. Eichholz, Research/Data Analyst
/s/ Amy L. Eichholz 12/07/2023
Energy Resources Department/Date

SUBJECT: Seeking approval to extend its Missouri Energy Efficiency Investment Act (MEEIA) Cycle 1 from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.

DATE: December 6, 2023

With its *Tariff Revision* filed on November 21, 2023, The Empire District Electric Company, d/b/a Liberty (Empire) (“Liberty”) filed revised tariff sheets with the Commission in compliance with the Commission approved Stipulation and Agreement (“Stipulation”) filed on August 29, 2023 in Case No. EO-2022-0078. On November 30, 2023, the Commission issued its Order Directing a Staff Tariff Recommendation and Setting Time for Responses ordering Commission Staff (“Staff”) to file a recommendation no later than December 7, 2023.

On August 29, 2023, the Stipulation was filed that included the following language, “At this time, the Signatories request a second one year extension of Liberty’s MEEIA Cycle 1 Plan, to December 31, 2024. This extension will allow Liberty and other stakeholders to further incorporate learnings from the first two MEEIA offering years into planning for MEEIA Cycle 2, while continuing to build momentum with Liberty’s customers and trade allies to generate energy savings.” For the second one-year extension, the Signatories requested that the terms of Liberty’s MEEIA Cycle 1 Plan, as set forth in the *Global Stipulation and Agreement*¹ and modified by the first extension,² remain unchanged with certain exceptions, most notably the program administration budget shall be increased by \$75,000 for 2024. This represents a roughly 10% increase over the original budget established in 2021 and is to accommodate increases in labor costs over the three year period since budgets were originally established. This will increase the total portfolio budget by \$75,000, to \$4,067,313.

¹ Filed on November 23, 2021, and approved on December 15, 2021.

² Filed on November 4, 2022, and approved on November 21, 2022.

Staff Recommendation

Staff has reviewed the filed tariff sheets of Liberty and recommends the Commission approve the following tariff sheets as filed on November 21, 2023, to go into effect for service on the requested effective date December 21, 2023.

P.S.C. MO. No. 6 Sec. 4 Sheet Nos. 21 – 21f and 27 – 27l
3rd Revised Sheet No. 21 canceling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 21
1st Revised Sheet No. 21a canceling Original Sheet No. 21a
1st Revised Sheet No. 21b canceling Original Sheet No. 21b
2nd Revised Sheet No. 21c canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 21c
1st Revised Sheet No. 21d canceling Original Sheet No. 21d
2nd Revised Sheet No. 21e canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 21e
2nd Revised Sheet No. 21f canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 21f
3rd Revised Sheet No. 27 canceling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 27
2nd Revised Sheet No. 27a canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 27a
3rd Revised Sheet No. 27b canceling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 27b
2nd Revised Sheet No. 27c canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 27c
2nd Revised Sheet No. 27d canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 27d
3rd Revised Sheet No. 27e canceling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 27e
2nd Revised Sheet No. 27f canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 27f
3rd Revised Sheet No. 27g canceling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 27g
2nd Revised Sheet No. 27h canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 27h
3rd Revised Sheet No. 27i canceling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 27i
2nd Revised Sheet No. 27j canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 27j
3rd Revised Sheet No. 27k canceling 2nd Revised Sheet No. 27k
2nd Revised Sheet No. 27l canceling 1st Revised Sheet No. 27l

Staff has verified that the Companies have filed their annual report and are not delinquent on any assessment. Staff is not aware of any other matter before the Commission that affects or is affected by this filing.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of The)
Empire District Electric Company d/b/a)
Liberty to Implement Robust and Mutually-)
Beneficial Energy Efficiency Offerings)
Under the Framework Prescribed by)
MEEIA

File No. EO-2022-0078

AFFIDAVIT OF AMY L. EICHHOLZ

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss.
COUNTY OF COLE)

COMES NOW AMY L. EICHHOLZ and on her oath declares that she is of sound mind and lawful age; that she contributed to the foregoing *Staff Recommendation, in Memorandum form*; and that the same is true and correct according to her best knowledge and belief.

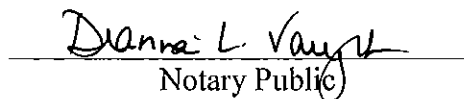
Further the Affiant sayeth not.


AMY L. EICHHOLZ

JURAT

Subscribed and sworn before me, a duly constituted and authorized Notary Public, in and for the County of Cole, State of Missouri, at my office in Jefferson City, on this 6th day of December 2023.

DIANNA L. VAUGHT
Notary Public - Notary Seal
State of Missouri
Commissioned for Cole County
My Commission Expires: July 18, 2027
Commission Number: 15207377


Notary Public