# 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	) ) ) <u>File No. EO-2022-0040</u> )
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 Energy Transition Costs Related to the Asbury Plant	) ) ) <u>File No. EO-2022-0193</u> ) )

## ORDER DIRECTING STAFF TO SUBMIT DUCERA REPORT AND STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Issue Date: January 11, 2024 Effective Date: January 11, 2024

Under its contract, Ducera will provide to the Staff of the Commission (Staff) no later than noon on the second business day after submission of the Issuance Advice Letter (IAL) an opinion on whether the structuring, marketing and pricing of the Securitized Utility Tariff Bond resulted in the lowest charge consistent with market conditions. In order for the Commission to have the information it needs to evaluate whether to reject the Securitized Utility Tariff Bond issuance, the Commission will order Staff to provide the Commission with both Ducera's opinion and a pleading containing a brief statement of any concerns Staff has with the final terms of the Securitized Utility Tariff Bonds no later than the close of business on the second business day after the IAL is submitted.

Staff shall also provide a recommendation about The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty's compliance tariff.

#### THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. No later than close of business on the second day after submission of the IAL, Staff must provide the Commission with Ducera's opinion on the Securitized Utility Tariff Bond issuance as well as pleadings containing a brief statement of any concerns Staff has with the final terms of the Securitized Utility Tariff Bonds and Staff's recommendation about Liberty's compliance tariff.
  - 2. This order shall be effective when issued.

STON OF STON

BY THE COMMISSION

Nancy Dippell Secretary

John T. Clark, Senior Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 11th day of January, 2024.

#### 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 11<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024.

SION OF THE OF T

Nancy Dippell Secretary

### MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION January 11, 2024

#### File/Case No. EO-2022-0040 and EO-2022-0193

**MO PSC Staff** 

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

Office of the Public Counsel (OPC)

Marc Poston 200 Madison Street, Suite 650 P.O. Box 2230 opcservice@opc.mo.gov

Liberty (Empire)

Diana Carter 428 E. Capitol Avenue, Suite 303 Jefferson City, MO 65101 diana.carter@libertyutilities.com

Liberty (Empire)

Dean Cooper 312 East Capitol P.O. Box 456 Jefferson City, MO 65102 dcooper@brydonlaw.com Liberty (Empire) Sarah Knowlton

116 North Main Street Concord, NH 03301 sarah.knowlton@libertyutilities.com Jefferson City, MO 65101

**Midwest Energy Consumers** Group

Tim Opitz 308 E. High Street, Suite B101 tim.opitz@opitzlawfirm.com

**MO PSC Staff** 

Jeff Keevil 200 Madison Street Jefferson City, MO 65101 jeff.keevil@psc.mo.gov

Renew Missouri

Andrew Linhares 3115 South Grand Blvd Suite 600 St. Louis, MO 63118

andrew@renewmo.org

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

Sincerely.

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.