

**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 Obtain a Certificate of) **File No. EA-2023-0131**
Convenience and Necessity to Enhance)
System Resiliency)

JOINT STATUS REPORT

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”) and The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty (“Liberty”), and for its *Joint Status Report* states:

1. On February 14, 2023, Liberty filed an application (“Application”) for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) to construct, install, own, operate, maintain, and otherwise control and manage two combustion turbine generators, each with a nominal net output of 13.3 MW to replace existing combustion turbine generators, Riverton Unit 10 and Riverton Unit 11.

2. On May 9, 2023, Liberty filed its *Motion for Stay of Proceedings*, in order to address Southwest Power Pool (SPP) issues that involve the generation plant at issue in the Application. The Commission granted this request on May 10, 2023.

3. On October 13, 2023, Liberty filed its *Amended Application for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity*, requesting a lifting of the stay and approval of its amended application.

4. The Commission ordered Staff to file a recommendation or procedural schedule by December 15, 2023, in its *Order Directing Staff Recommendation or Joint Proposed Procedural Schedule* issued November 2, 2023.

5. On December 15, 2023, Staff filed a motion for extension, explaining that based on conversations with Liberty, Liberty was working towards making an additional filing, containing supplemental evidence and justifications for the record that would allow a Staff recommendation and potentially obviate the need for a procedural schedule or evidentiary hearing. The Commission granted that request on December 18, 2023.

6. Liberty had planned to file an amended application this week of January 8, 2024. However, the evolving and ongoing hazardous winter weather situation this week and weekend has necessitated a delay in the filing.

7. Therefore, Staff and Liberty respectfully request that Liberty be allowed to file its amended application next week, and within two business days of that filing, Staff will file a status report stating what date it believes it could file its Staff recommendation.

WHEREFORE, Staff and Liberty pray the Commission accepts its *Status Report*, and grant such other and further relief as it deems just under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Nicole Mers

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that true and correct copies of the foregoing were served electronically to all counsel of record this 12th day of January, 2024.

/s/ Nicole Mers