

**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 )

**STATUS REPORT**

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”), by and through the undersigned counsel, and for its *Status Report* states:

1. On February 14, 2023, of The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty (“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. On January 12, 2024, Staff and Liberty jointly requested an extension to allow Liberty to file an amended application the following week, and for Staff to file a status report within two business days of that filing stating when it could file a recommendation.

7. On January 19, 2024, Liberty filed its *Second Amended Application for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity*.

8. Staff has reviewed the *Second Amended Application for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity*, and respectfully requests that Staff be able to file its recommendation no later than Friday, March 8 2024. Staff will endeavor to complete its review as quickly as possible, and will file a recommendation as soon as it is able

**WHEREFORE**, Staff pray the Commission accepts its *Status Report*, and order March 8, 2024 as the date for Staff's recommendation, and grant such other and further relief as it deems just under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Nicole Mers**

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**Attorney for the Staff of the  
Missouri Public Service Commission**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that true and correct copies of the foregoing were served electronically to all counsel of record this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2024.

**/s/ Nicole Mers**