

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the 2024 Annual Update)
Filing of The Empire District Electric)
Company d/b/a Liberty Pursuant to)
Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-22.080(3))
File No. EO-2024-0249

ORDER GRANTING PROTECTIVE ORDER

Issue Date: April 5, 2024

Effective Date: April 5, 2024

On March 14, 2024, The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty, filed a Pleading to Establish File Number, Notice of Stakeholder Meeting and Motion for Protective Order. Liberty states that due to the nature of certain material regarding facilities, commodity prices, fuel procurement, generation costs, and planned purchases, as well as competitively sensitive and confidential information regarding wholesale electric market participants, the “confidential” designation under Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.135 may not provide adequate protection. Thus, Liberty requests that the Commission grant a protective order to allow Liberty to designate proper material as “Highly Confidential”.

No responses were received. The Commission will grant the protective order.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Motion for Protective Order is granted.
2. Materials and information divulged by Liberty or other parties shall be considered to be “Highly Confidential” if so designated at the time of disclosure.
3. With regard to entities and individuals other than the Staff of the Commission, the Office of the Public Counsel, and the Missouri Division of Energy:

- a. Disclosure of materials or information so designated shall be made only to attorneys and/or to such outside consultants who have executed a Commission Nondisclosure Agreement. No Highly Confidential information shall be provided directly or indirectly to any non-attorney party employee or other individual.
 - b. Persons afforded access to materials or information designated “Highly Confidential” shall neither use nor disclose such materials or information for purposes of business or competition or any other purpose other than in regard to the case referenced above and shall keep the materials and information secure and confidential and in accordance with the purposes and intent of the protective order.
 - c. All material and information designated as “Highly Confidential” in the possession of any entity or person, as well as any notes pertaining to such information, shall be returned to Liberty or destroyed upon the conclusion of the referenced case.
4. If a party disagrees with the “Highly Confidential” designation of any information, the party shall follow the informal discovery dispute resolution procedures set forth in Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.090(8). If the party exhausts these dispute resolution procedures, the party may file a motion challenging the designation.
5. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

Ronald D. Pridgin, Deputy Chief
Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation
of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 5th day of April, 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 5th day of April 2024.



Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

April 5, 2024

File/Case No. EO-2024-0249

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

Sincerely,



**Nancy Dippell
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.