STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 26th day of June, 2024.

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric Company's Submission of Its Interim Report Regarding Participation in the Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

File No. EO-2012-0269

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF CONDITIONAL APPROVAL OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOUTHWEST POWER POOL

Issue Date: June 26, 2024

Effective Date: July 26, 2024

This case concerns The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty's continued membership in the Southwest Power Pool (SPP). On September 11, 2013, the Commission approved a stipulation and agreement that provided for Liberty's continued participation in SPP through August 1, 2019. That stipulation and agreement contained provisions that required Liberty to undertake a cost/benefit study and prepare an interim report aimed at determining whether Liberty's participation in SPP should be approved beyond that date.

In an order issued on March 1, 2017, the Commission extended that participation date until August 1, 2022. The 2017 order also required Liberty to file a 2021 interim report containing a completed cost/benefit study regarding Liberty's continued participate in SPP by April 30, 2021. On May 19, 2021, the Commission indefinitely stayed Liberty's obligation to file that study pending further order of the Commission. On July 21, 2022, the Commission granted Liberty an extension of the conditional approval to continue its membership in SPP for two additional years until August 1, 2024.

On April 16, 2024, Liberty requested the conditional approval be extended an additional year until August 1, 2025. Liberty's motion explained that throughout 2023, it has met with SPP staff and exchanged data concerning preliminary results that were provided in SPP's Regional Cost Allocation Review (RCAR). Liberty stated it is hopeful that the SPP Integrated Transmission Plan 2024 will result in some "meaningful projects" for Liberty's customers. To allow more time for all information to be developed with respect to possible transmission investment in the SPP southeastern seam that would provide benefit to Liberty's customers (as well as customers of other electric providers in the southwest portions of Missouri), Liberty requests the additional one-year extension of its SPP membership approval.

The Commission set a date for any party wishing to respond to Liberty's motion. The Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed a response on April 26, 2024. Staff had no objection to the requested extension being granted with the same terms and conditions as previously ordered by the Commission. No other responses were filed.

Having considered the motion and Staff's response, the Commission determines that an extension of Liberty's authorization is appropriate. The Commission will grant Liberty's motion.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Liberty's *Motion for Continuation of Conditional Approval* is granted.

2. The interim and conditional approval, with the same terms and conditions as previously ordered by the Commission, of Liberty's membership in SPP is extended by one year to August 1, 2025.

3. This order shall be effective on July 26, 2024.

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BY THE COMMISSION

Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell Secretary

Hahn, Ch., Coleman, Holsman Kolkmeyer, and Mitchell CC., concur.

Dippell, Chief Regulatory Law Judge

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 26th day of June 2024.



wy Dippell

Nancy Dippell Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

June 26, 2024

File/Case No. EO-2012-0269

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

Sincerely,

may Dippell

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.