BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Stan and Brenda Wilken,

Complainant.

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File No. EC-2025-0069

The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty,

Respondent.

STATUS REPORT AND REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL TIME

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COMES NOW Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"), by and through the undersigned counsel, and respectfully states as follows:

1. In its Order Giving Notice of Case Filing, Directing an Answer, and Directing

a Staff Investigation, the Commission directed Staff to file a report no later than October 15, 2024.

2. On August 29, 2024, Stan and Brenda Wilken ("Complainant") filed a *Formal Complaint* against The Empire District Electric Company ("Liberty" or "Respondent"). The Complainant disputed the Respondent's bill regarding their budget billing plan.

3. On September 30, 2024, Liberty filed its *Response to Complaint*, stating that there were no billing errors. Liberty also requested that the Commission dismiss or deny the Complaint and grant such additional relief as is just and proper under the circumstances.

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4. Staff requests additional time, until November 27, 2024, to file its recommendation. Staff sent Liberty additional data requests that are pending responses due on October 30, 2024. Staff needs time to assess the Respondent's responses, and may need to conduct further discovery, before making a recommendation to the Commission.

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully requests that the Commission accept this report, grant Staff additional time to file its recommendation herein as set forth above, and grant such other and further relief as the Commission considers just in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Eric Vandergriff

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Attorney for the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all parties and/or counsel of record on this 11th day of October, 2024.

<u>/s/ Eric Vandergriff</u>