

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 27th day of April, 2022.

In the Matter of the Petition of The Empire)
District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty to)
Obtain a Financing Order that Authorizes) **File No. EO-2022-0040**
the Issuance of Securitized Utility Tariff)
Bonds for Qualified Extraordinary Costs)

In the Matter of the Petition of The Empire)
District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty to)
Obtain a Financing Order that Authorizes) **File No. EO-2022-0193**
the Issuance of Securitized Utility Tariff)
Bonds for Energy Transition Costs Related)
to the Asbury Plant)

ORDER CONSOLIDATING CASES FOR PURPOSES OF HEARING

Issue Date: April 27, 2022

Effective Date: April 27, 2022

On January 19, 2022,¹ The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty (Liberty), applied for a financing order to allow it to issue securitized utility tariff bonds pursuant to Section 393.1700, RSMo, for extraordinary costs related to Winterstorm Uri. That application is pending in File No. EO-2022-0040. The Commission has established a procedural schedule to consider that application at an evidentiary hearing to be held on June 13-17. Liberty filed a separate application on March 21, seeking a financing order under Section 393.1700, RSMo, authorizing it to issue securitized utility tariff bonds for energy transition costs related to the retirement of the Asbury coal-fired electric generating plant. That application is pending in File No. EO-2022-0193. On April 18, Liberty filed a motion asking the Commission to consolidate the two files for all purposes, using the procedural schedule established for File No. EO-2022-0040 to hear and resolve

¹ All dates are in 2022 unless otherwise indicated.

both cases. Liberty estimates that consolidation of the cases will save between \$1,550,000 and \$1,750,000 in upfront fees and approximately \$200,000 annually in ongoing fees.

The Commission issued an order on April 19 directing any party wishing to respond to the motion to consolidate to do so no later than April 22. Only the Commission's Staff (Staff) responded to the motion to consolidate.

Staff said consolidation will avoid duplicative financing charges and therefore allow for lower securitized utility tariff charges to Liberty's customers. While Staff supports consolidation for purposes of hearing, it suggests the Commission reserve for future decision the question of whether to issue one financing order for both cases, or to issue separate financing orders for each case.

The Commission will consolidate the two cases for purposes of the procedural schedule and hearing, reserving the question of whether to issue one financing order for both cases, or to issue a separate financing order for each case.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. File Nos. EO-2022-0040 and EO-2022-0193 are consolidated for purposes of hearing, utilizing the procedural schedule previously established for File No. EO-2022-0040.
2. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Silvey, Chm., Rupp, Coleman, Holsman, and
Kolkmeier CC., concur.

Woodruff, 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 27th day of April, 2022.





Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

April 27, 2022

File/Case No. EO-2022-0040 and EO-2022-0193

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

Sincerely,



Morris L. Woodruff
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.