STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 5th day of March, 2025.

In the Matter of the Request of The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty for Authority to File Tariffs Increasing Rates for Electric Service Provided to Customers In its Missouri Service Area

File No. ER-2024-0261 Tracking No. JE-2025-0127

ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF

Issue Date: March 5, 2025 Effective Date: March 5, 2025

On February 26, 2025, The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty filed tariff sheets designed to increase its annual electric revenues by a total of approximately \$152 million. The tariff sheets have a proposed effective date of March 28, 2025.

Section 393.150, RSMo (2016), authorizes the Commission to suspend the effective date of proposed tariffs for 120 days, plus up to an additional six months to allow for a hearing. To provide sufficient time to determine if Liberty's proposed tariffs are just and reasonable,¹ the Commission will suspend the tariffs for 120 days beyond their effective date. The Commission's prior experience in similar matters demonstrates that a full hearing cannot be concluded within 120 days, so, as further explained below, the Commission will suspend the tariffs for an additional five months and one week.²

¹ Section 393.140(5), RSMo, (2016).

² Section 393.150.2, RSMo, (2016).

Liberty's withdrawn tariff sheets were originally filed on November 6, 2024, and substituted on February 3, 2025, which delayed review by the other parties by 89 days. To achieve the equivalent of extending the original operation of law date by 89 days to January 2, 2026, the Commission will suspend the new tariff sheets from its effective date of March 28, 2025, for 120 days, plus five months and one week to January 2, 2026.

The Commission will also order the parties to submit an updated proposed procedural schedule.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. The proposed tariff sheets, Tracking No. JE-2025-0127, filed by Liberty are suspended for 120 days from March 28, 2025, to July 26, 2025, plus five months and one week thereafter, until January 2, 2026.
- 2. The parties shall file an updated proposed procedural schedule no later than March 26, 2025.
 - This order shall be effective when issued.

SION OF THE OCH THE OC

BY THE COMMISSION

Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell Secretary

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

Hatcher, Senior 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 5th day of March 2025.

SION OF THE OF T

Nancy Dippell Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION March 5, 2025

File/Case No. ER-2024-0261

MO PSC Staff

Staff Counsel Department 200 Madison Street. Suite 800 P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 staffcounselservice@psc.mo.gov Jefferson City, MO 65102

Office of the Public Counsel (OPC)

Marc Poston 200 Madison Street, Suite 650 P.O. Box 2230 opcservice@opc.mo.gov

Empire District Retired Members & Spouses Association, LLC Douglas Healy

3010 E. Battlefield, Suite A Springfield, MO 65804 doug@healylawoffices.com

Empire District Retired Members & Spouses Association, LLC

Terry Jarrett 306 Monroe St. Jefferson City, MO 65101 terry@healylawoffices.com

IBEW Local Union 1474

Michael Amash 6803 West 64th Street Suite 300 Overland Park, KS 66202 mea@blake-uhlig.com

IBEW Local Union 1474

Garrison Howell 6803 West 64th Street Suite 300 Overland Park, KS 66202 grh@blake-uhlig.com

Influent Energy

Andrew Zellers 1100 Main St. 4th Fl Kansas Citv. MO 64105 andy.zellers@influentenergy.com monica.braun@skofirm.com

Liberty (Empire)

Monica Braun 300 West Vine Street, Suite 2100 Lexington, KY 40507

Liberty (Empire)

Diana Carter 428 E. Capitol Avenue, Suite 303 Jefferson City, MO 65101 diana.carter@libertyutilities.com

Liberty (Empire)

W. Duncan Crosby 400 West Market Street, Suite 2700 Louisville, KY 40202 duncan.crosby@skofirm.com

Liberty (Empire)

Jermaine Grubbs 601 S. Joplin Ave. Joplin, MO 64801

Liberty (Empire)

Lindsey Ingram 300 West Vine Street, Suite 2100 Lexington, KY 40507 jermaine.grubbs@libertyutilities.com l.ingram@skofirm.com

Liberty (Empire)

Matthew Parsons 300 West Vine Street, Suite 2100 Tim Opitz Lexington, KY 40507 matt.parsons@skofirm.com

Midwest Energy Consumers Group

308 E. High Street, Suite B101 Jefferson City, MO 65101 tim.opitz@opitzlawfirm.com

MO PSC Staff

Eric Vanderariff 200 Madison Street Jefferson City, MO 65101 eric.vandergriff@psc.mo.gov

Renew Missouri

Nicole Mers 915 Ash Street Columbia, MO 65201 nicole@renewmo.org 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.