

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

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

ORDER SETTING LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE

Issue Date: May 20, 2025

Effective Date: May 20, 2025

The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty has filed tariff sheets designed to increase its gross annual electric revenues. At the Commission’s request, the parties and the presiding officer have communicated via email concerning the scheduling details of the local public hearings to be held concerning the increase request. Pursuant to those communications, the Commission will order seven local public hearings. Five hearings will be held in person, and two will be held via video and telephone conference.

No computer or internet connection is necessary to participate in the two hearings to be held via video and telephone conference. A standard telephone connection (landline or cellular) is all that is needed.

Also submitted via email, and attached to this order, is proposed language to be included in customer notices, which the Commission finds reasonable and will order without change except for updates, verifications, and specific meeting information provided in this order.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The five in-person hearings shall be held as follows:

Date	Time	Location
Monday July 21, 2025	6:00 p.m.	Joplin Missouri Southern State University Corley Hall 3950 Newman Road
Tuesday July 22, 2025	Noon	Nixa City Council Chambers 715 West Mount Vernon Street
Tuesday July 22, 2025	6:00 p.m.	Bolivar Southwest Baptist University McClelland Joe Roberts Room (Dining Hall) 1600 University Avenue
Wednesday July 23, 2025	Noon	Branson City Council Chambers 110 West Maddux Street
Thursday July 24, 2025	Noon	Aurora Recreation Center 126 West Hadley Street

2. The two virtual local public hearings shall be as follows:

Date	Time	At the time of the hearing, dial 855-718-6621 and enter the Access Code/Password
Wednesday July 23, 2025	6:00 p.m.	Access Code: 2861 936 9973 Password: 0261
Friday July 25, 2025	Noon	Access Code: 2866 586 9948 Password: 0261

- a. To attend a virtual local public hearing **by telephone**, at the time of the virtual hearing call toll free (855) 718-6621, listen to the prompt and enter the access code set out above,

followed by # (pound/hashtag symbol). If prompted for a password, enter 0261.

- b. To attend **by video/internet** visit the website at www.webex.com or download the Cisco WebEx Meetings application. At hearing time, enter the corresponding access code and password listed above.

3. Each public hearing will begin with a question-and-answer session. Public testimony will begin at the conclusion of the question-and-answer session.

4. The Commission's Public Policy and Outreach Department shall make an informal presentation and conduct a question-and-answer session for the public at the beginning of each in-person or virtual local public hearing.

5. Liberty, Staff, and OPC shall make a representative available to address substantive issues during the question-and-answer sessions.

6. Liberty shall provide notice of the hearings to each of its customers no later than ten days before the public hearings. Such notice shall be as attached to this order, with the exception of information needing to be updated, verifications for accuracy, and the meeting access information included in this order.

7. Liberty shall provide additional notice within the ten days prior to the local public hearing via text message and/or email to customers signed up to receive electronic messages from Liberty.

8. If possible, members of the public wanting to participate in a hearing should register by sending their first and last name to pscinfo@psc.mo.gov, or by calling (800) 392-4211 no later than 5:00 p.m. the day before the hearing. Any person may participate at any of the hearings, but are encouraged to attend the hearing closest to their service area for the most relevant information.

9. Any person who needs an accommodation to participate in the hearing should call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at (800) 392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the hearing.

10. Comments may also be submitted by mailing the comment to the Missouri Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, or electronically using the Commission's electronic filing system at https://psc.mo.gov/General/Submit_Comments. When submitting comments, please reference File No. ER-2024-0261.

11. The Commission's Public Policy and Outreach Department shall make a copy of this order available to the members of the media representing customers in Liberty's service areas.

12. The Commission's Data Center shall provide a copy of this order to the county commission for each county in Liberty's service areas.

13. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Dippell".

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

Charles Hatcher, Senior Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 20th day of May, 2025.

NOTICE OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LIBERTY’S ELECTRIC RATES

The Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”) has scheduled local public hearings (listed below) for public input on Liberty’s request to increase its rate revenues from its Missouri electric retail customers by \$152.8 million (about 30%) per year. Liberty is asking to continue its Fuel Adjustment Clause (“FAC”) with modifications. About \$24.3 million of Liberty’s \$152.8 million request (about 15.9%) is due to rebasing its FAC. Liberty is proposing to increase its residential customer charge from \$13.00 to \$16.00.

When utilizing only the bill line items titled: “Customer Charge” “Usage Charge” and “Off Peak Credit”, the typical monthly bill impact for a residential customer billed on Liberty’s Time Choice Residential Rate Plan (TC-RG rate schedule) during June through September are shown below:

Usage	Current	Proposed	Difference	Percent increase
500 kWh	\$80.39	\$112.10	\$31.71	39.45%
1000 kWh	\$147.77	\$196.45	\$48.68	32.94%
1200 kWh	\$174.73	\$229.02	\$54.29	31.07%
1500 kWh	\$215.16	\$277.87	\$62.71	29.15%

and the following monthly bill impacts during October through May:

Usage	Current	Proposed	Difference	Percent increase
500 kWh	\$80.39	\$112.10	\$31.71	39.45%
1000 kWh	\$138.25	\$185.03	\$46.78	33.84%
1200 kWh	\$160.45	\$211.88	\$51.43	32.05%
1500 kWh	\$193.74	\$252.16	\$58.42	30.15%

Liberty will continue to adjust (credit or bill) its monthly “Fuel Adjustment Clause” charge on its electric customers’ bills each June 1st and December 1st.

More information about Liberty’s request is available at:

<https://www.efis.psc.mo.gov/Case/Display/85589> (Commission Case No. ER-2024-0261) and <https://central.libertyutilities.com/all/missouri-electric-rate-update.html> (Liberty webpage).

LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULE

The Commission has scheduled both in-person and virtual question and answer sessions where you may ask questions of Liberty and other parties followed by local public hearings where anyone may appear, testify, and/or provide documents to the Commission for its consideration. For a virtual local public hearing the documents must be submitted by email to [email address](#), or provided in advance.

Any member of the public who wishes to testify should register to do so by sending his/her first and last name to pscinfo@psc.mo.gov, or by calling (800) 392-4211 by 5:00 p.m. of the last business day before the hearing. There will be a sign-up sheet at in-person hearings. If you have questions you may send them to pscinfo@psc.mo.gov, or call (800) 392-4211.

Hearing Location	Q&A/Hearing Times
Monday, May 12, 2025	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Joplin</u></p> <p>Missouri Southern State University</p>	<p>Q&A followed by Hearing: 6:00 P.M.</p>

Corley Hall	
Tuesday, May 13, 2025	
<u>Nixa</u> Nixa City Hall	Q&A followed by Hearing: 12:00 P.M.
<u>Branson</u> City of Branson Council Chambers 110 W. Maddux, Ste 210 Branson, MO 65616	Q&A followed by Hearing: 12:00 P.M.
Wednesday, May 14, 2025	
Bolivar SBU	Q&A followed by Hearing: 6:00 P.M.
Virtual (WebEx, video or telephone) Wednesday, May 14, 2025 Q&A followed by Hearing: 12:00 P.M.	Dial xxxxxx and enter the following: Access Code: Password:
Virtual (WebEx, video or telephone) Thursday, May 15, 2025 Q&A followed by Hearing: 6:00 P.M.	Dial xxxxxx and enter the following: Access Code: Password:

Anyone may make comments electronically by following the instructions at <https://psc.mo.gov/CMSInternetData/EFISHelp/Public%20Comment/New%20Consumer%20Comment.pdf> (Include Case No. ER-2024-0261, but not any personal information or sensitive information that you do not wish to be made public.) or by contacting the Staff of the Commission and/or the Office of the Public Counsel (please reference case number ER-2024-0261)—they will also answer inquiries:

Commission Staff
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 Telephone: 1-800-392-4211
E-mail: pscinfo@psc.mo.gov

Office of the Public Counsel
P.O. Box 2230
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Telephone: 573-751-4857 or toll-free at 866-922-2959
E-mail: opcservice@opc.mo.gov

Generally, parties can see comments, but commenting does not make the comment evidence upon which the Commission can rely for making its decisions.

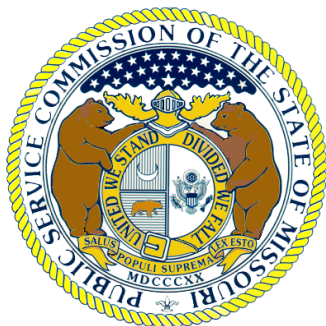
The Commission has scheduled an evidentiary hearing during October 6 to 17, 2025, at the Governor Office Building, Room 310, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri, for parties in this case to present evidence to the Commission for its decision. This hearing is open to the public, except portions the Commission may close. The evidentiary hearing will be held in a building that meets the accessibility standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If someone needs additional accommodations to participate in or attend any local public hearing or the evidentiary hearing, please call the Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 prior to the hearing. The evidentiary hearing will also be streamed live on the Commission's website at <https://psc.mo.gov/>.

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 20th day of May 2025.



Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

May 20, 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
staffcounsel@psc.mo.gov

**Office of the Public Counsel
(OPC)**

Marc Poston
200 Madison Street, Suite 650
P.O. Box 2230
Jefferson City, MO 65102
opc@opc.mo.gov

**Consumers Council of
Missouri**

John Coffman
871 Tuxedo Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63119-2044
john@johncoffman.net

County of Barry, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
700 Main, Suite 2
Barry County Courthouse
Cassville, MO 65625
bccommission@centurytel.net

County of Barton, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
1004 Gulf, Room 104
Barton County Courthouse
Lamar, MO 64759
countyclerk@countyofbarton.com

County of Cedar, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
113 South St., Cedar County
Courthouse
P.O. Box 665
Stockton, MO 65785
clerk@cedarcountymo.gov

County of Christian, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
100 W Church, Rm. 206
Christian County Courthouse
Ozark, MO 65721
kaybrown@christiancountymo.gov

County of Dade, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
300 W Water St.
Dade County Courthouse
Greenfield, MO 65661
dade@sos.mo.gov

County of Dallas, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
102 S Cedar, Dallas County
Admin. Bldg.
PO Box 436
Buffalo, MO 65622
dallas@sos.mo.gov

County of Greene, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
940 Boonville, Rm. 113
Greene County Courthouse
Springfield, MO 65802
sschoeller@greenecountymo.gov

County of Hickory, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
Hickory County Courthouse,
Spring and Dallas
P.O. Box 3
Hermitage, MO 65668
countyclerk@hickorycomo.com

County of Jasper, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
302 S Main St., Rm 102
Jasper County Courthouse
Carthage, MO 64836
jbartosh@jaspercountymo.gov

County of Lawrence, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
1 E Courthouse Sq., Ste. 101
Lawrence County Courthouse
Mt. Vernon, MO 65712
lawrence@sos.mo.gov

County of McDonald, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
602 Main St., McDonald Co.
Courthouse
PO Box 665
Pineville, MO 64856
mcdonald@sos.mo.gov

County of Newton, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
101 S. Wood St. Newton County
Courthouse
P.O. Box 488
Neosho, MO 64850
newton@sos.mo.gov

County of Polk, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
102 E Broadway, Rm 11
Polk County Courthouse
Bolivar, MO 65613
clerk@polkcountymo.gov

County of St. Clair, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
655 Second St., St. Clair County
Courthouse
P.O. Box 525
Osceola, MO 64776
stclair@sos.mo.gov

County of Stone, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
PO Box 45
Stone County Courthouse
Galena, MO 65656
scoelmore@gmail.com

County of Taney, Missouri

County Commission Clerk
PO Box 156
Forsyth, MO 65653
donna.neeley@co.taney.mo.us

**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 City, MO 64105
andy.zellers@influentenergy.com

Liberty (Empire)

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

Liberty (Empire)

Dean Cooper
312 East Capitol
P.O. Box 456
Jefferson City, MO 65102
dcooper@brydonlaw.com

Liberty (Empire)

James Flaherty
216 S. Hickory
P.O. Box 17
Ottawa, KS 66067
jflaherty@andersonbyrd.com

Liberty (Empire)

Jermaine Grubbs
601 S. Joplin Ave.
Joplin, MO 64801
jermaine.grubbs@libertyutilities.com

**Midwest Energy Consumers
Group**

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

MO PSC Staff

Eric Vandergriff
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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Dippell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**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.