

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

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric	)	
Company's Submission of Its Interim Report	)	<b><u>File No. EO-2012-0269</u></b>
Regarding Participation in the Southwest	)	
Power Pool, Inc.	)	

**STAFF RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL 2025 MOTION  
TO EXTEND INTERIM AND CONDITIONAL APPROVAL**

**COMES NOW** Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and for its response to the Motion to Extend Interim and Conditional Approval and Motion for Expedited Treatment ("Motion") filed herein by the Office of Public Counsel (the "OPC") on July 29, 2025, states as follows:

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

2. Liberty's continued participation in SPP has been extended several times since then without Liberty ever filing the cost/benefit study and interim report required by the 2013 stipulation and agreement (which has been stayed for various reasons).

3. Liberty's most recent filing on July 28, 2025, asks the Commission to extend the previously granted interim and conditional approval of Liberty's membership in SPP. On the same day the Commission ordered responses to the request no later than August 11, 2025. At this time, Staff is **not** offering a recommendation or support of Liberty's request for continued approval to participate in SPP as laid out in their July 28, 2025 filing.

4. The OPC's Motion requests the Commission to act prior to the expiration of the current approval, which expires on August 1, 2025, to grant a short extension until October 1, 2025. The OPC's concern is that terms of the first Stipulation and Agreement<sup>1</sup> in this matter could allow the conditional approval of the Commission to become unconditional if allowed to expire.

5. On July 30, 2025, the Commission issued its *Order Directing Filing* ("Order"). The Order provided that any party objecting to the OPC's Motion shall do so no later than July 30, 2025.

5. Staff **does not** object to the OPC's Motion to extend and expedite. Staff is filing this Response to inform the Commission that Staff has no objection to the requested extension on the terms and conditions previously ordered **and** identified by the OPC, at this time.

**WHEREFORE** Staff submits this Response to the Commission's Order issued July 30, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Tracy D. Johnson**

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<sup>1</sup> 1st Stip. & Agreement 3, Doc. 23, Case No. EO-2006-0141

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail, or First Class United States Postal Mail, postage prepaid, to all parties or their representatives pursuant to the Service List maintained by the Commission's Data Center for this file, on this 30<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025.

**/s/ Tracy D. Johnson**