

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)
Regarding Participation in the Southwest)
Power Pool, Inc.)

Case No. EO-2012-0269

ORDER GRANTING INTERIM APPROVAL

Issue Date: September 25, 2025

Effective Date: October 1, 2025

On July 28, 2025, The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty filed a motion asking the Commission to extend the previously granted approval of Liberty's membership in the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) until all transmission facilities identified in the SPP's 2024 Integrated Transmission Plan (ITP) are placed into service. At the request of the Office of the Public Counsel (OPC), the Commission granted Liberty interim and conditional approval for membership in SPP until October 1, 2025.

On September 12, 2025, OPC and the Commission's Staff (Staff) reiterated their previous concerns regarding an open-ended authorization for Liberty's membership in SPP. Instead, OPC and Staff recommend the Commission give Liberty authority for SPP membership until October 1, 2027. OPC and Staff further request the Commission order Liberty to provide more information to them.

Liberty responded, saying the lack of a specific time for completing the ITP plan is not indefinite, but simply outcome-based. Liberty argues a two-year extension is misaligned with the realities of regional transmission planning and construction.

The Commission finds that a one-year interim and conditional extension of Liberty's current membership in SPP is appropriate. The Commission will further order Liberty to provide the information requested by OPC and Staff.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The interim and conditional approval, with the same terms and conditions as previously ordered by the Commission, of Liberty's membership in SPP is extended to October 1, 2026.

2. Liberty shall provide the following information to OPC and Staff no later than August 14, 2026:

- a. A categorized estimate of all exit fees and obligations Liberty would incur if Liberty were to initiate a voluntary withdraw on September 30, 2026 and Liberty's best estimate of all exit fees and obligations Liberty would incur if Liberty were to initiate a voluntary withdraw after completion of all 2024 ITP projects;
- b. For each scenario in part a, identify the dates of Liberty's first notice of voluntary withdraw from SPP and the estimated date of when the withdraw process would be completed;
- c. An estimate of the benefits Liberty receives from its participation in the SPP;
- d. Provide Liberty's options for continued transmission operations and an estimate of the benefits and costs for each option after withdrawing from SPP, including but not limited to, joining an

alternative RTO or operation with an Independent Coordinator of Transmission;

e. Identification of all projects in the 2024 ITP that directly benefit Liberty's customers, including a description of each project that identifies items such as, but not limited to, each project's proposed cost, proposed completion date, and calculated benefits to Liberty's customers;

f. Provide a Revised 2025 PISA Exhibit 4 (pages 8-9) identifying the SPP calculated benefit/cost ratio for all projects over \$1 million;

g. Provide an estimate (or range of estimates) for each of the following for the period 2026-2036, assuming Liberty remains in SPP:

i. transmission payments from Liberty to SPP for transmission services,

ii. transmission revenues through SPP for transmission services,

iii. administrative payments from Liberty to SPP,

iv. revenues and payments for transmission rights,

v. any other non-energy revenues or payments.

h. Provide an estimate (or range of estimates) of the expected SPP costs to Liberty for additional transmission build-out over the next 10 years.

3. Staff and OPC shall file a pleading concerning Liberty's continued membership in SPP no later than September 1, 2026.

4. This order shall be effective on October 1, 2025.

BY THE COMMISSION



Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

Ronald D. Pridgin, Deputy Chief
Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation
of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri
on this 25th day of September, 2025.

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 25th day of September 2025.



Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

September 25, 2025

File/Case No. EO-2012-0269

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

Dogwood Energy, LLC

Carl Lumley
130 S. Bemiston, Ste. 200
St. Louis, MO 63105
clumley@chgolaw.com

Evergy Missouri Metro

James Fischer
2081 Honeysuckle Lane
Jefferson City, MO 65109
jfisherpc@aol.com

Evergy Missouri Metro

Roger Steiner
1200 Main Street, 16th Floor
P.O. Box 418679
Kansas City, MO 64105-9679
roger.steiner@evergy.com

Evergy Missouri West, Inc.

James Fischer
2081 Honeysuckle Lane
Jefferson City, MO 65109
jfisherpc@aol.com

Evergy Missouri West, Inc.

Roger Steiner
1200 Main Street, 16th Floor
P.O. Box 418679
Kansas City, MO 64105-9679
roger.steiner@evergy.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

MO PSC Staff

Tracy Johnson
200 Madison Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101
tracy.johnson@psc.mo.gov

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

Lindsay VanGerpen
200 Madison Street, Suite 650
P.O. Box 2230
Jefferson City, MO 65102
lindsay.vangerpen@opc.mo.gov

Southwest Power Pool, Inc.

Mark Comley
601 Monroe Street., Suite 301
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0537
mwood12952@embarqmail.com

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.