

**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)	Case No. ER-2024-0261
For Electric Service Provided to Customers)	
In its Missouri Service Area)	

PROPOSED HEARING SCHEDULE AND ORDER OF WITNESSES

COMES NOW The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty (“Liberty” or the “Company”), on behalf of all parties, and submits this Hearing Schedule and Order of Witnesses, utilizing the issues and issue numbers from the List of Issues filed herein on September 25, 2025:

Wednesday, October 8 – 9:00am

Preliminary Matters
Opening Statements

*Customer Experience (Issues 142-165)

Company Witnesses:

Amy Walt (142, 146, 148, 164-165)
Candice Kelly (142-145, 147, 149-158, 161-162)
Tim Wilson (142, 159-160, 163-164)
Colin Penny (142)
Jeff Westfall (142)
Charlotte Emery (142, 163)

Staff Witnesses:

Matthew Young (142a, 142c, 161)
Tyrone Thomason (142b, 142c(i), 143 – 156, 158)
J Luebbert (142b, 146, 148)
James Busch(142d)

Public Counsel Witness:

Geoff Marke (142, 143, 148-165)

Thursday, October 9 – 9:00am

*Customer Experience (continue, if needed)

*Audit/Ethics (Issue 124)

Company Witness: Tim Wilson

Staff Witness: Matthew Young

Public Counsel Witnesses: None

*Green Button Connect (Issue 114)

Company Witness: Candice Kelly

Renew MO Witness: Michael Murray

Staff Witness: Matthew Lucas

Public Counsel Witnesses: None

*Depreciation (Issue 80)

Company Witness: Dane Watson

Staff Witness: Malachi Bowman

Public Counsel Witness: John Robinett

*Cybersecurity (Issue 72)

Company Witnesses: Shawn Eck, Charlotte Emery

Staff Witness: Karen Lyons

Public Counsel Witness: Angela Schaben

*Infrastructure Inspections (Issue 123)

Company Witness: Jeff Westfall

Staff Witness: Claire Eubanks

Public Counsel Witnesses: None

***GRIP Awards (Issue 131)**

Company Witness: Jeff Westfall

Staff Witness: Matthew Young

Public Counsel Witness: Jordan Seaver

Friday, October 10 – 9:00am

***Plant and Accumulated Depreciation (Issue 2a-g, i-j)**

Company Witnesses:

Charlotte Emery
Jeff Westfall (2c, d, i, j)

Staff Witnesses:

Claire Eubanks (2i)
Christopher Boronda (2a)
Brodrick Niemeier(2h)
Matthew Young (2e, 2f, 2g, 2h)

Public Counsel Witnesses:

John Robinett (2a-c, f)
Geoff Marke (2d, j)
Jordan Seaver (2i)

***Cash Working Capital (Issue 3)**

Company Witnesses: Charlotte Emery, Tim Lyons

Staff Witness: Lindsey Smith

Public Counsel Witnesses: None

***Prepayments (Issue 4)**

Company Witness: Charlotte Emery

Staff Witness: Lindsey Smith

Public Counsel Witnesses: None

*Materials, Supplies, and Inventory (Issue 5)

Company Witness: Charlotte Emery

Staff Witness: Lindsey Smith

Public Counsel Witnesses: None

*Customer Deposits/Customer Advances (Issues 7-8, 75)

Company Witness: Charlotte Emery

Staff Witness: Lindsey Smith

Public Counsel Witnesses: None

*Regulatory Assets/Liabilities (Issues 9-14)

Company Witness: Charlotte Emery

Staff Witness: Nathan Bailey

Public Counsel Witnesses: None

*Tax Matters (Issues 31-33, 36-37, 77, 82-83, 86 - 87, 129)

Company Witness: Michael McCuen

Staff Witness: Matthew Young

Public Counsel Witness: John Riley (31, 32, 37, 86)

*Allocations/Allocators/CAM (Issues 73-74, 84)

Company Witnesses: Charlotte Emery, Peter Eichler (74)

Staff Witness: Angela Niemeier (73, 84)

Public Counsel Witness: Angela Schaben (74)

Tuesday, October 14 – 9:00am

***Capital Structure/ROE/Cost of Debt (Issue 1)**

Company Witness: Dan Dane (also, Customer Experience Issue 160)

Staff Witness: Chris Walters

Public Counsel Witness: David Murray

*** Pension/OPEB and Retiree Issues (Issues 16, 62 – 65, 130, 166-167)**

Company Witness: Jim Fallert, Charlotte Emery

Staff Witness: Matthew Young

Public Counsel Witnesses: None

EDRA Witness: Bill Gipson

***Regulatory Assets/Liabilities (Issues 17-24, 29-30, 34-35)**

Company Witness: Charlotte Emery

Staff Witnesses:

Jared Giacone (17 – 21)
Matthew Young (23, 34, 35)
Nathan Bailey (24)
Cristopher Boronda (29)
Sarah Lange (30)
Karen Lyons (30)

Public Counsel Witness: John Robinett (22)

Wednesday, October 15 – 9:00am

***Income Statement Issues (Issues 28, 38-61, 66 – 71, 76, 78-79, 81, 141)**

Company Witnesses:

Charlotte Emery
Todd Tarter (41-43)

Staff Witnesses:

Jared Giacone (28, 39, 57, 59, 81, 141)
Melanie Marek (40, 41a, 50, 52, 53, 56, 58, 61, 79)
Brooke Mastrogiannis (41b, 42)
Antonija Nieto (42, 43a, 70, 71)
Shawn Lange (43a, 43b)
Justin Tevie (43b)
Christophe Boronda (44, 45)
Matthew Young (46, 47, 49, 78)
Nathan Bailey (51b, 76)
Lindsey Smith (54, 55, 66)
Sydney Ferguson (67, 68, 69)

Public Counsel Witnesses:

Angela Schaben (42)
John Robinett (46-48, 51)
Geoff Marke (51)

*Miscellaneous Issues (Issues 25 – 27, 136-140)

Company Witnesses:

Charlotte Emery (136-139)
Brian Berkstresser (140)

Staff Witnesses:

Jared Giacone (25 – 27, 136 – 137)
Nathan Bailey (138)
Matthew Young (139)

Public Counsel Witness:

John Robinett (140)

*Customer Programs (Issues 15, 115-122)

Company Witnesses:

Charlotte Emery (15)
Nate Hackney (115-122)

Staff Witnesses:

Sydney Ferguson (15)
Amy Eichholz (115, 118)

Sarah Lange (118)
James Busch (118)

Renew Witness:

Jessica Polk Sentell

Public Counsel Witness:

Geoff Marke

CCM Witness:

Jim Thomas

Thursday, October 16 – 9:00am

*Ozark Beach Crane Extension (Issue 89)

Company Witnesses: Brian Berkstresser (89A), Charlotte Emery (89B)

Staff Witness: Brodrick Niemeier

Public Counsel Witness: Geoff Marke

*Riverton 10 (Issue 2h, 88)

Company Witnesses:

Brian Berkstresser
Aaron Doll

Staff Witness:

Matthew Young (2h, 88b)
Brodrick Niemeier (88a – 88c)

Public Counsel Witness:

John Robinett

*Miscellaneous Issues (Issues 6, 85, 132, 133, 134, 135)

Company Witnesses:

Todd Tarter (6, 85, 132, 134, 135)

Charlotte Emery (133)
Aaron Doll (135)

Staff Witness:

Antonija Nieto (6, 134, 135)

Public Counsel Witnesses: None

*Customer Experience Issues 142, 160, 163 (cont.)

Company Witness: John Reed (taken out of order due to witness availability)

*FAC (Issues 90-99)

Company Witnesses:

John Reed (98)
Todd Tarter
Aaron Doll
Charlotte Emery (96)

Staff Witness:

Brooke Mastrogiannis

Public Counsel Witnesses:

Angela Schaben (93-96)
Lena Mantle

*Cost/Benefit Analysis (Issue 125)

Company Witness: Chris Kerr

Staff Witness: Claire Eubanks

Public Counsel Witness: Geoff Marke (will need to be addressed on another date)

*Value of Lost Load (Issues 126-127)

Company Witnesses: Chris Kerr, Aaron Doll

Staff Witness: none

Public Counsel Witness: Geoff Marke (not available on 10/16)

*MPPM (Issue 128)

Company Witness: Aaron Doll

Staff Witness: Marina Gonzales (128a)

Public Counsel Witnesses: Manzell Payne, Lena Mantle

Friday, October 17 – 9:00am

*Billing Determinants and Rate Design (Issues 100-110)

Company Witnesses:

Tim Lyons (100-106, 108-110)
Charlotte Emery (107)

MECG Witnesses: (will file motion requesting virtual appearance)

Kavita Maini
Richard Nelson

Staff Witnesses:

Kim Cox (100)
Marina Gonzales (100, 104)
Hari Poudel (100, 103)
Randall Jennings (100)
James Busch (101)
Sarah Lange (101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107)
Amanda Arandia (106)
Justin Tevie (107)
Randall Jennings (108, 109)

Public Counsel Witnesses:

Manzell Payne (106)
Geoff Marke (101, 103, 104)

CCM Witness:

Caroline Palmer (101, 103)

*Various Tariff Issues (Issues 111-113, 169-170)

Company Witnesses:

Charlotte Emery (111, 113, 169)
Chris Kerr (112, 170)

Staff Witnesses:

Amanda Arandia (111, 112)
Randall Jennings (113)
Coty King (170, 171)

Public Counsel Witness:

Manzell Payne (112)

Order of Cross Examination:

Empire Witnesses: Influent, EDRA, IBEW, RenewMO, Consumer's Council, MECG, Staff, OPC

Staff Witnesses: Influent, EDRA, IBEW, RenewMO, Consumer's Council, MECG, OPC, Empire

OPC Witnesses: Influent, EDRA, IBEW, RenewMO, Consumer's Council, MECG, Staff, Empire

MECG Witnesses: Influent, EDRA, IBEW, RenewMO, Consumer's Council, Empire, OPC, Staff

EDRA Witnesses: Influent, IBEW, RenewMO, Consumer's Council, MECG, Staff, OPC, Empire

CCM Witnesses: Influent, EDRA, IBEW, RenewMO, MECG, Staff, OPC, Empire

RenewMo Witnesses: Influent, EDRA, IBEW, MECG, Consumer's Council, Empire, OPC, Staff

WHEREFORE, on behalf of all parties, Liberty submits this Proposed Hearing Schedule and Order of Witnesses for the Commission's consideration.

ATTORNEYS FOR THE EMPIRE DISTRICT
ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a LIBERTY

/s/ Diana C. Carter

Diana C. Carter MBE #50527

Jermaine Grubbs MBE #68970

602 S. Joplin Ave.

Joplin, Missouri 64801

Joplin Office Phone: (417) 626-5976

Cell Phone: (573) 289-1961
E-Mails: Diana.Carter@LibertyUtilities.com
Jermaine.Grubbs@LibertyUtilities.com

Dean L. Cooper MBE #36592
BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND, P.C.
312 East Capital Avenue
P.O. Box 456
Jefferson City, Missouri 65702
Phone: (573) 635-7166
E-Mail: dcooper@brydonlaw.com

James G. Flaherty, #11177
ANDERSON & BYRD, LLP
216 S. Hickory ~ P.O. Box 17
Ottawa, Kansas 66067
(785) 242-1234, telephone
(785) 242-1279, facsimile
jflaherty@andersonbyrd.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the above document was filed in EFIS on this 26th day of September, 2025, with notification of the same being sent to all counsel of record, and I further certify that the above document was sent by electronic transmission to all counsel of record.

/s/ Diana C. Carter