

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

In the Matter of the Application of the Empire            )  
District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty for a            )  
Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to            )  
Support Resource Adequacy                                    )  
**File No. EA-2025-0299**

**Motion for Local Public Hearings and Request for Expedited Treatment**

COMES NOW Renew Missouri Advocates d/b/a Renew Missouri and the Office of Public Counsel, who respectfully request the Commission hold two local public hearings in this case before it issues any certificate of convenience and necessity—one local public hearing at a location in Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty’s (Liberty) service territory and one virtually. Ordering these local public hearings will serve two important goals, providing notice of the generating facility to local communities sited near the proposed plant, as well as providing an opportunity for Liberty’s customers to ask questions about the proposed plant and provide testimony for the Commission’s consideration. The movants respectfully suggest the week of March 30<sup>th</sup>, or the week of April 13<sup>th</sup>, for scheduling, to allow for notice to be provided to customers.<sup>1</sup> Furthermore, movants respectfully suggest the virtual option be held at noon and the in-person hearing be held at 6 p.m. to provide reasonable opportunities for the public to attend. For the in-person location, movants suggest the Joplin Elks Lodge, located at 1802 W 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Joplin, MO 64804, which has confirmed availability during this timeframe.

Pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-2.080, the movants also respectfully request the Commission issue an order on an expedited basis, by March 6, 2026, for good cause, in order for Liberty to prepare notice to customers for the hearings. Movants filed this motion as soon as practicable after

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<sup>1</sup> Movants note on April 3, a rulemaking hearing is scheduled for EX-2026-0171, and an evidentiary hearing is currently scheduled April 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> in EA-2025-0239.

determining local public hearings would be beneficial to the Commission's determination and confirming availability of a suitable venue for an in-person hearing.

**WHEREFORE**, movants respectfully requests that the Commission order two local public hearings, as outlined above, by March 6, 2026, along with any further relief the Commission deems proper.

Respectfully,

/s/ Nicole Mers

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been emailed to all counsel of record this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026.

*/s/ Nicole Mers*