

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) **Case No. EA-2025-0299**
and Necessity to Support Resource)
Adequacy)

ORDER SETTING LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING

Issue Date: March 5, 2026

Effective Date: March 5, 2026

On February 27, 2026,¹ Renew Missouri Advocates d/b/a Renew Missouri and the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel) filed a *Motion for Local Public Hearings and Request for Expedited Treatment* (Motion). The Motion requested an in-person local public hearing in Joplin and a second one to be held virtually. The Commission set a deadline of March 3 for parties to respond to the Motion.

On March 3, The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty filed its *Request for Procedural Schedule and Response Regarding Motion for Local Public Hearings* (Response). In it, Liberty noted that their proposed generating facility will be on land owned by the company. Liberty states that it does not believe a local public hearing is necessary, but, if the Commission disagrees, Liberty suggests a virtual hearing, rather than an in-person hearing.

The Commission finds that, at this time, a local public hearing would aid the Commission is gauging public interest in this matter, but an in-person local public hearing is not necessary.

¹ All dates refer to the year 2026.

Liberty's Response also requests a procedural schedule. The Commission will address that request in a separate order.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. A virtual local public hearing shall be held via the internet-based video and teleconferencing service, Cisco Webex, to begin at **6:00 p.m.** on **April 16, 2026**.

a. To attend the virtual local public hearing **by telephone**, at the time of the hearing call 1-650-479-3207, listen to the prompt and enter the meeting number/access code **2630 302 2856**, followed by # (pound/hashtag symbol). If prompted for a password, enter **0299**.

b. To attend a virtual local public hearing **by video/internet** visit the website at www.webex.com or download the Cisco Webex Meetings application. At hearing time, enter the meeting number/access code **2630 302 2856** and password **0299**.

2. The local public hearing shall begin with an informal presentation and question-and-answer session conducted by the Commission's Public Policy and Outreach Department. Formal public comments to the Commission will begin immediately following the conclusion of the question-and-answer session.

3. Any person who needs an accommodation to participate in the hearing should call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the hearing.

4. Liberty, Staff, and Public Counsel shall each make a representative available to address substantive issues during the question-and-answer session.

5. Liberty shall provide notice of the hearing to each of its customers no later than ten days before the public hearing.

6. If possible, members of the public wishing to participate in the 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. on April 15, 2026.

7. 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 at https://psc.mo.gov/General/Submit_Comments. When submitting comments, please reference Case No. EA-2025-0299.

8. 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 electric service areas.

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

10. This order is effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

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

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

Kenneth J. Seyer, Senior Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri
on this 5th day of March, 2026.

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 5th day of March 2026.



Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

March 5, 2026

File/Case No. EA-2025-0299

MO PSC Staff

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County of Cedar, Missouri

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County of Christian, Missouri

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County of Jasper, Missouri

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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.