

**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) **File No. ER-2024-0261**
Tariffs Increasing Rates for Electric Service Provided to)
Customers In its Missouri Service Area)

STAFF’S STATUS REPORT

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”), by and through the undersigned counsel, and respectfully states as follows:

1. On May 4, 2026, the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”) issued its *Order Granting Staff’s Requested Extension and Further Suspending Tariff Sheets*, directing Staff to file a Status Report of its review of the customer service and billing metrics of The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty (“Empire,” “Liberty,” or “Company”).

2. Staff met with the Company on April 2, 2026, and May 7, 2026, to discuss Staff’s questions regarding Empire’s February and March data. On May 8, 2026, the Company provided supplemental data for both months, which Staff is now reviewing. On May 6, 2026, Staff submitted 11 additional questions to the Company in preparation for Staff’s next filing.¹ Provided the Company timely responds to Staff’s additional questions, Staff anticipates meeting the June 8 filing date.

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully submits this Status Report in compliance with the Commission’s May 4 Order.

¹ Staff has not received responses to all 11 questions as of this filing.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Eric Vandergriff

Eric Vandergriff

Senior Counsel

Missouri Bar No. 73984

P.O. Box 360

Jefferson City, MO 65102

573-522-9524 (Voice)

573-751-9285 (Fax)

Eric.Vandergriff@psc.mo.gov

Staff Counsel for the

Missouri Public Service Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all parties and/or counsel of record on this 18th day of May 2026.

/s/ Eric Vandergriff