

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

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric	)	
Company d/b/a Liberty's Application for	)	<u>File No. ET-2026-0184</u>
Approval of New or Modified Tariffs for	)	Tracking No. JE-2027-0036
Service to Large Load Customers	)	

**STAFF'S STATUS REPORT AND REQUEST FOR
PREHEARING CONFERENCE COMMISSION ORDER**

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"), by and through undersigned counsel, and for its *Status Report and Request for Prehearing Conference* ("Status Report and Request") respectfully states as follows:

1. On September 11, 2026, The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty ("Liberty") filed an application ("Application") and supporting testimony requesting approval of a large load customer rate plan, associate tariffs, a variance, and authorization to track revenues.

2. On September 14, 2026, the Commission issued its *Order Directing Notice, A Staff Pleading, Setting an Intervention Deadline, and Suspending Tariff* (the "Order"), which set an October 12, 2026, deadline for applications to intervene and for Staff to file a pleading indicating when it can file a recommendation regarding the Application (the "Oct. 12 Pleading").

3. Staff respectfully requests that the Commission schedule a Prehearing Conference on October 14, 2026, or as soon thereafter as possible so that any applications to intervene may be addressed and the parties can discuss putting into place a complete Procedural Schedule. Staff further requests that the Commission accept this Status Report

and Request as its October 12 Pleading indicating that it will attend an ordered Procedural Conference, where the date by which Staff may file its Staff Recommendation will be discussed and included in a future procedural schedule or a similar schedule with proposed dates for filing of testimony. This suggested procedural approach is consistent with the approach taken in Case No. ET-2025-0184.

4. Counsel for Liberty has been informed of this Status Report and Request and Staff Counsel has confirmed Liberty's non-opposition before the filing of this Status Report and Request.

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully submits this Status Report and Request, and respectfully requests the Commission accept the same and issue an order scheduling a Prehearing Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Travis J. Pringle

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**Attorneys for the Staff of the Missouri
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to all parties and/or counsel of record as reflected on the certified service list maintained by the Commission in its Electronic Filing Information System this 9th day of October, 2026.

/s/ Travis J. Pringle