BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of The Empire District Electric Company and Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water), LLC d/b/a Liberty Utilities for Variances to Enable the Deployment of Advanced Metering Infrastructures for Electric and Water Customers

File No. AO-2020-0237 Tariff Filing No. YE-2021-0023 Tariff Filing No. YW-2021-0024

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"), through Staff Counsel's Office, and for its *Staff Recommendation*, states as follows:

1. On August 11, 2020, The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire") and Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC ("Liberty Water") (collectively "Liberty" or "Applicants") filed tariff sheet revisions under Tariff Filing Nos. YE-2021-0023 and YW-2021-0024, bearing effective dates of September 10, 2020. On August 15, 2020, the Applicants filed substitute sheets bearing the same effective dates.

2. Staff reviewed the substitute revised tariff sheets and concludes that they should be approved by the Commission. Thus, Staff recommends the following tariff sheet for Empire submitted on August 11, 2020, and substituted on August 15, 2020, be approved to become effective September 10, 2020:

P.S.C. MO. No. 5, Section 5 8th Revised Sheet No. 11, cancelling 7th Revised Sheet No. 11

3. Staff also recommends the following tariff sheet for Liberty Water submitted on August 11, 2020, and substituted on August 15, 2020, be approved to become effective September 10, 2020:

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P.S.C. MO. No. 14

1st Revised Sheet No. 20 Cancelling Original Sheet No. 20

WHEREFORE, Staff prays that the Commission will accept Staff's *Recommendation* and grant such other and further relief as the Commission deems just in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Mark Johnson</u>

Mark Johnson, Mo. Bar No. 64940 Deputy Counsel Attorney for the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission P.O Box 360 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 Phone: (573) 751-7431 Fax: (573) 751-9285 E-mail: mark.johnson@psc.mo.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile, or electronically mailed to all parties and/or counsel of record on this 17th day of August 2020.

<u>/s/ Mark Johnson</u>

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of the Application of The Empire District Electric Company and Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water), LLC d/b/a Liberty Utilities for Variances to Enable the Deployment of Advanced) Metering Infrastructure for Electric and Water Customers

File No. AO-2020-0237

AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES A. BUSCH

STATE OF MISSOURI)	
)	ss.
COUNTY OF COLE)	

COMES NOW James A. Busch, and on his oath declares that he is of sound mind and lawful age; that he contributed to the foregoing *Staff Recommendation*; and that the same is true and correct according to his best knowledge and belief, under penalty of perjury.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.

/s/ James A. Busch James A. Busch

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of the Application of The Empire District Electric Company and Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water), LLC d/b/a Liberty Utilities for Variances to Enable the Deployment of Advanced) Metering Infrastructure for Electric and Water Customers

File No. AO-2020-0237

AFFIDAVIT OF CLAIRE M. EUBANKS, PE

STATE OF MISSOURI)	
)	ss.
COUNTY OF COLE)	

COMES NOW Claire M. Eubanks, PE, and on her oath declares that she is of sound mind and lawful age; that she contributed to the foregoing *Staff Recommendation*; and that the same is true and correct according to her best knowledge and belief, under penalty of perjury.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.

/s/ Claire M. Eubanks, PE Claire M. Eubanks, PE