BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

)

)

)

)

In the Matter of the Application of Missouri-American Water Company's Request for Authority to Implement General Rate Increase for Water and Sewer Service Provided in Missouri Service Areas

File No. WR-2022-0303

REQUEST TO BE EXCUSED FROM HEARING

COMES NOW The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty and respectfully requests that Liberty be excused from providing an opening statement, cross examining witnesses, or otherwise participating in the hearing, and respectfully requests to be excused from such proceedings. In this regard, Liberty states as follows:

1. On July 22, 2022, Liberty filed its Motion to Intervene in the above styledmatter; and, on August 5, 2022, the Commission granted Liberty's Motion, based on a determination that intervention would serve the public interest, as provided by Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.075(3).

2. Counsel for Liberty may attend portions of the hearing, but Liberty has not filed testimony and does not plan to offer an opening statement or to cross examine the majority of witnesses in this case. If Liberty decides to file a brief, it recognizes it will take the record as it is developed.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons cited above, Liberty requests that the Commission grant its request to be excused from appearing at the hearing.

1

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Diana C. Carter</u> Diana C. Carter MBE #50527 The Empire District Electric Company 428 E. Capitol Ave., Suite 303 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 Joplin Office Phone: (417) 626-5976 Cell Phone: (573) 289-1961 E-Mail: Diana.Carter@LibertyUtilities.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the above document was filed in EFIS on this 24th day of February 2023, with a copy sent to all counsel of record.

/s/ Diana Carter