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 Tariffs Increasing) Rates for Electric Service Provided to) Customers in its Missouri Service Area)

Case No. ER-2021-____

NOTICE OF INTENDED CASE FILING

COMES NOW The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty ("Empire" or the "Company), and for its Notice of Intended Case Filing being submitted herein pursuant to Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017, respectfully states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission (the "Commission"):

1. Empire is a Kansas corporation with its principal office and place of business at 602 Joplin Street, Joplin, Missouri. Empire is qualified to conduct business and is conducting business in Missouri, as well as in the states of Arkansas, Kansas, and Oklahoma. Empire is engaged, generally, in the business of generating, purchasing, transmitting, distributing, and selling electricity in portions of the referenced four states. Empire's Missouri operations are subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission as provided by law.

2. Commission Rule 4.017(1) provides, in part, that "(a)ny person that intends to file a case shall file a notice with the secretary of the commission a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to filing such case. Such notice shall detail the type of case and issues likely to be before the commission and shall include a summary of all communication regarding substantive issues likely to be in the case between the filing party and the office of the commission that occurred in the ninety (90) days prior to filing the notice. The filing of such notice shall initiate a new noticed case and be assigned an appropriate case designation and number."

3. Empire intends to file a general rate case in the coming months. Issues the Commission will be asked to consider and decide in the upcoming case are those that normally arise in general rate case proceedings for an electric utility with a Fuel Adjustment Clause.

4. With regard to Rule 4.017(1) and the requirement that a 60-day filing notice include "a summary of all communication regarding substantive issues likely to be in the case between the filing party and the office of the commission that occurred in the ninety (90) days prior to filing the notice," Empire verifies that there have been no ex parte communications regarding substantive issues likely to be in the intended case between Empire and the office of the Commission within the 90 days prior to the filing of this Notice. Empire notes, however, that its employees do have regular conversations with the Commission's Consumer Services Department, including providing information regarding electric operations and customer service matters that may relate to issues addressed in the upcoming rate case.

WHEREFORE, Empire submits to the Commission this Notice of Intended Case Filing. Empire requests such relief as is just and proper under the circumstances.

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 26th day of March, 2021, and sent by electronic transmission to the Staff of the Commission and the Office of the Public Counsel.

/s/ Diana C. Carter