

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
STATE OF MISSOURI

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
PROCEDURAL CONFERENCE

In the Matter of the )  
Petition of The Empire )  
District Electric Company )  
d/b/a Liberty to Obtain a ) File No. EO-2022-0040  
Financing Order that )  
Authorizes the Issuance of )  
Securitized Utility Tariff )  
Bonds for Qualified )  
Extraordinary Costs )  
  
 )  
  
 )

THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2025  
3:00 p.m.

Jefferson City, MO  
via WebEx  
Volume 9

JOHN CLARK, Presiding  
SENIOR REGULATORY LAW JUDGE

TRANSCRIBED BY: CAROL A. BECKMANN, CSR

1 (Beginning of audio recording  
2 EO-2022-0040 Liberty Procedural Conference-20250612  
3 2111-1.)

4 LAW JUDGE CLARK: The date is June 12th of  
5 2025. And the current time is 3:00 p.m.

6 The Commission has set aside this time for  
7 a status conference today in the case captioned as  
8 Case No. 0E-2022-0040. And that is in the matter of  
9 the petition of the Empire District Electric Company  
10 doing business as Liberty to obtain a financing order  
11 that authorizes the issuance of securitized utility  
12 tariff bonds for qualified extraordinary costs.

13 As I said before, my name is John Clark,  
14 I'm the Regulatory Law Judge presiding over this  
15 matter today. And I'm going to ask attorneys to enter  
16 their appearance for the record, starting with Empire.

17 MS. CARTER: Good afternoon, Judge. Diana  
18 Carter and Sarah Knowlton for the Empire District  
19 Electric Company doing business as Liberty.

20 LAW JUDGE CLARK: Thank you very much.  
21 Ms. Carter is. And who else from Liberty is with you  
22 there today?

23 MS. CARTER: We have Charlotte Emery,  
24 Taylor McDaniel, and Monica Gloodt.

25 LAW JUDGE CLARK: And I know that Charlotte

1 handles tariff design, who else -- what do the others  
2 do, if you don't mind me asking?

3 MS. CARTER: They are both on Charlotte's  
4 team.

5 LAW JUDGE CLARK: Okay. Great. Thank you.  
6 And I assume that would be because of me requesting  
7 anybody who worked on the worksheets to be here?

8 MS. CARTER: That is correct.

9 LAW JUDGE CLARK: All right. Thank you.  
10 On behalf of the Commission staff?

11 MS. JOHNSON: Hi, Judge, this is Tracy  
12 Johnson.

13 LAW JUDGE CLARK: Thank you, Ms. Johnson.  
14 Is there anyone here from the Office of Public  
15 Counsel? Okay. They were not -- they were invited  
16 but they did not have to appear today.

17 Is there anyone here from Midwest Energy  
18 Consumer Group? Okay. They're not here, but they  
19 were not required to be either.

20 I'm going to say this again, kind of once  
21 we go in camera, but I'm going to go ahead and say it  
22 now, too. The questions that I'm going to ask or that  
23 the -- that are going to be asked, could potentially  
24 cross with some issues in the currently pending rate  
25 case, not -- while all of the parties here I believe

1 currently are parties to that rate case, I don't  
2 believe that all of the parties to that rate case are  
3 present here, and I went to to the extent possible  
4 avoid me having to put any extra record communication  
5 notices into the file. The parties know what's going  
6 on in the rate case other than me, and it's really  
7 less of an issue for me, but I'll get into that  
8 because I'm not the judge in the rate case. With  
9 that, I'm going to remind everyone that the Presiding  
10 Officer can rule on substantive issues at any  
11 prehearing conference like this. And that is pursuant  
12 to Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240.090 Subsection 6.

13 And with that, we are going to go in camera  
14 now, so --

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Judge, you might  
16 want to see if there is any other counsel for other  
17 parties because I believe at least Nicole is here.

18 LAW JUDGE CLARK: Yes.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There may be others  
20 because we can't see everybody.

21 LAW JUDGE CLARK: Thank you very much,  
22 Cherlynn. Who else is here? Did I miss anyone?

23 MS. MERZ: Yeah, Nicole Merz from Renew  
24 Missouri is on just to observe. I can make an entry  
25 of appearance. And apparently, my camera is going to

1 show you a very dark, cave-like room, so I apologize  
2 for that. But Nicole Merz, on behalf of Renew  
3 Missouri. It's 501 Fay Street, Suite 206, Columbia,  
4 Missouri 65201. Yeah, we're just to -- trying to  
5 listen in quietly, I think.

6 LAW JUDGE CLARK: I can't remember off the  
7 top of my head, was Renew a party in EO-2022-040?

8 MS. MERZ: Yes, but it was under Andrew  
9 Linhares, so I think that that probably was a little  
10 bit of the miscommunication, too, with notice, so I  
11 got the popup, I wanted to make sure that Renew was  
12 paying attention to things it was supposed to, and so  
13 I'm just here to --

14 (Talking over each other.)

15 LAW JUDGE CLARK: Absolutely. Welcome to  
16 be here and to observe today, so please.

17 MS. MERZ: Yes.

18 LAW JUDGE CLARK: Is there anybody else  
19 that I've missed? No.

20 (In Camera Redacted.)

21 LAW JUDGE CLARK: And we are out of in  
22 camera -- or I guess I should say let's go out of in  
23 camera.

24 There are no pending motions? No.

25 Are there any other matters that need to be

1 addressed by the Commission at this status conference?

2 Staff?

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No other matters  
4 from Staff, Judge.

5 LAW JUDGE CLARK: Liberty?

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, Judge. Thank  
7 you.

8 LAW JUDGE CLARK: Renew Missouri?

9 MS. MERS: Sorry, I was on mute and  
10 couldn't hit the button, but no, no thank you.

11 LAW JUDGE CLARK: Okay. Well thank you  
12 again, all, for being here, I really appreciate it, we  
13 appreciate your time in helping us figure this out.  
14 With that done, we'll go off the record, and I will  
15 adjourn this hearing. Thank you very much.

16 (End of audio recording

17 EO-2022-0040 Liberty Procedural Conference-20250612  
18 2111-1.)

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## CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF ILLINOIS                     )  
  )   SS  
COUNTY OF CLINTON                 )

I, CAROL A. BECKMANN, a Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public, within and for the State of Illinois, do hereby certify that the audio transcription in the foregoing audio was transcribed to the best of my ability and therefore reduced to typewriting under my direction; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this tape was taken, and further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties thereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.



Carol A. Beckmann, CSR  
Notary Public in and for  
the State of Illinois

My Commission expires December 18, 2028.

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