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

<u>Case No. ER-2021-0312</u> Tracking No. JE-2026-0110

STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE TARIFF SHEET

COMES NOW Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and hereby respectfully submits this *Staff Recommendation to Approve Tariff Sheet* as follows:

- 1. On July 30, 2025, The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty (the "Company") filed a tariff sheet for the Company's Renewable Energy Purchase Program ("the Program"), tariff sheet PSC MO No. 6, Section 4, 6th Revised Sheet No. 7a. The submitted tariff sheet bore a proposed effective date of September 1, 2025, and was assigned Tariff Tracking No. JE-2026-0110.
- 2. Also on July 30, 2025, the Commission directed Staff to file, no later than August 11, 2025, a recommendation regarding the proposed tariff sheet.
- 3. As reflected in Staff's Memorandum attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, Staff has reviewed the filing and recommends that the Commission approve the tariff sheet, with an effective date of September 1, 2025.

WHEREFORE, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the following tariff sheet filed by the Company on July 30, 2025, with an effective date of September 1, 2025:

P.S.C. MO. No. 6, Section 4
6th Revised Sheet No. 7a Cancelling 5th Revised Sheet No. 7a

Respectfully submitted,

Isl Tracy D. Johnson

Tracy D. Johnson
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Attorney for the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been hand-delivered, emailed or mailed, postage prepaid, to the parties of record as listed in the Service List maintained for this case by the Commission's Data Center, on this 11th day of August, 2025.

Isl Tracy D. Johnson

<u>MEMORANDUM</u>

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File Case No. ER-2021-0312,

Tracking No. JE-2026-0110

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

FROM: Malachi Bowman, Associate Engineer, Engineering Analysis Department

/s/ Malachi Bowman 8/11/2025

Staff Member / Date

SUBJECT: Renewable Energy Purchase Plan

DATE: August 11, 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On July 30, 2025, Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty ("Company"), submitted revised tariff sheets for the Company's Renewable Energy Purchase Program ("Program"), tariff sheet PSC MO No. 6, Section 4, 6th Revised Sheet No. 7a with an effective date of September 1, 2025.

On July 30, 2025, the Commission filed its Order Directing A Staff Recommendation about Liberty's Tariff Revision and Setting Time for Comments, ordering Staff to file its recommendation on the tariff sheet, 1 no later than August 11, 2025.

BACKGROUND

The Company proposed its Renewable Energy Purchase Plan as part of its 2021 rate case.² The purpose of the Program is to offer non-residential customers the opportunity to offset their carbon emissions by up to 100% of their electricity consumption through the purchase of renewable energy credits ("RECs"). The Program was approved and placed into effect June 1, 2022. The tariff that was placed into effect contains language requiring the Company to periodically review the REC rate:

On a quarterly basis, the Company shall perform a review of the previous three months' average weighted price ("Quarterly Review") for the Company's REC sales to the schedule's REC Rate. If the REC Rate is outside a five percent threshold as compared to the Quarterly Review, the REC Rate will be recalculated as the weighted average price for the most recent 12-month ending period. This updated REC Rate shall become effective with the first billing cycle of the following month.

² ER-2021-0312

¹ JE-2026-0010

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STAFF REVIEW

The substitute tariff sheet updates the REC rate, previously set at \$2.73 per 1,000 kWh, to reflect the Renewable Energy Credits ("RECs") rate of \$2.57 per 1,000 kWh for the 12-month period ending June 2025. Staff has reviewed the workpapers provided by the Company and agrees that \$2.57 is the weighted average for the for the 12-month period ending June 2025.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission approve the following tariff sheet, as filed on July 30, 2025 to go into effect on and after September 1, 2025, the requested effective date:

PSC MO No. 6, Section 4

6th Revised Sheet No. 7a Canceling 5th Revised Sheet No. 7a

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 |) |
|---|---|
| AFFIDAVIT OF MALACHI BOWAN | |
| STATE OF MISSOURI)) ss. COUNTY OF COLE) | |
| COMES NOW MALACHI BOWMAN and and lawful age; that he contributed to the forego true and correct according to his best knowledge Further the Affiant sayeth not. | |
| MA | LACHI BOWMAN |
| JUR | AT |
| Subscribed and sworn before me, a duly consthe County of Cole, State of Missouri, at my offind August 2025. | stituted and authorized Notary Public, in and for ce in Jefferson City, on this day |

Notary Public

DIANNA L. VAUGHT Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Commissioned for Cole County My Commission Expires: July 18, 2027 Commission Number: 15207377