

# 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 ) **Case No. ER-2024-0261**  
for Electric Service Provided to Customers ) Tracking No. JE-2025-0127  
In its Missouri Service Area )

## ORDER GRANTING REQUESTS TO BE EXCUSED OR TO APPEAR REMOTELY AT THE ON-THE-RECORD

Issue Date: January 5, 2026

Effective Date: January 5, 2026

The Commission scheduled an on-the-record evidentiary proceeding in this case for January 7, 2026. The Commission further directed that requests for remote appearances of either counsel or witnesses must be filed in advance.

Requests were filed by the parties as follows:

- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union No. 1474 (Local 1474)
  - Requested to be excused from the on-the-record as it is not a signatory to the Supplemental Stipulation nor an objector and did not have witnesses in this case.<sup>1</sup>
- Empire District Retired Members & Spouses Association, LLC (EDRA)
  - Requested to be excused from the on-the-record as all issues involving EDRA have been resolved and EDRA takes no position on the Supplemental Stipulation and/or any other global settlement negotiations.<sup>2</sup>
- The Staff of the Commission (Staff)
  - Requested permission for two witnesses to appear remotely:

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<sup>1</sup> *IBEW Local 1474's Motion to be Excused from On-The-Record Proceeding (or in the Alternative Motion to Appear Remotely)*, filed December 30, 2025.

<sup>2</sup> *The Empire District Retired Members & Spouses Association, LLC's Motion to be Excused from Evidentiary Hearing*, filed December 30, 2025.

- Matthew R. Young and Karen Lyons.<sup>3</sup>
- The Empire District Electric Company (Empire)
  - Requested permission for ten witnesses and two counsel to appear remotely:
    - James Fallert, Tim Lyons, Dan Dane, Michael McCuen, Candice Kelly, Todd Tarter, Nate Hackney, Jeffrey Westfall, Brian Berkstresser, Chris Kerr (witnesses); and
    - James Flaherty and Jermaine Grubbs (counsel).<sup>4</sup>

The Commission finds the requests to be excused and to appear remotely to be reasonable and will grant them.

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. The requests of Local 1474 and EDRA to be excused from the on-the-record are granted.
2. Staff's request for the above-described witnesses to appear remotely is granted.
3. Empire's request for the above-described witnesses and counsel to appear remotely is granted.
4. This order shall be effective when issued.



**BY THE COMMISSION**

*Nancy Dippell*

Nancy Dippell  
Secretary

<sup>3</sup> *Staff's Motion to Appear Remotely*, filed January 2, 2026.

<sup>4</sup> *Request for Certain Persons to Appear Remotely*, filed January 2, 2026.

Charles Hatcher, Senior Regulatory  
Law Judge, by delegation of authority  
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026.

**STATE OF MISSOURI**

**OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.**

**WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 5<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026.**



*Nancy Dippell*

**Nancy Dippell**  
**Secretary**

**MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**January 5, 2026**

**File/Case No. ER-2024-0261**

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***Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).***

***Sincerely,***

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Dippell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Nancy Dippell  
Secretary**

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Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.