

**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 ) **File No. ER-2024-0261**  
Rates for Electric Service Provided to )  
Customers In its Missouri Service Area )

**STAFF’S RESPONSE TO THE COMMISSION’S ORDER**

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”),  
by and through the undersigned counsel, and respectfully states as follows:

1. On June 11, 2026, in its *Order Directing Responses*, the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”) directed Staff to file suggestions as to next steps in this case, no later than June 18, 2026.

2. Staff suggests that the Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty (“Empire”) continue filing its monthly status reports, consistent with Paragraph 3 of the Commission-ordered Supplemental Stipulation and Agreement. Staff recommends that Empire continue filing those reports until Staff concludes that Empire has achieved three consecutive months of satisfactory performance metrics and no other party opposes Staff’s conclusion. Staff further recommends that the Commission issue a decision determining whether Empire satisfied the applicable performance metrics for January through March 2026.

3. If the Commission finds that Empire has not satisfied the applicable performance metrics for January through March 2026, Staff recommends that the Commission direct Staff to file a report regarding Empire’s performance metrics.

Staff proposes that the report be filed no later than September 4, 2026. Staff also suggests that the Commission suspend Empire's tariff sheets assigned Tracking No. JE-2026-0123, for an additional ninety (90) days from July 4, 2026, to October 2, 2026.

**WHEREFORE**, Staff respectfully submits its *Response* for the Commission's information and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Eric Vandergriff**

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Staff Counsel for the  
Missouri Public Service Commission

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all parties and/or counsel of record on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June 2026.

**/s/ Eric Vandergriff**