BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the 2020 RES Compliance Report and 2021 RES Compliance Plan of The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty	))))	**File No. EO-2021-0344**

PROTECTIVE ORDER

Issue Date: June 2, 2021 Effective Date: June 2, 2021

On April 15, 2021, The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a Liberty filed a motion asking the Commission to issue a protective order regarding its 2020 Renewable Energy Standard (RES) Compliance Report (Report) and 2021 RES Compliance Plan (Plan). Liberty indicates certain information may need the extra protection afforded by a highly confidential designation.

More than ten days have passed since Liberty filed its motion for protective order, and no one has opposed that motion.[1] The Commission finds Liberty's unopposed motion to be reasonable and will grant it.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Liberty's request for a protective order is granted. The specific protections to be afforded are as follows.

> a) Certain materials and information divulged by Liberty shall be considered to be "Highly Confidential" if so designated at the time of disclosure.
>
> b) With regard to entities and individuals other than the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, the Office of the Public Counsel, and the Missouri Division of Energy, disclosure of materials or information so designated shall be made only to attorneys of record and/or to such

[1] Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.080(13) allows parties ten days from the filing of a pleading to respond unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

outside consultants who have executed and filed a Commission Nondisclosure Agreement, attached to this order as Exhibit A.

c) Persons afforded access to materials or information designated "Highly Confidential" shall neither use nor disclose such materials or information for purposes of business or competition or any other purpose other than in regard to the case referenced above and shall keep the materials and information secure and confidential and in accordance with the purposes and intent of this protective order.

d) All material and information designated as "Highly Confidential" in the possession of any entity or person, as well as any notes pertaining to such information, shall be returned to Liberty or destroyed upon the conclusion of the referenced case.

e) If a party disagrees with the "Highly Confidential" designation of any information, the party shall follow the informal discovery dispute resolution procedures set forth in Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.090(8). If the party exhausts these dispute resolution procedures, the party may file a motion challenging the designation.

2. This order shall be effective when issued.

BY THE COMMISSION

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

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

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 2nd day of June, 2021.

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 2nd day of June, 2021.

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Digitally signed by MOPSC
DN: CN=MOPSC, O=MOPSC, OU="", E=kim.happy@psc.mo.gov, C=US
Reason: I attest to the accuracy and integrity of this document
Location: Cole County, Missouri
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MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

June 2, 2021

File/Case No. EO-2021-0344

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

Sincerely,

Morris L Woodruff

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

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