# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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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

File No. ER-2021-0312

# **ORDER DIRECTING LIBERTY RESPONSE**

Issue Date: February 1, 2022

Effective Date: February 1, 2022

On January 25, 2022, The Empire District Electric Company d/b/a filed a motion and request for expedited treatment for the Commission to acknowledge that it has removed issues related to Winter Storm Uri and the Asbury generation plant from this general rate case. Liberty states it will be seeking to securitize those costs in lieu of seeking rate case recovery. On January 31, 2022, Liberty filed a motion renewing its request.

The Commission has questions concerning Liberty's request. The Securitization Statute, Section 393.1700, does not appear to have any mechanism to net revenues or overearnings from a securitization request. Liberty has been earning a return on and of Asbury since its last rate case. Liberty states it has removed "all components of the revenue requirement relating to the Asbury generating unit."

Charlotte Emery's surrebutal testimony contains the following chart of pro-forma adjustments to remove Asbury from the cost of service:

		Missouri	
Section	Adjustment Description	<b>Jurisdictional Amount</b>	
Rate Base	RB ADJ 9 - Asbury Stranded Assets	\$	(167,916,307)
Rate Base	RB ADJ 9 - FAC Asbury Coal		(1,532,832)
Rate Base	RB ADJ 10 - Asbury AAO Liability		13,890,879
Rate Base	RB ADJ 10 - Asbury Excess ADIT		15,799,016
Rate Base	RB ADJ 14 - Asbury ADIT		32,338,406
Income Statement	EXP ADJ 9 - Asbury Excess ADIT Amortization	\$	607,654

In the Amended Report and Order for File No. ER-2019-0374, the Commission included a list of items to be tracked in the Asbury AAO: are all of those items included to the adjustments made to remove the Asbury issue from this rate case? Are any potential Asbury revenues or overearnings still to be considered for potential recovery in this general rate case? If not, how are any of those potential revenues or overearnings to be addressed?

Are there any revenues associated with Winter Storm Uri? If so, how are those revenues being addressed?

The Commission will order Liberty to respond.

# THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. No later than February 1, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. Liberty shall file a pleading answering the questions contained in the body of this order.

- 2. Any other responses are due no later than February 1, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.
- 3. This order is effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

John T. Clark, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2022.

# 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 1<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2022.



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Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

# MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION February 1, 2022

## File/Case No. ER-2021-0312

#### Missouri Public Service Commission

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#### The Empire District Electric Company SERP Retirees, LLC David Woodsmall 308 E. High Street, Suite 204 Jefferson City, MO 65101 david.woodsmall@woodsmalllaw.com

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

Sincerely,

Morris Z 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.