BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

In the Matter of the Application of The Empire)	
District Electric Company for a Certificate of)	
Public Convenience and Authority to Transect)	40.5
the Business of an Electric Public Utility Defined)	Docket No. 22-EPDE- 105 -COC
as the Riverton to Neosho 161-kV Transmission)	
Line Project 81-0 in Cherokee County, Kansas.)	

APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND AUTHORITY TO TRANSACT THE BUSINESS OF AN ELECTRIC PUBLIC UTILITY, TRANSMISSION RIGHTS ONLY

COMES NOW The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire"), and in support of its Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Authority, Transmission Rights Only, states:

- 1. Empire is a Kansas corporation authorized by the Commission to conduct the business of a public utility under the provisions of K.S.A. 66-104, and as such holds a Certificate of Convenience and Authority from this Commission to engage in the business of an electric public utility in the State of Kansas, thereby promoting public convenience.
- 2. Empire seeks, subject to the Commission's approval, transmission rights only in Heartland Rural Electric Cooperative Inc. (Heartland) certified territory defined as the rebuild of the Riverton-Neosho 161-kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project 81-0 described below:

CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS

The route is described from the easternmost to westernmost extent.

The proposed line rebuild beings in Section 20 Township 34 South Range 25 East within Riverton, Kansas in Empire service territory. The proposed line travels at a northwest angle and enters Heartland service territory in Section 5 Township 34 South Range 24 East and travels approximately 0.20 mile within Heartland service territory through Section 25 Township 33 South Range 23 East and Section 23 Township 33 South Range 23 East. The line reenters Empire service territory within Section 5 Township 34 South Range 24 East. The line continues for approximately 0.75 mile until exiting Empire service territory and reenters Heartland service territory in Section 31

Township 33 South Range 24 East. The line continues for approximately 4.26 miles through Heartland service territory and reenters Empire service territory in Section 22 Township 33 South Range 23 East and continues for approximately 2.61 miles and reenters Heartland service territory in Section 8 Township 33 South Range 23 East. The line continues approximately 5.08 miles and exits Heartland service territory and reenters Empire service territory in Section 27 Township 32 South Range 22 East crossing through Section 6 Township 33 South Range 23 East and Section 36 Township 32 South Range 22 East. The line continues approximately 3.68 miles in Empire service territory until reentering Heartland service territory in Section 7 Township 32 South Range 22 East. The line travels approximately 1.15 miles before briefly reentering Empire service territory in Section 12 Township 32 South Range 21 East and reenters Heartland service territory and travels approximately 1.40 miles until terminating in Section 2 Township 32 South Range 21 East in Cherokee County, Kansas.

See attached Exhibit 1 for a map for the route.

- 3. Empire is requesting transmission rights only in the above territory to replace 25.6 miles of an existing 161-kV transmission line, originally built in the 1920's, with a rebuilt 161-kV line. As a part of the rebuild, Empire is securing new easements to shift the line. The shift of right-of-way ranges from no additional right-of-way with same centerline to shifting the centerline approximately 145 feet. The new lines will be located within a modified/new 100-foot right-of-way. The 161-kV line is to be bundled-conductor with a 69-kV line for 20.25 miles that will also be rebuilt as part of the 161-kV rebuild project.
- 4. The existing 161-kV circuit is to be rebuilt under the Notice To Construct issued December 13, 2019 by the Southwest Power Pool, SPP-NTC-C-210549, to increase the ampacity of the line to a minimum of 250MVA. The 69-kV circuit has four connection points at Riverton, Columbus Southeast, Sherwin and Sherman City.
- 5. The 161-kV transmission line will connect with Westar Energy Inc. (Evergy) at an interconnection structure in Labette County, Kansas. This interconnect point is the only structure

Empire will be connecting to that is located in Labette County.

- 6. Empire will sequence construction to limit outages on the system. Empire will also be coordinating outages with Evergy and Southwest Power Pool to minimize outages, when feasible.
- 7. A copy of this application is being served on Heartland Rural Electric Cooperative Inc. and Westar Energy Inc. by delivery of United States Mail, postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

Heartland Rural Electric Cooperative 110 Enterprise St. Girard, KS 66743

Evergy Kansas South, formerly Westar Energy, Inc. P.O. Box 418679 Kansas City, MO 64141-9679

There is no other person or entity, corporation, municipal, or otherwise that requires notice of this Application.

WHEREFORE, Empire requests that a Certificate of Public Convenience and Authority for Transmission Rights Only be issued, granting Empire authority to operate as an electric utility, for transmission rights only, in the territory described above.

James G. Flaherty, #11177

ANDERSON & BYRD, LLP
216 S. Hickory ~ P.O. Box 17
Ottawa, Kansas 66067
(785) 242-1234, telephone
(785) 242-1279, facsimile
iflaherty@andersonbyrd.com

Diana C. Carter Liberty Utilities - Empire District 428 E. Capitol Ave., Suite 303 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Phone: (573) 289-1961

Email: Diana.Carter@libertyutilities.com

Attorneys for The Empire District Electric Company

VERIFICATION

STATE OF KANSAS COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, ss:

James G. Flaherty, of lawful age, being first duly sworn on oath, states:

That he is the attorney for The Empire District Electric Company, named in the foregoing Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Authority to Transact the Business of an Electric Public Utility, Transmission Rights Only and is duly authorized to make this affidavit; that he has read the foregoing and knows the contents thereof; and that the facts set forth therein are true and correct.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 23rd day of August, 2021.

NOTARY PUBLIC - State of Kansas RONDA ROSSMAN My Appt. Exp. <u>5/95/</u>3

Notary Public

Appointment/Commission Expires:

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing was sent via U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, this 23rd day of August, 2021, addressed to:

Heartland Rural Electric Cooperative 110 Enterprise St.

Girard, KS 66743

Evergy Kansas South P.O. Box 418679

Loude Lassn Ger

Kansas City, MO 64141-9679

---- Rail Lines

Other Major Road

Important Local

PLSS Section

County

Boundary

Figure 2 of 4



