



State of Utah

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Public Service Commission

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JOHN S. HARVEY, Ph.D.
Commissioner

November 18, 2025

Via Email

Mr. Josh Dellinger
General Manager
Empire Electric Association, Inc.
P.O. Box K
Cortez, CO 81321
josh.dellinger@eea.coop

Re: Docket No. 25-025-01, *Empire Electric Association, Inc.'s 2025 Wildland Fire Protection Plan Compliance Report*

Dear Mr. Dellinger,

The Public Service Commission (PSC) reviewed Empire Electric Association's ("Empire") Wildland Fire Protection Plan Compliance Report ("Report"), which was filed on October 14, 2025. The Report documents the execution of Empire's Wildland Fire Protection Plan (WFPP), originally submitted to the PSC on May 11, 2020, in accordance with Utah Code Title 54, Chapter 24, Wildland Fire Planning and Cost Recovery Act. An updated WFPP was subsequently filed by Empire on August 28, 2023.

Reported Compliance Activities

The Report provides a detailed account of the operational cycle for critical infrastructure maintenance, specifically including pole testing, line patrols, tree trimming, and substation inspection. Key activities highlighted by Empire include:

- Completion of multiple inspections across three substations.
- Rebuilding and installation of three 167kVA regulators and three 114kVA regulators.

- Completion of patrols for all circuits extending from the Monticello Rural Substation to the Dove Creek 3 substation.
- Execution of six pole replacements and six epoxilator replacements.
- Ongoing work in vegetation management and the installation of recloser controls.
- Reclosers were configured to a non-reclose setting on April 14, 2025, a status which remained current at the time of the Report's filing.

Division of Public Utilities' (DPU) Review

The PSC also reviewed comments filed by the Division of Public Utilities (DPU) on November 3, 2025. The DPU confirmed that Empire's Board of Directors had reviewed and approved the Report on October 10, 2025. The DPU also provided five suggestions¹ for Empire's consideration and recommended that the PSC formally acknowledge the Report as compliant with Utah Code Ann. § 54-24-203(4)(b).

Based on the review of Empire's Report and the DPU's comments and recommendation, the PSC acknowledges the Report as complying with Utah Code Ann. § 54-24-203(4)(b). In accordance with Utah Code Ann. § 54-24-203(5), the Report is available for public inspection at the offices of the PSC.

Sincerely,

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg
PSC Secretary
DW#342753

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¹ See DPU comments at 5.