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At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 19th day of August, 1997.

[illegible]

ORDER APPROVING CHANGE OF SUPPLIER

On May 28, 1997, Brent Raab, Evalee Yarbrough and Curtis Wommack, all private individuals, filed this application for the approval of the Commission to change electrical suppliers pursuant to Section 393.106, RSMo 1994. In their request the applicants state that all are currently residents of the City of Nixa, Missouri and are currently being served by The Empire District Electric Company (EDE), a public utility regulated by this Commission. The applicants state that, due to the growth of the municipal electric service system surrounding them, they are somewhat isolated from the remainder of the EDE system. The applicants add that the City of Nixa has distribution facilities in close proximity to them and is capable of providing service.

The customers are located along Highway 14 in Nixa, Missouri and are isolated from the remainder of the EDE system. The location is along the western edge of the city. EDE's transmission line extends from the east, through the city, to these customers, who are at the end of the line.

EDE states that it believes it will benefit from the proposed change of supplier in that it will eventually be able to de-energize the

line currently serving the applicants. EDE does not oppose the change of suppliers and the City of Nixa has agreed to serve the applicants.

On August 8, 1997, the Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed its recommendation stating that no other customers are served from the last mile of this line, extending through the City of Nixa, except the applicants. The Staff confirms that EDE will not only be able to de-energize this line but will avoid additional costs that would be incurred in the area as the result of upcoming highway construction. The Staff states that the request is based on the resulting economic efficiencies gained by EDE and is therefore for reasons other than rates, and is in the public interest. The Staff recommends the application be approved.

The Commission finds the request for change of suppliers to be reasonable, in the public interest, and for a reason other than rate differentials. This change will allow EDE to disable and remove a service line and other facilities, and thereby avoid an economic burden. The Commission notes that all parties are agreeable to the requested change, which will pose no detriment to the remaining EDE ratepayers. The Commission will approve the application.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

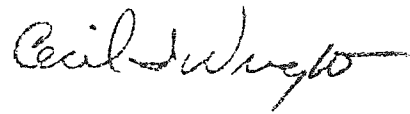
1. That Brent Raab, 905 West Mount Vernon Street, Nixa, Missouri; Evalee M. Yarbrough, 903 West Mount Vernon Street, Nixa, Missouri; and Curtis Wommack, 907 West Mount Vernon Street, Nixa, Missouri, may change electrical suppliers at the above locations from The Empire District Electric Company to the City of Nixa as soon as the City of Nixa has placed in service the necessary facilities to provide service to the above locations.

2. That the Staff of the Commission will monitor the change of suppliers and will file an advice in this docket when the Staff is satisfied that the change has been accomplished safely and successfully.

3. That the Records Department of the Commission will send a certified copy of this order to the mayor of the City of Nixa, Missouri.

4. That this order shall become effective on August 29, 1997.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cecil I. Wright".

**Cecil I. Wright
Executive Secretary**

(S E A L)

Crumpton, Drainer, Murray
and Lumpe, CC., concur.

ALJ: Derque