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STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service  
Commission held at its office  
in Jefferson City on the 29th  
day of April, 1994.

In the matter of The Empire District Electric Company )  
for authority to file tariffs increasing rates for )  
electric service provided to customers in the Missouri ) Case No. ER-94-174  
service area of the company. )  
)

In the matter of the investigation of the cost of )  
service and rate design of The Empire District ) Case No. EO-91-74  
Company. )  
)

ORDER CONSOLIDATING CASES

On April 26, 1994, Commission Staff filed a motion to consolidate Case No. EO-91-74 with Case No. ER-94-174. Case No. EO-91-74 is a cost of service/rate design case involving The Empire District Electric Company (Empire). Case No. ER-94-174 is Empire's current general rate increase case. In support of its motion, Staff states that all of the parties have agreed to the request and agree that the procedural schedule in ER-94-174 would be followed and that Empire would file its cost of service and rate design testimony on May 20, 1994.

The Commission has considered Staff's motion and finds it reasonable and will grant the motion. The consolidation will allow the presentation of the cost of service and rate design issues concurrently with the rate increase issues.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. That the Motion To Consolidate filed by Commission Staff be hereby granted.

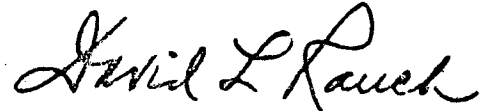
2. That Case No. ER-94-174 will be the lead case and all filings will be placed in that case file.

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3. That the current procedural schedule in Case No. ER-94-174 be hereby adopted for the consolidated cases and The Empire District Electric Company shall file its direct testimony concerning cost of service and rate design on May 20, 1994.

4. That this order shall become effective on the date hereof.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "David L. Rauch".

David L. Rauch  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

Mueller, Chm., Perkins, Kincheloe  
and Crumpton, CC., concur.  
McClure, C., absent.