BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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In The Matter of The Empire District Electric Company Request for Cancellation of a Certificate Service Authority and Associated Tariff Sheets.

Case No.

APPLICATION TO CANCEL CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AUTHORITY

COMES NOW The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire" or the "Company") pursuant to Commission rule 4 CSR 240-2.060 and requests the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") cancel its Certificate of Service Authority to provide local exchange and intrastate interexchange telecommunications services within the State of Missouri. In support thereof, Empire states as follows:

1. Empire is a Kansas corporation with its principal office and place of business at 602 Joplin Street, Joplin, Missouri 64802. Empire is qualified to conduct business and is conducting business in Kansas as well as in the states of Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma. Empire is engaged, generally, in the business of generating, purchasing, transmitting, distributing and selling electric energy in portions of said states. Empire also provides water service in Missouri. Empire's Missouri operations are subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission as provided by law.

2. A certified copy of Empire's Restated Articles of Incorporation, as amended, was filed in Case No. EF-94-39 and is incorporated herein by

reference in accordance with Commission rule 4 CSR 240-2.060(1)(G). A Certificate from the Missouri Secretary of State that Empire, a foreign corporation, is authorized to do business in Missouri was filed with the Commission in Case No. EM-2000-369 and is incorporated by reference in accordance with Commission rule 4 CSR 204-2.060(1)(G). This information is current and correct. Empire has no pending actions or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions against it from any state or federal agency or court that involve customer service or rates. Empire's annual report and assessment fees are not overdue.

3. Pleadings, notices, orders and other correspondence and communications concerning this application should be addressed to the undersigned counsel and:

Ms. Tina Gaines, Manager of Telecommunications The Empire District Electric Company 720 Schifferdecker Avenue P. O. Box 127 Joplin, Missouri 64802 Phone: (417) 625-6121 Fax: (417) 625-5175 Email: tgaines@empiredistrict.com

Mr. Paul A. Boudreau Brydon, Swearengen & England, P.C. 312 East Capitol Avenue P. O. Box 456 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0456 Phone: (573) 635-7166 Fax: (573)635-0427 Email: paulb@brydonlaw.com

4. On December 5, 1997, Empire filed an Application for a Certificate of Service Authority to provide dedicated, non-switched local exchange private

line telecommunications services and intrastate interexchange telecommunications services to the public in the State of Missouri. Empire's Application was docketed by the Commission as Case No. TA-98-233.

5. On January 22, 1998, the Commission issued its **Order Approving Interexchange and Local Exchange Certificates of Service Authority and Order Approving Tariff**, granting the relief that had been requested by Empire. A copy of the Commission's order in that case is attached hereto as <u>Appendix 1</u>.

6. Thereafter, on July 30, 2002, Empire District Industries, Inc. ("EDI"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Empire, filed an Application with the Commission for a Certificate of Service Authority to provide dedicated, non-switch private line telecommunications services and intrastate interexchange telecommunications services to the public in the State of Missouri. EDI's Application was docketed by the Commission as Case No. LA-2003-0026. The stated purpose for the Application was the anticipated transfer by Empire of its regulated telecommunications operations to its subsidiary, EDI.

7. On September 9, 2002, the Commission issued its Order Approving Interexchange and Local Exchange Certificates of Service Authority and Order Approving Tariff, authorizing EDI to commence regulated telecommunications services in the State of Missouri consistent with the terms and conditions set forth in tariff sheets filed with, and approved by the Commission. A copy of said order is attached hereto as <u>Appendix 2</u>.

8. Thereafter, Empire's regulated telecommunications operations were transferred to EDI. From and since that time, Empire has had no regulated telecommunications operations of its own.

9. It has come to Empire's attention that the Certificate of Authority granted to it by the Commission in Case No. TA-98-233 was not cancelled by the Commission at the time of the issuance of EDI's Certificate of Service Authority in 2002. Under the circumstances set forth above, Empire has no further need for its Certificate of Service Authority or the associated tariff sheets for the provision of competitive telecommunications services on file with the Commission and believes that said authority and tariffs should be cancelled by the Commission.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons set forth above, Empire requests that the Commission cancel the Certificate of Service Authority granted by the Commission in its Case No. TA-98-233 and associated tariff sheets and for such other orders and relief as may be deemed necessary and appropriate in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted, /s/ Paul A. Boudreau #33155 BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND, P.C. 312 East Capitol Avenue P.O. Box 456 Jefferson City, MO 65102 (573) 635-7166 Phone (573) 634-7431 Fax

Attorney for Applicant The Empire District Electric Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was delivered by electronic mail, first class mail or by hand delivery, on this 19th day of July 2005 to the following:

General Counsel Missouri Public Service Commission 200 Madison Street, Suite 800 P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360 gencounsel@psc.mo.gov Office of the Public Counsel 200 Madison Street, Suite 650 P.O. Box 2230 Jefferson City, MO 65102 opcservice@ded.mo.gov

/s/ Paul A. Boudreau

VERIFICATION

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STATE OF MISSOURI

COUNTY OF JASPER

I, Ronald F. Gatz having been duly sworn upon my oath, state that I am Vice President Strategic Development of The Empire District Electric Company; that I am duly authorized to make this Affidavit on behalf of The Empire District Electric Company; and that the matters and things stated in the foregoing Application are true and correct to the best of my information, knowledge and belief.

Ronced J. S.

Patricia a Settles

Notary Public

My Commission expires:

02-09-08

Patricia A. Settie Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri County of Jasper Expires February 09, 2008