

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Joint Application of The Empire)
District Electric Company and the City of Carthage) **Case No. EO-2007-0114**
for Approval of a Change in Electric Supplier for)
Certain Customers for Reasons in the Public Interest)

ORDER APPROVING CHANGE OF SUPPLIER

Issue Date: October 31, 2006

Effective Date: November 10, 2006

On September 22, 2006, The Empire Electric Company (“Empire”) and the City of Carthage, Missouri (“Carthage”), filed a joint application seeking Commission approval to change the electric supplier for three of Empire’s current customers. Electricity is supplied by Empire to these customers by means of an overhead, single phase distribution line that has been identified by the Missouri Department of Transportation as being in the way of future construction of the Fairview/Highway 71 interchange.

Empire and Carthage allege that the cost of relocating the line will be significantly minimized if Empire can “release” these customers to be served by Carthage, who has existing service in the immediate vicinity of these customers. The parties further state that the change in suppliers is in the public interest because it will allow the continued provision of electric service to these customers without the need to make significant investment in relocating electric lines, and will shorten the timetable for construction of the highway interchange.

The three customers affected by the requested change are: (1) a highway advertising sign near Fairview Avenue owned by Lamar Outdoor Advertising and operated by Snak Atak, a commercial customer located at RR5, Carthage, Missouri; (2) a residence occupied by Mary B. Campbell, located at 1378 West Fairview, Carthage, Missouri; and (3) a residential barn and outdoor light in the name of Joe R. Brown, located at 1373 Fairview Avenue, Carthage, Missouri. Included with the joint application is a diagram of the properties and existing electric lines, and the verified written consent to the change in suppliers from the three customers affected by the proposed change.

On October 26, 2006, the Staff of the Commission filed its verified recommendation advocating that the Commission approve the application. Staff found the Joint application to be in compliance with requirements set forth in the Commission's Rules for Applications and Applications for a Change of Electrical Suppliers.¹ Moreover, Staff concluded that the proposed change of supplier is based upon the public interest for a reason other than a rate differential.

Section 393.106.2, RSMo 2000, gives the Commission authority to order a change of supplier on the basis that it is in the public interest for a reason other than a rate differential. The Commission has reviewed the application, the verified written consent to the change in suppliers from the three customers affected by the proposed change, and Staff's verified recommendation, which are hereby admitted into evidence, and finds that the Joint Applicants' request is in the public interest for a reason other than a rate differential. Therefore, the Commission will approve the application.

¹ Commission Rules 4 CSR 240-2.060 and 4 CSR 240-3.140.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Joint Application, filed by The Empire Electric Company and the City of Carthage, Missouri, for approval of a change in electric supplier to (1) a highway advertising sign near Fairview Avenue owned by Lamar Outdoor Advertising and operated by Snak Atak, a commercial customer located at RR5, Carthage, Missouri; (2) a residence occupied by Mary B. Campbell, located at 1378 West Fairview, Carthage, Missouri; and (3) a residential barn and outdoor light in the name of Joe R. Brown, located at 1373 Fairview Avenue, Carthage, Missouri, is approved.
2. This order shall become effective on November 10, 2006.
3. This case may be closed on November 11, 2006.

BY THE COMMISSION



Colleen M. Dale
Secretary

(S E A L)

Harold Stearley, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 31st day of October, 2006.