

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office in
Jefferson City on the 12th day of
March, 2014.

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric)
Company's 2013 Triennial Compliance Filing)
Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-22)

File No. EO-2013-0547

ORDER REGARDING 2013 INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN

Issue Date: March 12, 2014

Effective Date: March 22, 2014

On July 1, 2013, The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire") filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") its 2013 Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP"), which is required by the Commission's Electric Utility Resource Planning Rule, 4 CSR 240-22. On or before December 2, 2013, the Staff of the Commission, the Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC"), the Missouri Department of Economic Development-Division of Energy ("DED-DE") and Dogwood Energy, LLC ("Dogwood") submitted reports identifying a number of alleged concerns and deficiencies regarding the IRP. Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-22.080(9) requires parties who find deficiencies in or concerns with an IRP to work with the electric utility and the other parties to reach a joint agreement on a plan to remedy the identified deficiencies and concerns.

On January 31, 2014, Empire and the parties who submitted reports alleging deficiencies and concerns (collectively, the "Signatories") filed a *Joint Filing*, which proposed a remedy to most of the alleged deficiencies and concerns. The *Joint Filing* also identified six alleged deficiencies and concerns that remain unresolved.

The Commission's rules outline the procedure for the IRP process. There are no requirements for a hearing on these filings. Consequently, this is a non-contested case, and the Commission may dispose of this matter informally at its discretion. Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-22.080(16) requires that:

The commission will issue an order which contains its findings regarding at least one (1) of the following options:

(A) That the electric utility's filing pursuant to this rule either does or does not demonstrate compliance with the requirements of this chapter, and that the utility's resource acquisition strategy either does or does not meet the requirements stated in 4 CSR 240-22.

(B) That the commission approves or disapproves the joint filing on the remedies to the plan deficiencies or concerns developed pursuant to section (9) of this rule;

(C) That the commission understands that full agreement on remedying deficiencies or concerns is not reached and pursuant to section (10) of this rule, the commission will issue an order which indicates on what items, if any, a hearing(s) will be held and which establishes a procedural schedule; and

(D) That the commission establishes a procedural schedule for filings and a hearing(s), if necessary, to remedy deficiencies or concerns as specified by the commission

After considering the remedies agreed to by the Signatories, the Commission finds the proposed remedies reasonable and will approve them pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-22.080(16)(B). The Commission finds that Empire's IRP filing demonstrates compliance with the requirements of Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-22 and concludes that no hearing is necessary concerning the six unresolved alleged deficiencies and concerns. However, Empire may address any unresolved alleged deficiencies and concerns in its 2015 update report.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Commission approves the remedies to the alleged IRP deficiencies and concerns proposed in the *Joint Filing*, which were developed by the Signatories pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-22.080(9).
2. The Empire District Electric Company may address any unresolved alleged deficiencies and concerns in its 2015 update report.
3. This order shall become effective on March 22, 2014.
4. This file shall be closed on March 23, 2014.



BY THE COMMISSION

Morris L. Woodruff

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

R. Kenney, Chm., Stoll, W. Kenney,
and Hall, CC., concur.

Bushmann, Regulatory Law Judge