

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric)
Company's Application for Approval of)
Demand-Side Programs and for Authority to) **File No. EO-2014-0030**
Establish a Demand-Side Programs)
Investment Mechanism

STATUS REPORT

COMES NOW Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through the undersigned counsel, and files this *Status Report* with the Missouri Public Service Commission stating the following:

1. On October 29, 2013, The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire") filed an application for approval of its proposed demand-side programs ("MEEIA programs") and for authority to establish a demand-side programs investment mechanisms ("DSIM"). On December 10, 2013, the Commission set a procedural schedule.¹

2. On January 14, 2014, the Commission issued its *Order Granting Motion To Suspend Procedural Schedule* to provide additional time for technical conferences, settlement discussions and analysis. As a part of its order, the Commission directed Staff to file a status report no later than March 17, 2014.

3. On March 17, 2014, Staff filed its *Status Report* in the matter in which it stated to the Commission that it would file another status update in a month.

4. The last technical conference regarding this case was held on February 11, 2014, at which time Empire modified its methodology for its requested

¹ The procedural schedule was amended by Order on December 12, 2013 due to motion by parties.

DSIM, its implementation timeline, and its annual energy and demand savings estimates for its MEEIA programs to be consistent with a more realistic programs' implementation date of October 1, 2014.²

5. On March 11, 2014, Empire filed its 2014 Integrated Resource Plan Annual Update Report in File No. EO-2014-0243. On April 10, 2014, Empire held its annual update workshop to comply with 4 CSR 240-22.080(3)(B). In its Annual Update Report and during its annual update workshop, Empire affirmed its desire to receive approval of its modified DSIM and MEEIA programs. Empire also informed Staff that it is currently working with its program consultant to address some questions from stakeholders on program design and that it will provide the updates to Staff when they become available. During the April 10 annual update workshop, Staff expressed an interest in better understanding the impact of changes to some of Empire's critical uncertain factors in the Annual Update Report upon the cost effectiveness of Empire's modified MEEIA programs. Staff requested that Empire's meeting summary³—due not later than April 21, 2014—include as an action item, performing additional integrated resource analysis to reflect the changes in the critical uncertain factors, so all parties to File No. EO-2014-0030 can better understand the cost effectiveness of Empire's modified MEEIA programs prior to proceeding with additional technical conferences in this case.

WHEREFORE, the Staff submits this *Status Report* for the Commission's information and consideration.

² Empire's October 29, 2013 Application assumed an implementation date of January 1, 2013.

³ 4 CSR 240-22.080(C).

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Akayla J. Jones

Akayla J. Jones

Assistant Staff Counsel

Missouri Bar No. 64941

Missouri Public Service Commission

P.O. Box 360

Jefferson City, MO 65102

Phone (573) 526-6036

Facsimile (573) 751-9285

akayla.jones@psc.mo.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been emailed this 18th day of April, 2014 to all counsel of record in this proceeding.

/s/ Akayla J. Jones