

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

In the matter of The Empire District)	
Electric Company for Authority to File)	
Tariffs Increasing Rates for Electric)	<u>File No. ER-2014-0351</u>
Service Provided to Customers in the)	Tariff Tracking No. YE-2016-0008
Company's Missouri Service Area)	

STAFF RECOMMENDATION REGARDING COMPLIANCE TARIFFS

COME NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and states that the Commission's Energy Unit – Tariffs/Rate Design, Economic Analysis and Energy Resource Analysis Staff has reviewed the tariff sheets as filed by The Empire District Electric Company on July 7, 2015, and is of the opinion that these tariff sheets are in compliance with the Commission's Report and Order and Order Clarifying Report and Order and should be approved on less than thirty days' notice to go into effect on July 26, 2015 for the reasons stated in Staff's attached Memorandum attached hereto as Appendix A.

WHEREFORE, the Staff prays the Commission accept its Staff Recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Robert S. Berlin
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 15th day of July, 2015.

/s/ Robert S. Berlin

MEMORANDUM

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File
File No. ER-2014-0351 and Tariff Tracking No. YE-2016-0008
The Empire District Electric Company

FROM: Robin Kliethermes, Regulatory Economist
Michael Stahlman, Regulatory Economist
David Roos, Regulatory Economist

/s/ Michael Scheperle 7/15/15
Manager, Economic Analysis / Date

/s/ Robert S. Berlin 7/15/15
Staff Counsel Division / Date

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation to Approve The Empire District Electric Company's
("Empire" or "Company") Motion for Expedited Treatment and Approval of
Compliance Tariffs

DATE: July 15, 2015

On June 24, 2015, the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") issued its Report and Order in Case No. ER-2014-0351, the Empire general rate case proceeding. On July 1, 2015, the Commission issued an Order Clarifying Report and Order (collectively "Orders"). These Orders approved an increase in the Company's overall jurisdictional gross annual electric revenues of \$17,125,000 or 3.88%.

The Company filed tariff sheets on July 7, 2015, bearing an effective date of August 6, 2015, to comply with the Orders. In its letter of transmittal accompanying the July 7, 2015 compliance tariff filing, Empire requested expedited treatment to reflect an effective date of July 26, 2015, which would be less than the standard 30-day period, but which complies with the effective date of Empire's original tariff filing in this rate proceeding as further suspended by the Commission.

A Commission Order Setting Deadline for Objections to Compliance Tariff or Motion for Expedited Treatment directed a deadline for objections to Empire's compliance tariff and request for expedited treatment be filed no later than July 16, 2015.¹

The Commission's Energy Unit – Tariffs/Rate Design, Economic Analysis and Energy Resource Analysis Staff ("Staff") has reviewed the tariff sheets as filed by Empire on July 7, 2015, and is of the opinion that these tariff sheets are in compliance with the Commission Orders. Staff is also of the opinion that good cause for approval of these tariff sheets on less than thirty days' notice is demonstrated by the fact that the requested effective date of July 26, 2015 reflects the same effective date of the originally filed tariff sheets which initiated this proceeding prior to their suspension and by the Commission's Order Setting Deadline for Objections to Compliance Tariff or Motion for Expedited Treatment. Therefore, Staff recommends the following tariff sheets filed on July 7, 2015, be approved:

¹ Order Setting Deadline for Objections to Compliance Tariff or Motion for Expedited Treatment issued on July 8, 2015.

P.S.C. MO. No. 5

Section A, 28th Revised Sheet No. 1, Canceling Section A, 27th Revised Sheet No. 1
Section 1, 18th Revised Sheet No. 1, Canceling Section 1, 17th Revised Sheet No. 1
Section 2, 17th Revised Sheet No. 1, Canceling Section 2, 16th Revised Sheet No. 1
Section 2, 17th Revised Sheet No. 2, Canceling Section 2, 16th Revised Sheet No. 2
Section 2, 17th Revised Sheet No. 3, Canceling Section 2, 16th Revised Sheet No. 3
Section 2, 18th Revised Sheet No. 4, Canceling Section 2, 17th Revised Sheet No. 4
Section 2, 17th Revised Sheet No. 6, Canceling Section 2, 16th Revised Sheet No. 6
Section 2, 17th Revised Sheet No. 7, Canceling Section 2, 16th Revised Sheet No. 7
Section 2, 13th Revised Sheet No. 9, Canceling Section 2, 12th Revised Sheet No. 9
Section 2, 12th Revised Sheet No. 13, Canceling Section 2, 11th Revised Sheet No. 13
Section 4, 6th Revised Sheet No. 8c, Canceling Section 4, 5th Revised Sheet No. 8c
Section 4, 9th Revised Sheet No. 17, Canceling Section 4, 8th Revised Sheet No. 17
Section 4, 3rd Revised Sheet No. 17a, Canceling Section 4, 2nd Revised Sheet No. 17a
Section 4, 3rd Revised Sheet No. 17b, Canceling Section 4, 2nd Revised Sheet No. 17b
Section 4, 7th Revised Sheet No. 17c, Canceling Section 4, 6th Revised Sheet No. 17c
Section 4, 3rd Revised Sheet No. 17d, Canceling Section 4, 2nd Revised Sheet No. 17d
Section 4, 7th Revised Sheet No. 17e, Canceling Section 4, 6th Revised Sheet No. 17e
Section 4, Original Sheet No. 17l
Section 4, Original Sheet No. 17m
Section 4, Original Sheet No. 17n
Section 4, Original Sheet No. 17o
Section 4, Original Sheet No. 17p
Section 4, Original Sheet No. 17q
Section 4, Original Sheet No. 17r
Section 4, Original Sheet No. 17s
Section 4, Original Sheet No. 17t
Section 5, 8th Revised Sheet No. 10, Canceling Section 5, 7th Revised Sheet No. 10
Section 5, 3rd Revised Sheet No. 17a, Canceling Section 5, 2nd Revised Sheet No. 17a
Section 5, 3rd Revised Sheet No. 17b, Canceling Section 5, 2nd Revised Sheet No. 17b
Section 5, 3rd Revised Sheet No. 17c, Canceling Section 5, 2nd Revised Sheet No. 17c
Section 5, 3rd Revised Sheet No. 17d, Canceling Section 5, 2nd Revised Sheet No. 17d
Section 5, 3rd Revised Sheet No. 17e, Canceling Section 5, 2nd Revised Sheet No. 17e
Section 5, 3rd Revised Sheet No. 17f, Canceling Section 5, 2nd Revised Sheet No. 17f

The Staff has verified that Empire has filed its Annual Report and is not delinquent on any assessment. Staff is not aware of any other matter before the Commission that affects or is affected by this filing.

