



August 8, 2014

Mr. Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Judge Woodruff:

The Empire District Electric Company (Empire) filed its most recent integrated resource plan (IRP) in Missouri in July 2013, in File No. EO-2013-0547. Empire's IRP Annual Update Report was filed in March 2014, in File No. EO-2014-0243. In accordance with 4 CSR 240-22.080 (12), this letter is intended to inform the Commission that as of June 30, 2014, Empire's Riverton Unit 7 was officially retired from service. The June 30, 2014 retirement date is approximately two years earlier than originally planned, and was due to a transformer malfunction that occurred while returning the unit to service from an outage. As outlined in Empire's most recent IRP, this unit was scheduled to retire on the in-service date of the Riverton Unit 12 Combined Cycle in mid-2016. Due to the significant capital expenditures required to return the unit to service, it was determined that the retirement of the unit was the most cost effective option.

At the time of its retirement, Riverton Unit 7 was about 64 years old. The unit was rated at 38 megawatts of capacity. It had operated as a small coal unit for many years, before being transitioned to full operation on natural gas in September of 2012. It should be noted that since its transition to natural gas operation, Riverton Unit 7 had operated zero service hours. Empire does not view this change in the timing of a resource retirement as a significant change in its operation, but chose to notify the Commission and IRP stakeholders for informational purposes.

No change is being made to Empire's preferred plan and acquisition strategy as a result of this action.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Todd Tarter
Manager of Strategic Planning
The Empire District Electric Company