BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric Company)	
of Joplin, Missouri for Authority to File Tariffs Increasing)	File No. ER-2011-0004
Rates for Electric Service Provided to Customers in the)	Tariff No. YE-2011-0154
Missouri Service Area of the Company)	

ORDER SETTING DISCOVERY DEADLINE FOR TRUE-UP PROCEEDING AND DIRECTING FILING

Issue Date: May 11, 2011 Effective Date: May 11, 2011

On May 10, 2011, the Commission's Staff requested clarification regarding the discovery deadline set by the Commission on March 30, 2011. The cutoff for discovery specified in that order was May 2, 2011. Staff now requests that discovery be allowed in relation to the True-Up proceeding to extend through May 27, 2011. Staff states that The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire") has no objection to this request. The Commission will set a discovery deadline specifically in relation to the True-Up proceeding. This order will not further modify the Commission's previous discovery cutoff order. The discovery period for Empire's primary case is closed.

Additionally, on May 6, 2011, Empire filed an updated report of its rate case expenses. Staff will be directed to investigate and file a report regarding whether those expenses were reasonably and prudently incurred.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. No party shall issue data requests, subpoenas, or other discovery requests in relation to the True-Up proceeding after May 27, 2011. Responses to any discovery requests issued on May 27, 2011 are due no later than May 31, 2011.
- No party shall file a motion to compel a response to any discovery request after
 June 1, 2011.

3. If any motion to compel discovery is filed, a discovery conference will be convened on June 2, 2011 at 8:00 a.m., prior to recommencing the evidentiary hearing in this matter as is already scheduled for that date. The conference shall be held at the Commission's office at the Governor Office Building, in Room 310, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. The Governor Office Building meets accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any entity requiring additional accommodations to participate in this hearing shall call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the hearing.

4. Any party receiving a discovery request that seeks information unrelated to the True-Up proceeding shall immediately file an objection and the Commission will address such objections at the June 2, 2011 discovery conference.

5. No later than May 20, 2011, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall file a report on its investigation of The Empire District Electric Company's update to its rate case expenses as described in the body of this order.

6. This order shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION

Steven C. Reed Secretary

(SEAL)

Harold Stearley, Senior Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority under Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 11th day of May, 2011.