## DEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of The Empire	)	
District Electric Company and The Empire	)	
District Gas Company for Approval of Their	)	File No. AO-2012-0062
Cost Allocation Manual	)	

## ORDER GRANTING JOINT REQUEST REGARDING CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS

Issue Date: February 10, 2012 Effective Date: February 10, 2012

On August 23, 2011<sup>1</sup>, the Commission received the above-referenced application. Empire Electric and Empire Gas state that they filed their Cost Application Manual ("CAM") pursuant to an agreement in Empire Electric's last rate case, File No. ER-2011-0004. The Commission issued notice of the application on August 25, and, in that notice, set a September 14 deadline to request intervention. The Commission received no intervention requests.

On September 15, Empire Electric, Empire Gas, the Staff of the Commission and the Office of the Public Counsel filed a Joint Proposal Regarding Certain Procedural Matters. Given the consensus of the parties, the Commission found the proposal reasonable, and ordered it implemented. That schedule included the parties filing a list of issues and procedures to resolve those issues no later than February 10, 2012.

In lieu of the issues and procedures, Empire Electric, Empire Gas, Staff and OPC filed a Joint Request Regarding Continuing Discussions. They state that they continue to engage in productive discussions, and they ask that the Commission accept the filing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Calendar references are to 2011 unless otherwise noted.

of monthly status reports until such time as Empire files a CAM acceptable to all parties, or the parties notify the Commission that any items remain in dispute.

The Commission finds the request reasonable, and will grant it.

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. The Joint Request Regarding Continuing Discussions is granted.
- 2. The parties shall file monthly status reports on the last working day of each month until such time as The Empire District Electric Company and The Empire District Gas Company shall file a Cost Allocation Manual acceptable to all parties, the parties notify the Commission that any items remain in dispute, or until otherwise ordered by the Commission.
  - 3. This order shall become effective upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION

Steven C. Reed

Secretary

(SEAL)

Ronald D. Pridgin, Senior Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2011.