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 ACCEPTING JOINT PROPOSAL REGARDING CERTAIN PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Issue Date: September 19, 2011 Effective Date: September 19, 2011

On August 23, 2011¹, 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 finds the proposal reasonable, and will order it implemented.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Joint Proposal Regarding Certain Procedural Matters is adopted, and the parties are ordered to comply with the Joint Proposal.

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¹ Calendar references are to 2011 unless otherwise noted.

2. The Staff of the Commission shall file its Recommendation no later than

November 10, 2011.

3. The Empire District Electric Company, The Empire District Gas Company

and the Office of the Public Counsel shall respond to the Staff Recommendation no

later than December 16, 2011.

4. Any replies to the December 16, 2011 responses shall be filed no later

than January 27, 2012.

5. Any party who believes any unresolved issues remain for Commission

resolution shall so notify the Commission no later than February 10, 2012.

6. The discovery procedures recommended by the parties in the Joint

Proposal are accepted, and the parties are ordered to comply with those

recommendations.

7. 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 19th day of September, 2011.