

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Tariff Filing of The Empire)
District Electric Company of Joplin, Missouri)
to Implement a General Rate Increase for)
Retail Electric Service Provided to Customers)
in the Missouri Service Area of the Company)

Case No. ER-2006-0315

ORDER SETTING LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

Issue Date: May 16, 2006

Effective Date: May 16, 2006

On February 1, 2006, The Empire District Electric Company applied to the Commission for authority to file tariffs increasing rates for electric service provided to customers in the Missouri Service Area of the Company. To give the public opportunity to comment, the Commission will set three local public hearings.

For the first hearing, the Staff of the Commission will hold an informal question and answer session on June 26, 2006, beginning at 5:30 p.m., the hearing will begin at 6:00 p.m., and will conclude at 9:00 p.m. For the second hearing, the Staff of the Commission will hold an informal question and answer session on June 27, 2006, beginning at 11:30 a.m., the hearing will begin at 12:00 p.m., and will conclude at 3:00 p.m. For the third hearing, the Staff of the Commission will hold an informal question and answer session on June 27, 2006, beginning at 5:30 p.m., the hearing will begin at 6:00 p.m., and will conclude at 9:00 p.m.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Commission shall hold a local public hearing on June 26, 2006, from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., or until all persons who wish to testify have done so,

whichever is sooner, and shall also hold a local public hearing on June 27, 2006, from 12:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m., at the Missouri Southern State University, Webster Hall, 3950 E. Newman Road, Joplin, Missouri.

2. The Commission shall hold a local public hearing on June 27, 2006, from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., or until all persons who wish to testify have done so, whichever is sooner, at the Tri-Lakes TCRC, University of Missouri Extension at Reeds Spring High School, ITV Room, 20277 State Highway 413 (in the South Wing of Reeds Spring High School), Reeds Spring, Missouri.

3. The local public hearings shall be held in a facility that meets the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any person who needs additional accommodation to participate in the hearing should call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 prior to the hearing.

4. The Data Center of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall serve a copy of this order upon the county commission of each county in The Empire District Electric Company's Missouri service area.

5. The Public Information Office of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall send a copy of this order to members of the General Assembly and to the media that serve the areas of Joplin and Reeds Spring, Missouri.

6. This order shall become effective on May 16, 2006.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen M. Dale', written over a horizontal line.

Colleen M. Dale
Secretary

(S E A L)

Colleen M. Dale, Chief Regulatory Law Judge, by
delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 16th day of May, 2006.