BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

William L. Gehrs, Jr.,)
Complainant,	
VS.	
The Empire District Electric Company,	
Respondent.	

File No. EC-2018-0033

RESPONSE TO COMMISSION ORDER

COMES NOW the Respondent, The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire"), and for its Response to Commission Order and with regard to the *Order Directing Empire to Respond to Complainant Request* issued herein on August 26, 2019, respectfully states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"):

Empire has no objection to the Commission taking judicial notice of the order granting summary judgment issued in the Watkins circuit court proceeding, Jasper County Case No. 18AO-AC00918. Empire notes, however, that the decision was issued August 6, 2019, and is not yet final.

WHEREFORE, Empire submits this Response to Commission Order. Empire respectfully requests that the Commission dismiss or deny the Amended Complaint and grant such additional or further relief as is just and proper under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Diana C. Carter</u> Diana C. Carter MBE #50527 THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY 428 E. Capitol Ave., Suite 303 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 Joplin Office Phone: (417) 626-5976 Cell Phone: (573) 289-1961 E-Mail: Diana.Carter@LibertyUtilities.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing document was filed in EFIS on this 26th day of August, 2019, with notification sent to all parties.

/s/ Diana C. Carter_____