



May 21, 2012

Secretary of the Commission
Missouri Public Service Commission
Attn: Data Center
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

RE: Request for Increase in Annual Water System Operating Revenues
MO PSC Small Utility Rate Case Procedure

Dear Secretary:

Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-3.050, the Missouri Public Service Commission's rule pertaining to rate increase requests made by qualifying small utilities, The Empire District Electric Company (Company) is hereby requesting an increase of \$516,401 in its annual water system operating revenues. This increase represents a change of approximately 29.55% in the Company's annual water system operating revenues.

The reasons for the requested increase in the Company's annual operating revenues include increases in operating and maintenance expenses and increases in utility plant investment.

In addition, I wish to advise you that the Company is current on the payment of its Commission annual assessments and the filing of its Commission annual reports.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly S. Walters
Vice President and Chief Operating Officer – Electric

cc: Jim Busch, Missouri Public Service Commission
Mark Oligschlaeger, Missouri Public Service Commission
Lewis R. Mills, Jr., Office of the Public Counsel
Christina Baker, Office of the Public Counsel