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May 18, 2001

F/LED<sup>2</sup>
MAY 1 8 2001

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Mr. Dale H. Roberts, Secretary Missouri Public Service Commission 200 Madison Street, Suite 100 Jefferson City, MO 65101 Service Commission

Re: Empire District Electric Company

Case No. ER-200**0**-299

Dear Mr. Roberts:

On Friday, May 14, 2001, several parties to this case, not including Intervenor Praxair Inc., filed a document entitled "Stipulation and Agreement Regarding Fuel and Purchased Power Expense." The document was stated to be filed under 4 CSR 240-2.115.

This letter will serve as the notice stated in 4 CSR 240-2.115(2) that Intervenor Praxair opposes this stipulation, and requests a hearing on all issues comprehended by it under the provisions of the Commission's rule and pursuant to the Missouri Supreme Court's ruling in State ex rel. Fischer v. Public Service Commission, 645 S.W.2d 39 (Mo.App. 1982), cert. denied, 464 U.S. 819, 104 S.Ct. 81, 78 L.Ed.2d 91 (1983) and the Federal court's rulings in State ex rel. Arkansas Power & Light Company v. Public Service Commission, 736 S.W.2d 457, 460 (Mo. App., W.D. 1987).

By:

Sincerely yours,

FINNEGAN, CONRAD & PETERSON, L.C.

Stuart W. Conrad

SWC:s

Enclosures

cc: All Parties