Exhibit No.: Issue: Pension and OPEB Expenses Witness: Jeffery P. Lee Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony Sponsoring Party: Empire District Electric Case No.: ER-2014-0351 Date Testimony Prepared: August 2014

Before the Public Service Commission of the State of Missouri

Direct Testimony

of

Jeffery P. Lee

August 2014



DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JEFFERY P. LEE THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY BEFORE THE MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION CASE NO. ER-2014-0351

1 **INTRODUCTION**

2	Q.	PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
3	A.	My name is Jeffery P. Lee. My business address is 602 S. Joplin Avenue, Joplin,
4		Missouri, 64801.
5	Q.	BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?
6	A.	I am the Manager of General Accounting for The Empire District Electric Company
7		("Empire" or "Company").
8	Q.	PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL
9		BACKGROUND.
10	A.	I received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in management from
11		Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, Kansas, in 2002 and a Masters of Business
12		Administration degree from Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, Kansas, in 2007. I
13		was employed as a staff auditor with BKD, LLP from 2007 until late 2008 when I
14		joined Empire. I have been a licensed Certified Public Accountant ("CPA") in the
15		state of Missouri since 2008.
16	Q.	WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?
17	٨	I will support the Company's request for the amount of Dension and Other Dest

A. I will support the Company's request for the amount of Pension and Other PostRetirement Welfare ("OPEB") costs to be included in the revenue requirement for
this case before the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") and the

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1		continuation of the pension and OPEB tracker as modified in Commission Case No.
2		ER-2011-0004.
3	PEN	NSION AND OPEB EXPENSES
4	Q.	WHAT AMOUNT OF PENSION EXPENSE IS EMPIRE REQUESTING IN
5		THIS CASE?
6	А.	At this time, Empire is requesting total annual Missouri pension expense of
7		\$6,964,136, which represents a decrease of \$714,590 to the test year expense levels.
8		This total includes actuarially determined expense of \$6,238,344 and five-year tracker
9		amortization of \$725,792.
10	Q.	WHAT AMOUNT OF OPEB EXPENSE IS EMPIRE REQUESTING IN THIS
11		CASE?
12	А.	At this time, Empire is requesting total annual Missouri OPEB expense of \$743,475,
13		which represents a decrease of \$988,605 to the test year expense levels. This total
14		includes actuarially determined expense of \$1,027,200 and negative five-year tracker
15		amortization of (\$283,725).
16	Q.	ARE THESE THE FINAL EXPENSES FOR BOTH PENSION ("FAS 87")
17		AND OPEB ("FAS 106") COSTS FOR 2014?
18	A.	No. The 2014 actuarial valuation of the plans, which provides the cost, is not yet
19		complete. The amounts set forth above represent the actuary's estimate of the final
20		amounts.
21	Q.	WILL UPDATED EXPENSE AMOUNTS BE AVAILABLE FOR A
22		DECEMBER 31, 2014 TRUE-UP IN THIS CASE?

1	A.	Yes. The final 2014 annual expense will be known once the actuarial valuation is
2		completed, which typically occurs in the third quarter of the year, and will be
3		provided in true-up testimony.

4 Q. DOES THIS COMPLETE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?

5 A. Yes, it does.

AFFIDAVIT OF JEFFERY P. LEE

STATE OF MISSOURI COUNTY OF JASPER

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On the <u>13</u> day of August, 2014, before me appeared Jeffery P. Lee, to me personally known, who, being by me first duly sworn, states that he the General Accounting Manager of The Empire District Electric Company and acknowledges that he has read the above and foregoing document and believes that the statements therein are true and correct to the best of his information, knowledge and belief.

Jeffery P. Lee

Subscribed and sworn to before me this <u>/3</u> day of August, 2014.

ANGELA M. CLOVEN Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Commissioned for Jasper County My Commission Expires: November 01, 2015 Commission Number: 11262659

m Notary Public

My commission expires 11/01/2015