

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the matter of the Application of The)
Empire District Electric Company for)
Authority to Issue and Sell under its)
Existing Indenture of Mortgage and Deed)
of Trust Dated as of September 1, 1944, as)
Amended and Supplemented, up to and)
Including \$255,000,000 Principal Amount)
of its First Mortgage Bonds, in One or)
More Series, and to, Among Other Things,)
Execute and Deliver a Supplemental)
Indenture or Indentures to Provide for the)
Terms of Said Bonds.)

Case No. EF-2006-0263

MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Comes now, The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire"), applicant in the captioned matter, and for its request that the Commission Staff ("Staff") be given an additional week, until Friday, March 31, 2006, in which to file its Recommendation in the captioned cause states as follows:

1. On December 19, 2005, Empire filed an Application requesting authority to mortgage its utility properties in the State of Missouri to secure up to and including Two Hundred Fifty-Five Million Dollars (\$255,000,000) aggregate principal amount of its First Mortgage Bonds under its exiting Indenture of Mortgage and Deed of Trust.
2. In its Second Status Report filed with the Commission on March 17, 2006, the Commission's Staff stated that it anticipated filing its recommendation concerning Empire's Application on or before March 24, 2006.
3. Representatives of Staff and Empire have been discussing the Application, including a set of conditions that would be appropriate to

recommend be included in an order approving the Application. That dialogue has been underway for several weeks and good progress has been made, but additional time would be helpful in bring those discussions to a satisfactory conclusion.

4. Consequently, Empire requests that the Commission grant its Staff an additional week, until March 31, 2006, in which to file its Recommendation. Empire has no objection to this extension of time.

WHEREFORE, for good cause shown, Empire requests that Staff be granted an additional week, until March 31, 2006, in which to file its recommendation.

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Company

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was delivered by first class mail, electronic mail or hand delivery, on the 24th day of March, 2006, to the following:

Mr. Dennis L. Frey
Senior Counsel
Missouri Public Service Commission
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/s/ Paul A. Boudreau
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