

**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 \$200,000,000 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. \_\_\_\_\_

**MOTION FOR EXPEDITED TREATMENT**

Comes now The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire") pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.080(16) and for its Motion for Expedited Treatment, states to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") as follows:

1. **Effective Date.** Empire requests that the Commission issue an order authorizing Empire encumber its properties located in the State of Missouri to secure bonded indebtedness up to and including \$200,000,000 principal amount of its First Mortgage Bonds ("Bonds") under Empire's existing Indenture of Mortgage and Deed of Trust, bearing an effective date of no later than September 30, 2003, so that Empire may move forward with issuing new Bonds during the month of October. Because Empire intends to refinance outstanding indebtedness at favorable current market rates, time is of the essence.

2. **Benefit Sought.** Approving Empire's Application will allow Empire to take advantage of favorable financing opportunities in the financial markets that have come

about through historically low interest rates. As explained above, Empire seeks to maximize the financial benefits of the proposed authority by refinancing outstanding indebtedness at favorable market rates.

3. **No Negative Effect.** Approving the Application will have no negative effect on Empire, Empire's customers, or the general public.

4. **Motion Filed Concurrently with Application.** Empire's form S-3 Registration Statement describing the Bonds was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 5, 2003. This Motion for Expedited Treatment is being filed concurrently with Empire's Application. Therefore, it was filed as soon as it could have been and complies with 4 CSR 240-2.080(16)(C).

WHEREFORE, Empire respectfully requests that the Commission grant this motion and direct that this matter be given expedited consideration such that an Order by the Commission approving Empire's Application may issue no later than September 19, 2003 bearing an effective date of no later than September 30, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. A. Boudreau', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

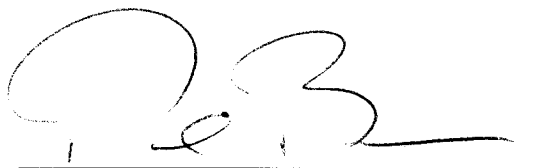
Paul A Boudreau                      Mo. Bar 33155  
Brian T. McCartney                Mo. Bar 47788  
Brydon, Swearngen & England P.C.  
312 East Capitol Avenue  
P.O. Box 456  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0456  
573/635-7166  
Email: paulb@brydonlaw.com

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was delivered by first class mail or by hand delivery, on this 22nd day of August 2003 to the following:

Mr. Dana K. Joyce, General Counsel  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
200 Madison Street, Suite 800  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

John B. Coffman  
Deputy Public Counsel  
Office of the Public Counsel  
200 Madison Street, Suite 650  
P.O. Box 7800  
Jefferson City, MO 65102



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