BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric Company of Joplin, Missouri for Authority To File Tariffs Increasing Rates for Electric Service Provided to Customers in the Missouri Service Area of the Company.

Case No. ER-2008-0093

NOTICE REGARDING EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

Issue Date: April 14, 2008,

On April 14, 2008, I received the attached letter from John Schatz.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 14th day of April, 2008. Davis, Chairman



Lewis R. Mills, Jr. Public Counsel

State of Missouri

Matt Blunt Governor

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April 1, 2008

218 NE Pine Street -Billings, MO 65610

Dear John Schatz:

Thank you for contacting my office regarding the proposed electric rate increase for Empire District Electric Company. The letter you received from Empire described the increase that Empire wants, not necessarily what it will get. The Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) must approve any increase for Empire. My office, as well as the PSC Staff and other interested parties, are now auditing and examining Empire's request to determine whether Empire deserves an increase, and if so, how much.

This process is ongoing, and Empire is not allowed to raise your rates until it is complete. Unless there is an agreement among the parties to allow Empire a smaller increase, there will be a hearing in Jefferson City this May. The PSC will make its decision on any increase sometime after that hearing, probably in July.

Thank you for taking the time to let me know your opinion about the rate increase that Empire has requested. I will make sure that the PSC knows about your concerns. I will do my best to convince the PSC to not approve an increase, or if an increase is absolutely essential, to limit that increase to only the amount necessary to allow Empire to provide safe and adequate service. and plelements liss

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