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-97-81

NOTICE

The parties are advised that simultaneous briefs on the true-up issue styled "Payroll Expense" are limited to no more than five pages and are due no later than the close of business, June 6, 1997.

In addition, regarding the issues surrounding placing the SLCT2 plant in service and prospective payment or payments to Westinghouse, the parties are advised that an agreement, or procedural schedule and hearing memorandum for the hearing of issues regarding the plant, will be filed with the Commission no later than June 6, 1997.

BY THE COMMISSION

Cecil I. Wright
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 23rd day of May, 1997.

ALJ: Derque