MAY 1 6 2001

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Service Commission In the matter of the Application of The Empire District Electric Company for authority to file tariffs Case No. ER-2001-299) reflecting increased charges for electric service within its Mis-) souri service area

INTERVENOR PRAXAIR'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE STATEMENT OF POSITIONS ONE DAY OUT OF TIME

COMES NOW Intervenor Praxair Inc. and for its Motion to File Statement of Positions one day out of time states:

- Counsel for Praxair was informally advised that parties were to seek a brief extension of time, possibly through Monday, to file position statements in view of the delay in formulating the issues statement itself and the continuing negotiations between the parties.
- 2. Counsel for Praxair had agreed to such extension and was not advised further by any other party that the extension was not being requested.
- Late this afternoon (May 15), while downloading email at roughly 5:30 p.m. Praxair counsel noted that Staff and Empire had apparently filed their position statements. There appeared to have been no attempt to seek the extension.
- Accordingly, Praxair counsel is transmitting its 4. Statement of Positions via overnight delivery and mailing copies to the other parties today to avoid any prejudice to the other parties.

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ER-2001-299

5. This filing one day out of time will not prejudice other parties.

WHEREFORE leave to file its Position Statements one day out of time is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, CONRAD & PETERSON, L.C.

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ATTORNEYS FOR PRAXAIR, INC.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon each person designated on the official service list compiled by the Secretary in this proceeding.

Dated: May 15, 2001.

Stuart W. Conrad, Esq.

An attorney for Praxair Inc.

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