BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of)	
Brandon Jessip for Change of)	File No. EO-2017-0277
Electric Supplier from Empire)	
District Electric to New-Mac Electric)	

EMPIRE'S RESPONSE TO APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF ELECTRIC SERVICE PROVIDER

COMES NOW The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire"), and in response to the Application for Change of Electric Service Provider ("Application") filed herein by Brandon Jessip ("Jessip" or "Customer") and the *Order Directing Notice, Adding Parties, and Directing Responses to Application* issued herein on April 25, 2017, by the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"), respectfully states as follows:

- 1. Empire admits the allegations of paragraph 1 of the Application. Empire further states that it is a Kansas corporation with its principal office and place of business at 602 South Joplin Avenue, Joplin, Missouri 64801. Empire is qualified to conduct business and is conducting business in Missouri, as well as in the states of Kansas, Arkansas and Oklahoma. Empire is engaged, generally, in the business of generating, purchasing, transmitting, distributing and selling electric energy in portions of those states. Empire also provides water service and natural gas distribution service in Missouri. Empire's Missouri operations are subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission as provided by law.
- 2. Regarding paragraph 2, Empire admits that it is the service provider of record at 7082 Nighthawk Road, Neosho, Missouri 64850 ("Property"), having commenced supplying retail electric energy to the Property through permanent service facilities prior to 1980. Empire's permanent service to the Property on behalf of the Customer began on September 8, 2014. Empire denies the remaining allegations of paragraph 2.

3. Empire admits the allegations of paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Application.

Regarding paragraph 5, Empire admits that the Property appears to have been

remodeled. Empire is without sufficient knowledge to admit or deny how long the Customer has

owned the Property or if New-Mac Electric has an easement through the Property that affects the

Customer's use of the land. Empire denies all other allegations of paragraph 5 of the

Application.

4.

5. Regarding paragraph 6, Empire admits that power is not currently flowing to the

Property, although Empire stands ready, willing, and able to provide safe and adequate electric

service to the Property at just and reasonable rates. Empire is without sufficient knowledge to

admit or deny whether New-Mac Electric has been to the Property and expressed its ability to

provide electric service to the Property. Empire denies all other allegations of paragraph 6 of the

Application.

6. Empire denies all allegations of the Application not specifically admitted herein.

7. In further response, Empire states that it has the right to continue as the electric

service provider for the Property pursuant to RSMo. 393.106. Empire is unaware of any facts or

circumstances that would make a change of supplier in the public interest.

WHEREFORE, Empire respectfully requests that the Commission dismiss or deny the

Application and grant such additional or further relief as is just and proper under the

circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY

 $\mathbf{R}\mathbf{v}$

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ATTORNEY FOR THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was filed in EFIS and that a copy of the same was sent via electronic mail or U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, on May 24, 2017, to the following:

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Brandon Jessip 7082 Nighthawk Road Neosho, Missouri 64850

Sharrock Dermott