

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Application)
of The Empire District Electric Company) **Case No. EA-2019-0010**
for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity)
Related to its Customer Savings Plan)

NOTICE OF INFORMATION REGARDING LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through the undersigned counsel, and presents the following information for the Commission’s records.

1. On October 24, 2018, the parties filed a procedural schedule that contemplated the scheduling of a local public hearing, but reserving any party’s right to make a filing regarding a local public hearing.

2. In Empire District Electric Company’s (“Empire”) earlier case, Case No. EO-2018-0092, a local public hearing was held on February 8, 2018, regarding Empire’s application for a wind farm, the closure of Asbury, and the other terms of the Customer Savings Plan.

3. To aid in the Commission’s scheduling determination, Staff submits the following information regarding the previous local public hearing.

4. The previous local public hearing was held in Joplin, Missouri. 100 people attended. 15 people testified on the record— one regarding the closure of Asbury, three testified as to concerns or opposition to the project, two members of parties that had been granted intervention testified, and the remaining nine people testified in support of the project. The full transcript of the hearing can be found in Case No. EO-2018-0092, EFIS Item No. 63.

5. In Case No. EO-2018-0092, 23 comments were submitted to the Commission, some supporting and some opposing the project, and some commenting on the closure of Asbury. In the current case, two comments have been submitted.

6. In fiscal year 2018, the average PSC Expense and Equipment cost per local public hearing was \$618, the average cost per attendee was \$17.84, and the average cost per witness was \$75.75. This does not include personal service expenditures, or the costs incurred by the companies or other parties that attended.

WHEREFORE, Staff prays the Commission accepts this Notice Of Information Regarding Local Public Hearing and orders any such action it finds just and reasonable in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Nicole Mers

Nicole Mers
Deputy Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 66766
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65012
(573) 751-6651 (Telephone)
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)
Nicole.mers@psc.mo.gov

Attorney for the Staff of the
Missouri Public Service Commission

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail, or First Class United States Postal Mail, postage prepaid, on this 6th day of November 2018, to all counsel of record.

/s/ Nicole Mers