STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION JEFFERSON CITY April 10, 2000

CASE NO: EM-2000-145, EA-2000-153

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Enclosed find certified copy of an ORDER in the above-numbered case(s).

Sincerely,

Dale Hardy Roberts

Hoke HARD Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of The Empire District Electric Company for Permission and Authority to Transfer a Partial, Undivided Interest in Certain) Generation Facilities, Land and Related Case No. EM-2000-145 Property Owned by It to Westar Generating, Inc., in Accordance with a Contract Dated July 26, 1999. In the Matter of the Application of Westar Generating, Inc. for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Authorizing it to Construct, Install, Own, Operate, Control, Manage, and Case No. EA-2000-153 Maintain Electric Production Facilities in Jasper County, Missouri, Pursuant to the terms of a July 26, 1999 Agreement for the Construction, Ownership and Operation of State Line Combined Cycle Generating) Facility.)

ORDER DIRECTING STAFF TO FILE STATUS REPORT

On August 13, 1999, The Empire District Electric Company (Empire) filed an application with the Commission requesting permission and authority to sell and transfer an interest in certain assets to Westar Generating, Inc. (WGI) for the purpose of constructing additional electric generating facilities at the "State Line" facility owned by Empire. On August 17, 1999, WGI filed an application with the Commission for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to allow it to construct, own and operate the electric generating facilities that Empire seeks to convey to it. The Commission consolidated the two applications

into a single case by an order issued on August 31, 1999. Staff has not yet filed its recommendations regarding the applications.

The Commission would like to be informed about the current status of the applications.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. That the Staff of the Public Service Commission shall file, by May 2, 2000, a report indicating the current status of the applications filed by The Empire District Electric Company and Westar Generating, Inc.
 - 2. That this order shall become effective on April 20, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION

Hole Hard Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(SEAL)

Morris L. Woodruff, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.120(1), (November 30, 1995) and Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 10th day of April, 2000.

STATE OF MISSOURI OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 10th day of April 2000.

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Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge