

STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service  
Commission held at its office  
in Jefferson City on the 1st  
day of December, 1989.

In re The Empire District Electric Company, )  
applicant for relief from certain of the require- )  
ments of Section (28) of 4 CSR 240-10.030. ) Case No. EO-90-58  
)

ORDER GRANTING WAIVER

On September 6, 1989, The Empire District Electric Company (Applicant) filed an application requesting an order authorizing Applicant to modify its testing procedures for certain meters. Applicant is requesting a waiver of the meter testing requirements of 4 CSR 240-10.030(28). Section (28) requires an electric utility to test induction-type watt-hour meters manufactured since 1937 at least once every 240 months. Applicant proposes an alternate testing procedure if this requirement is waived.

As an alternative, Applicant proposes that all induction-type meters in Missouri manufactured since 1937 be grouped with induction-type meters in all jurisdictions and one sample be taken from all of the meters. Applicant states that this sampling plan will ensure, with a confidence level of 95 percent, that no more than 2.5 percent of meters in service will deviate from 100 percent accuracy of registration by more than plus or minus 2.0 percent. This procedure will substantially reduce the number of annual single-phase meter tests Applicant must perform.

On November 27, 1989, Commission Staff filed a recommendation in support of the waiver. Staff points out that the sampling procedure proposed by Applicant is outlined in the American National Standard (ANSI/ASQC Z1.9-1980). Staff states that other regulated utilities have used this sample technique for a number of years and that customers may still request a meter test, which will be done at no charge if the

meter has not been tested within 12 months. Additionally, Staff recommends that Applicant be required to maintain records of the meters in each homogeneous group, the number of meters making up the sample of each group, the test results for each group, and a summary of meters retired in that calendar year and any proposed requirements.

The Commission has reviewed the request and has determined that Applicant's alternative testing procedure is reasonable and the waiver will be granted. Based upon the assurances as to the confidence level of the alternative procedure, the Commission has determined the requirements of testing can be accomplished by the alternative procedure. The Commission will also adopt Staff's recommendations for record-keeping.

It is, therefore,

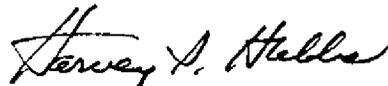
ORDERED: 1. That the requirements of 4 CSR 240-10.030(28) are hereby waived for The Empire District Electric Company.

ORDERED: 2. That The Empire District Electric Company shall test induction-type meters as described in this application.

ORDERED: 3. That The Empire District Electric Company shall keep records of the testing procedure approved in Ordered 2 as described in this order.

ORDERED: 4. That this order shall become effective on the date hereof.

BY THE COMMISSION



Harvey G. Hubbs  
Secretary

(S E A L)

Mueller, Fischer and Rauch,  
CC., Concur.  
Steinmeier, Chm., Absent.