

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY
March 29, 2001**

CASE NO: ER-2001-299

Office of the Public Counsel
P.O. Box 7800
Jefferson City, MO 65102

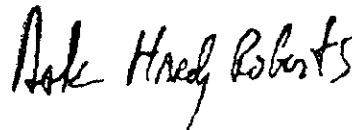
General Counsel
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Stuart W. Conrad, Esq.
Finnegan, Conrad & Peterson, L.C.
3100 Broadway, 1209 Penntower Office
Kansas City, MO 64111
Henry T. Herschel
308 E. High Street Suite 301
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Gary Duffy
Brydon, Swearngen & England, P. C.
P. O. Box 456
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0456

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

**Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office
in Jefferson City on the 29th
day of March, 2001.

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric)	
Company's Tariff Sheets Designed to Implement)	<u>Case No. ER-2001-299</u>
a General Rate Increase for Retail Electric)	Tariff No. 200100518
Service Provided to Customers in the Missouri)	
Service Area of the Company.)	

ORDER REGARDING LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the Commission's Order Setting Test Year, Setting True-up Hearing, and Adopting Procedural Schedule, issued on January 4, 2001, a Local Public Hearing will be held in this case in Joplin, Missouri, during the week of April 23, 2001, as further set out in this order.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That a Local Public Hearing concerning the requested rate increase shall be held at Matthews Hall Auditorium, Missouri Southern State College, 3950 East Newman Road, Joplin, Missouri, on Monday, April 23, 2001, commencing at 6:00 p.m.
2. That Empire District Electric Company shall give appropriate notice of the Local Public Hearing to each of its Missouri service area customers either by billing insert or by direct mailing.
3. That the Commission's Public Information Office shall provide notice of the Local Public Hearing to the news media and the members of the Missouri General Assembly representing persons residing in Empire District Electric Company's Missouri service area.

4. That this order shall become effective on April 8, 2001.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Lumpe, Ch., Drainer, Murray,
Schemenauer, and Simmons, CC., concur.

Thompson, Deputy Regulatory Law Judge

ALJ/Sec'y: Thompson / Pope
3-27 ER-2001-299
Date Circulated CASE NO.

[Signature]
Lumpé, Chair

[Signature]
Drainer, Vice Chair

[Signature]
Murray, Commissioner

[Signature]
Schemenauer, Commissioner

[Signature]
Simmons, Commissioner

3-29
Agenda Date

Action taken: 5-OAS

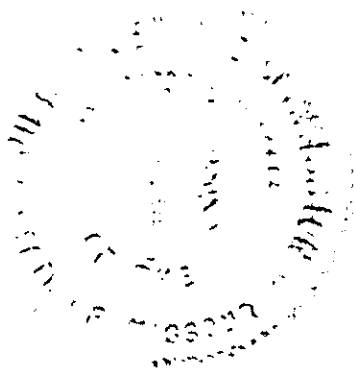
Must Vote Not Later Than _____

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 29th day of March 2001.



Dale Hardy Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge