

Mark Timpe

From: Chung, Jairo <Jairo.Chung@moodys.com>
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2015 10:04 AM
To: Mark Timpe
Subject: RE: Private Placement Press Release

Thank you for sending the press release. Hope all is well.

Best,
Jairo

From: Mark Timpe [<mailto:mtimpe@empiredistrict.com>]
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2015 9:53 AM
To: Chung, Jairo
Cc: Laurie Delano
Subject: Private Placement Press Release

Jairo,
Attached please find a copy of our recent press release regarding the recently completed \$60 million private placement of first mortgage bonds which funded on August 20, 2015. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Regards,

Mark

Mark T. Timpe
Treasurer
Empire District Electric Company
602 S. Joplin Avenue
P.O. Box 127
Joplin, Missouri 64802
Telephone: 417-626-5963
Fax: 417-625-5173
Cell phone: 417-483-9370
mtimpe@empiredistrict.com

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Mark Timpe

From: Mark Timpe
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2015 8:53 AM
To: Jairo Chung
Cc: Laurie Delano
Subject: Private Placement Press Release
Attachments: Press Release August 20 2015 Private Placement FMB.pdf

Jairo,

Attached please find a copy of our recent press release regarding the recently completed \$60 million private placement of first mortgage bonds which funded on August 20, 2015. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

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Mark

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Mark Timpe

From: Mark Timpe
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2015 8:52 AM
To: Philippe Beard
Cc: Laurie Delano
Subject: Private Placement Press Release
Attachments: Press Release August 20 2015 Private Placement FMB.pdf

Philippe,

Attached please find a copy of our recent press release regarding the recently completed \$60 million private placement of first mortgage bonds which funded on August 20, 2015. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Regards,

Mark

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Mark Timpe

From: Mark Timpe
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2015 8:51 AM
To: Dimitri Nikas
Cc: Laurie Delano
Subject: Private Placement Press Release
Attachments: Press Release August 20 2015 Private Placement FMB.pdf

Dimitri,

Attached please find a copy of our recent press release regarding the recently completed \$60 million private placement of first mortgage bonds which funded on August 20, 2015. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Regards,

Mark

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS

Julie Maus
Director of Corporate Communications
417-625-5101
jmaus@empiredistrict.com

INVESTOR RELATIONS

Dale Harrington
Director of Investor Relations
417-625-4222
dharrington@empiredistrict.com

THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY ISSUES \$60,000,000 OF FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS

JOPLIN, MO – August 20, 2015 –The Empire District Electric Company (NYSE:EDE) announced today the settlement related to the Bond Purchase Agreement dated as of June 11, 2015, for a private placement of \$60,000,000 aggregate principal amount of its 3.59% Series First Mortgage Bonds due 2030. The First Mortgage Bonds will mature on August 20, 2030. Interest is payable semi-annually on the bonds on each February 20 and August 20, commencing February 20, 2016.

The bonds may be redeemed, at the Company's option, at any time prior to maturity, at par plus a make whole premium, together with accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to the redemption date.

The terms of the bonds are set forth in the Bond Purchase Agreement, dated as of June 11, 2015, by and among the Company and the purchasers named therein, and the Forty-First Supplemental Indenture of Mortgage and Deed of Trust dated as of August 20, 2015, by and among the Company and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as principal trustee, and UMB Bank & Trust, N.A., as Missouri trustee.

The Company expects to use the proceeds from the sale of the bonds to refinance existing short-term indebtedness and for general corporate purposes.

The bonds have not been, and will not be, registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and may not be offered or sold in the United States absent registration or an applicable exemption from registration requirements. This Press Release shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any security.

Based in Joplin, Missouri, The Empire District Electric Company (NYSE: EDE) is an investor-owned, regulated utility providing electric, natural gas (through its wholly owned subsidiary The Empire District Gas Company), and water service, with approximately 218,000 customers in Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. A subsidiary of the Company also provides fiber optic services. For more information regarding Empire, visit www.empiredistrict.com.

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Certain matters discussed in this press release are "forward-looking statements" intended to qualify for the safe harbor from liability established by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements address future plans, objectives, expectations, earnings, and events or conditions concerning various matters. Actual results in each case could differ materially from those currently anticipated in such statements, by reason of the factors noted in the Company's filings with the SEC, including the most recent Form 10-K and Form 10-Q.

Mark Timpe

From: Philippe Beard <philippe.beard@fitchratings.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2015 5:29 PM
To: Mark Timpe
Cc: Laurie Delano
Subject: RE: Financing update

Mark,

I appreciate the update.

Thank you

Philippe Beard
Director
Corporate Ratings
FitchRatings

t: +212 908 0242
f: +212 612 7737

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From: Mark Timpe [<mailto:mtimpe@empiredistrict.com>]
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2015 6:27 PM
To: Philippe Beard
Cc: Laurie Delano
Subject: Financing update

Philippe,

I'm pleased to advise that Empire has entered into a Bond Purchase Agreement today for the private placement of \$60,000,000 of 15-year first mortgage bonds with a 3.59% coupon. We expect to fund the private placement on or about August 20, 2015. This financing is consistent with the plan previously discussed, although we were able to extend the maturity 5 years and still stay near our targeted coupon rate.

Warmest regards,

Mark Timpe

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Mark Timpe

From: Chung, Jairo <Jairo.Chung@moody.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2015 8:16 AM
To: Mark Timpe
Subject: RE: Financing Update

Thank you for letting me know.

Have a great weekend,
Jairo

From: Mark Timpe [<mailto:mtimpe@empiredistrict.com>]
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2015 6:27 PM
To: Chung, Jairo
Cc: Laurie Delano
Subject: Financing Update

Jairo,

It was nice to have the opportunity to visit with you earlier this week and I really enjoyed the presentation provided by the Moody's team. I'm pleased to advise that Empire has entered into a Bond Purchase Agreement today for the private placement of \$60,000,000 of 15-year first mortgage bonds with a 3.59% coupon. We expect to fund the private placement on or about August 20, 2015. This financing is consistent with the plan previously discussed, although we were able to extend the maturity 5 years and still stay near our targeted coupon rate.

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Mark Timpe

From: Nikas, Dimitri <dimitri.nikas@standardandpoors.com>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2015 7:39 AM
To: Mark Timpe
Subject: RE: Financing update

Mark,
Thank you for the update.

Kind regards,
Dimitri

From: Mark Timpe [<mailto:mtimpe@empiredistrict.com>]
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2015 6:27 PM
To: Nikas, Dimitri
Cc: Laurie Delano
Subject: Financing update

Dimitri,

It was nice to have the opportunity to visit with you earlier this week and I really enjoyed the presentation provided by the S&P team. I'm pleased to advise that Empire has entered into a Bond Purchase Agreement today for the private placement of \$60,000,000 of 15-year first mortgage bonds with a 3.59% coupon. We expect to fund the private placement on or about August 20, 2015. This financing is consistent with the plan previously discussed, although we were able to extend the maturity 5 years and still stay near our targeted coupon rate.

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To: Philippe Beard
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Subject: Financing update

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