

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

WILLIAM L. GEHRS, JR.,	)	
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	File No. EC-2018-0033
	)	
THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC	)	
COMPANY,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

**EMPIRE’S RESPONSE TO COMMISSION ORDER AND STAFF  
RECOMMENDATION AND REPORT**

**COMES NOW** The Empire District Electric Company (“Empire” or the “Company”), by and through counsel, and submits this response to the *Order Directing Filing* issued herein by the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”) on September 14, 2017, and the Staff Recommendation and Report filed herein on the same date. In this regard, Empire respectfully states as follows:

1. Following its investigation, Staff concluded that Empire has not violated any applicable statutes, Commission rules, or Commission-approved Company tariffs related to the Complaint of William Gehers, Jr. The Memorandum attached to Staff’s Recommendation and Report explains the circumstances that led Staff to reach these conclusions and details Staff’s findings.

2. Empire concurs in the findings of Staff as set forth in the Memorandum attached to Staff’s Recommendation and Report and concurs in the conclusions set forth by Staff in its Recommendation and Report.

WHEREFORE, Empire respectfully submits this response and requests that the Commission dismiss or deny the Complaint and grant such additional or further relief as is just and proper under the circumstances.

**BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND, P.C.**

By: /s/ Diana C. Carter  
Diana C. Carter MBE# 50527  
312 East Capitol Avenue  
P. O. Box 456  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102  
Telephone: (573) 635-7166  
Facsimile: (573) 635-3847  
Email: dcarter@brydonlaw.com

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing document was filed with EFIS on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017, with notice of the same being sent to all counsel of record. A copy of this pleading was also sent by U.S. mail, postage prepaid, to the pro se applicant.

/s/ Diana C. Carter