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

In the Matter of The Empire District)	
Electric Company of Joplin, Missouri,)	
for Authority to File Tariffs Increasing)	<u>Case No. ER-98-54</u>
Rates for Electric Service Provided to)	
Customers in the Missouri Service Area)	
of the Company.)	

ORDER CLOSING DOCKET

On August 6, 1997, The Empire District Electric Company (EDE) filed tariffs reflecting increased rates for electric service provided to customers in the Missouri service area of the company. On August 26, 1997, the Commission issued its order suspending the tariffs for a period of eleven months and providing for public notice and an intervention period. On September 12, 1997, EDE filed instructions withdrawing the proposed tariffs as a result of a settlement agreement reached by the parties in Case No. ER-97-81, and approved by the Commission.

The Commission has received no comments from the remainder of the parties and no requests for intervention in this matter. The Commission, therefore, acknowledges the withdrawal of the proposed tariffs and orders this docket to be closed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the proposed tariffs having been withdrawn by The Empire District Electric Company, this docket is hereby closed.

2. That this order shall become effective on September 26, 1997.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Cecil I. Wright", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cecil I. Wright
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

Joseph A. Derque III, Administrative
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 26th day of September, 1997.