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RICHARD T. CIOTTONI

April 5, 2000

FILED²

APR 05 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

**Re: The Empire District Electric Company Status Report
Case No. EF-98-120**

Dear Mr. Roberts:

On behalf of The Empire District Electric Company, I deliver herewith an original and fourteen (14) copies of a Status Report for filing with the Commission in the referenced matter. I would appreciate it if you would see that the copies are distributed to the appropriate Commission personnel. Service copies have been mailed or hand-delivered this date.

I have also enclosed an extra copy of the document which I request that you stamp "Filed" and return to the person delivering it to you.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C.

By:


Paul A. Boudreau

PAB/aw
Enclosures

cc: The Office of the Public Counsel

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

FILED²

APR 05 2000

**Missouri Public
Service Commission**

In the Matter of the Application of)
The Empire District Electric Company)
for Authority to Issue and Sell under)
Its Existing Indenture of Mortgage and)
Deed of Trust Dated as of September 1,)
1944, as Amended and Supplemented, up)
to and Including \$80,000,000 Principal)
Amount of its First Mortgage Bonds, in)
One or More Series and to, among Other)
Things, Execute and Deliver a)
Supplemental Indenture or Indentures to)
Provide for the Terms of Said Bonds.)

Case No. EF-98-120

STATUS REPORT

On March 29, 2000, the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") issued an Order Directing Filing in the referenced case. The Commission has requested a report of the status of this matter, including The Empire District Electric Company's ("Empire") expectation of when the transaction authorized by its March 17, 1998, Order Approving Financing will be complete.

On May 18, 1998, Empire advised the Commission that it had issued \$50,000,000 principal amount of its first mortgage bonds, 6.50% series due 2010, pursuant to the authority granted in the Commission's March 17, 1998, Order Approving Financing. Empire advised the Commission at that time that there remained \$30,000,000 of issuance authority with respect to the underlying shelf registration and still available for use by Empire. A copy of that letter is attached hereto as Exhibit 1 for the Commission's information.

Since that time, there has been no further financing undertaken by Empire pursuant to the shelf registration which was subject to the company's Application in this case. Nevertheless, the Securities and Exchange Commission considers the shelf registration to be a valid one and Empire may yet issue additional first mortgage bonds in accordance with the terms of the S-3 Registration

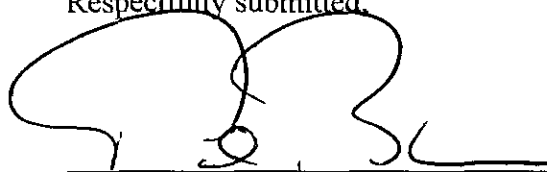
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Statement. It is not possible at this time, however, to specify when that event may take place.

The Commission's March 17, 1998, Order Approving Financing directs Empire, among other things, to file certain information with the Commission concerning any issuance of first mortgage bonds under the Registration Statement approved by the Commission. *See*, ORDERED: paragraphs 8, 9, 10 and 11. There is no need, in Empire's view, to keep this case open other than as the official receptacle for receiving post-closing reports in connection with future financings. Should the Commission be inclined to close the case, there is no reason why it should not do so, *so long as* (1) the Order Approving Financing is not canceled, rescinded or revoked, and (2) Empire is relieved of the obligation to file post-closing financing reports with the Commission. Should the Commission decide to proceed in this manner, it may want to consider directing Empire to send post-closing financing reports directly to the Commission's financial analysis department instead.

If this alternative approach is acceptable to the Commission, its Staff and The Office of the Public Counsel, Empire has no objection to the Commission closing this case. Otherwise, Empire respectfully requests that the Commission keep this case open until Empire exhausts its financing authority thereunder.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. A. Boudreau', written over a horizontal line.

Paul A. Boudreau #33155
BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C.
P.O. Box 456
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0456
(573) 635-7166

Attorneys for The Empire District Electric Company

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was sent by U.S. mail, postage prepaid, or hand-delivered, on this 5th day of April, 2000, to:

Office of the Public Counsel
Truman State Office Building, Room 250
P.O. Box 7800
Jefferson City, MO 65102-7800

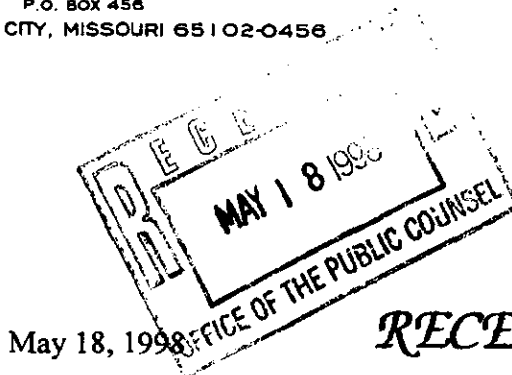


RECEIPT COPY

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May 18, 1998

RECEIVED

MAY 18 1998

Records
Public Service Commission

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
 Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
 Missouri Public Service Commission
 P.O. Box 360
 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Re: The Empire District Electric Company
Case No. EF-98-120

Dear Mr. Roberts:

In accordance with paragraph ORDERED: 8 of the Commission's March 17, 1998, *Order Approving Financing*, enclosed for filing in connection with the referenced matter are an original and fourteen (14) copies of the following schedules:

- Appendix 5 (a) - Price Information and Other Terms and Provisions;
- Appendix 8 (a) - Statement of Expenses Incurred through 4/30/98, First Mortgage Bonds, 6.50% Series, Due 2010; and
- Appendix 11(a) - Statement of Portion of the Issuance of the Bonds Subject to Fee Schedule

Would you please see that these schedules are attached to the Application and the copies of same are distributed to the appropriate Commission personnel.

There is no deviation from the state use of the funds that would change the pro forma capitalization and financial ratios described in the Staff's memorandum dated January 20, 1998. Also, the issuance did not involve the redemption of outstanding long-term indebtedness so no net present value calculation indicating interest cost savings is submitted herewith.

Finally, I have enclosed an original and fourteen (14) copies each of a Prospectus Supplement and a copy of a Twenty-Ninth Supplemental Indenture. Please see that they are placed in the Commission's official case papers.

This filing is in connection with The Empire District Electric Company's recent issuance of a new series of First Mortgage Bonds under its Indenture of Mortgage and Deed of Trust. It involves the issuance of \$50,000,000 principal amount of First Mortgage Bonds 6.50% Series due 2010. The

closing took place on April 28, 1998. \$30,000,000 of issuance authority under the shelf registration approved by the Commission is still available for use.

Would you please also see that copies of the described documents are distributed to the appropriate Commission personnel. I have taken the liberty of "packaging" these documents to facilitate filing and distribution. Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND, P.C.

By:

Paul A. Boudreau

PAB/dlb
Enclosures

cc: Office of Public Counsel
Mr. David Gibson
Mr. Michael Sherman (w/o enclosures)