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February 2, 2006

Ms. Colleen Dale  
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. ER-2006-0315**

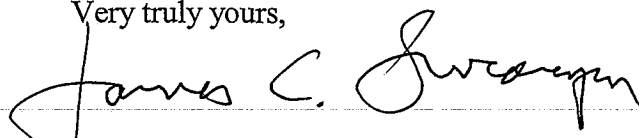
Dear Ms. Dale:

Electronically transmitted herewith to the Missouri Public Service Commission for filing pursuant to the Protective Order issued today in the referenced matter is the "Highly Confidential" direct testimony of The Empire District Electric Company witness Todd Tarter. The "Nonproprietary" version of Mr. Tarter's testimony was filed yesterday, February 1, 2006.

A copy of this filing will be provided to the Commission's General Counsel and to the Office of the Public Counsel.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



James C. Swearengen

JCS/lar

cc: General Counsel  
Office of the Public Counsel