Exhibit No.: Issues: On-System Fuel and Purchased Power Expense, Fuel Adjustment Clause Witness: Todd W. Tarter Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony Sponsoring Party: Empire District Electric Case No. ER-2012-0345 Date Testimony Prepared: July 2012

Before the Public Service Commission Of the State of Missouri

Direct Testimony

of

Todd W. Tarter

July 2012



TABLE OF CONTENTS OF TODD W. TARTER ON BEHALF OF THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY BEFORE THE MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION CASE NO. ER-2012-0345

<u>SUE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	1
I.		1
II .	SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR AN FAC CONTINUATION REQUEST AS REQUIRED BY 4 CSR 240.3.161(3)	3
111.	FUEL PLANNING AND PROCUREMENT 1	3
IV.	REVIEW OF ON-SYSTEM FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER EXPENSE FOR BASE RATES	9
V.	UNIT DATA USED IN THE MODEL	:0
VI.	FUEL DATA USED IN THE MODEL 2	:1
VII.	PURCHASED POWER DATA USED IN THE MODEL	2
VIII.	OTHER FUEL RELATED COSTS 2	:4
IX.	NORMALIZED COAL INVENTORY BALANCES	?7
Х.	SUMMARY	28

UTILITY

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF TODD W. TARTER ON BEHALF OF THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY BEFORE THE MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION CASE NO. ER-2012-0345

1 **INTRODUCTION** I.

2 0. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

3 Α. Todd W. Tarter. My business address is 602 S. Joplin Avenue, Joplin, Missouri.

4 0. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?

5 Α. The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire" or "Company"). My title is Manager of 6 Strategic Planning.

7 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL 8 **BACKGROUND.**

9 Α. I graduated from Pittsburg State University in 1986 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in 10 Computer Science. After graduation, I received a mathematics education certification. I 11 began my employment with Empire in May 1989. During my tenure with Empire I have 12 worked in the Corporate Planning, Strategic Planning, Information Technology, and 13 Planning and Regulatory departments. My primary responsibilities during this time have 14 included work with the Company's construction budget, load forecasts, sales and revenue 15 budgets, financial forecasts and fuel and purchased power projections, among others. In 16 September 2004, I was promoted to my current position where I primarily work with fuel 17 and purchased power projections and integrated resource planning.

18 0. HAVE YOU EVER TESTIFIED BEFORE THE MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE 19 COMMISSION ("COMMISSION") OR ANY OTHER STATE

TODD W. TARTER DIRECT TESTIMONY

1 COMMISSION?

A. Yes. I testified on behalf of Empire on the topic of on-system fuel and purchased power
expense in Commission Case Nos. ER-2006-0315, ER-2008-0093, ER-2010-0130 and ER2011-0004. I also testified on behalf of Empire regarding its fuel adjustment clause in
Commission Case Nos. ER-2011-0320, ER-2012-0098 and ER-2012-0326. Additionally, I
testified on behalf of Empire in Kansas Corporation Commission Case No. 05-EPDE-980RTS, Oklahoma Corporation Commission Cause Nos. PUD 20110082 and PUD
20110013, and Arkansas Public Service Commission Docket No. 07-076-TF.

9 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY IN THIS CASE?

10 A. I will support Empire's proposal to continue its Fuel Adjustment Clause ("FAC") in this 11 case. I will also support Empire's estimate of the ongoing level of on-system fuel and 12 purchased power ("FPP") costs as part of this case. In addition, I will provide the information 13 required by 4 CSR 240-3.161(3) for continuance of the FAC. I will also describe the 14 adjustments for normalized coal inventory balances. The on-system FPP expense values that 15 I will be addressing can be grouped into the following categories: (1) normalized on-system 16 FPP energy expense calculated with a production cost model; (2) fuel-related costs, such as 17 unit train and undistributed and other costs associated with the normalized production cost 18 model run; (3) natural gas-related costs, such as firm transportation, commodity charge, 19 storage costs, undistributed and other costs and natural gas losses that are associated with the 20 normalized production cost model run; and (4) other energy related costs, such as the cost of 21 consumables associated with the power plants' air quality control systems ("AQCS") and 22 revenue from the sale of renewable energy credits ("RECs"). In connection with the 23 normalized production cost run referenced above, I will describe the model, the modeling process, the results of the model run and some of the key data inputs to the model.

2 Q. PLEASE LIST THE ENERGY COST COMPONENTS ASSOCIATED WITH 3 EMPIRE'S CURRENT FAC BASE.

4 A. Empire's current FAC base consists of fuel and purchased power energy costs (including fuel 5 related costs such as unit train, undistributed and other and variable natural gas transportation 6 expenses) plus the cost of the AQCS consumables and net emissions cost, if any, less the net 7 sales of RECs. The FAC base is then calculated on a per unit basis utilizing net system input 8 expressed in kilowatt hours or megawatt hours. The current FAC base is \$0.02823 per kWh. 9 Based on the most recent analysis of the FAC cost components for the preparation of this 10 case, Empire is proposing to raise the FAC base slightly by about 0.5% to \$0.02837 per kWh 11 subject to any true-up adjustments that may be considered in this case. The FAC base 12 comparison can be found in Schedule TWT-1.

Q. DOES THIS TESTIMONY ADDRESS ALL OF THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH EMPIRE'S FAC?

A. Yes, it does. In addition to the costs I previously described, I also am sponsoring some
fixed costs generally associated with FPP expense, such as purchase demand, natural gas
firm transportation and natural gas storage costs that are not a component of the existing
Empire FAC.

19 II. SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR AN FAC CONTINUATION REQUEST AS

20 **REQUIRED BY 4 CSR 240.3.161(3)**

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Q. IS EMPIRE'S REQUEST TO CONTINUE ITS FAC DESIGNED TO COMPLY WITH THE COMMISSION'S RULES?

23 A. Yes. Empire has designed its FAC continuation request to comply with the Commission's

TODD W. TARTER DIRECT TESTIMONY

- 1 rule governing the fuel adjustment process. The table below displays a list of the twenty
- 2

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(20) minimum filing requirements and where this information can be found in supporting

- **Rule Reference Brief Description** Location 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (A) Customer notice Schedule TWT-4 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (B) Example customer bill Schedule TWT-3 5 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (C) Proposed FAC tariff Schedule TWT-10 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (D) Explanation of FAC Tarter Testimony 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (E) FAC and opportunity to earn a fair ROE Tarter Testimony 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (F) (Over)/Under recoveries & true-up Tarter Testimony 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (G) FAC and prudence review Tarter Testimony 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (H) Specific costs and FERC accounts Tarter Testimony 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (I) Specific revenue and FERC accounts Tarter Testimony 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (J) Incentive features and benefits Tarter Testimony 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (K) Volatility mitigation Tarter Testimony 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (L) Company procedures/prudent costs Tarter Testimony 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (M) Customer class rate design Tarter Testimony Tarter & Vander Weide 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (N) FAC, business risk and allowed ROE Testimonies 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (O) How responses differ Tarter Testimony 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (P) Supply-side, Demand-side resource data Schedule TWT-5 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (Q) Unit heat rate & unit efficiency testing Schedule TWT-6 Existing IRP and objectives 5 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (R) Tarter Testimony Emission allowance cost/(revenue) & FAC 6 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (S) Tarter Testimony 7 CSR 240.3.161 (3) (T) Authorization to release 5-years of surveillance **Tarter Testimony**
- 3 schedules and testimony.

Q. IS THE COMPANY PROPOSING ANY CHANGES TO ITS EXISTING FAC TARIFF IN THIS CASE?

A. No. The Company is not proposing any changes to its FAC tariff, other than to correctly reflect the current Missouri jurisdictional base cost of energy. I have attached a copy of the proposed FAC tariff sheet to my testimony as Schedule TWT-10. The proposed FAC tariff contains the proposed base energy cost per kWh, which is the only change from the existing FAC tariff (the existing FAC tariff is provided as Schedule TWT-2). Several of the major features of the tariff are:

- Changes in the FAC factor are based upon 95 percent of the difference between the cost
 of fuel and energy that is built into base rates and the actual cost of fuel and energy;
- Costs included in the FAC calculation are based upon the actual Missouri jurisdictional
 historical expenses recorded in FERC accounts 501, 547 and 555, including the
 cost/benefits associated with Empire's fuel hedging program. In addition, the FAC will
 include the recovery of emission allowance costs (sulfur dioxide) recorded in FERC
 account 509, the Renewable Energy Credit ("REC") revenue actually earned by Empire
 and the cost of consumables associated with Air Quality Control Systems ("AQCS") at
 Empire's generating units;

Costs included in the FAC calculation exclude the capacity charges associated with purchased power contracts, the fixed portion of the natural gas firm transportation and natural gas storage costs;

- Only two changes in the FAC factor are made each year, one in June and one in
 December;
- 23
- The current Missouri jurisdictional base cost of energy under the FAC is \$0.02823 per

TODD W. TARTER DIRECT TESTIMONY

- kWh, but as previously mentioned, Empire is proposing to adjust this to \$0.02837 per 2 kWh subject to any true-up adjustments that may be considered in this case; Over/under recoveries of Missouri jurisdictional energy costs are refunded/collected 3 . periodically (every six months) from Missouri retail customers through the operation of 4 5 the tariff; 6 Over/under recoveries of Missouri jurisdictional energy costs are recorded on the books • 7 of the Company in FERC accounts using an asset/liability account to track over/under 8 recoveries of energy costs on the balance sheet, FERC Account No. 182 and 254 and an 9 offsetting expense account to reflect the over/under recoveries of energy costs on the 10 income statement, Account No. 501. This will continue to ensure that net operating 11 income is not distorted by over/under recoveries of Missouri jurisdictional energy costs. 12 In addition, this accounting process will leave an audit trail for internal and external 13 auditors. This audit trail will be very useful during the periodic prudence reviews that 14 are required under the Commission's rules governing the fuel adjustment process. 15 Empire has continued to restrict the recovery and refund of over/under recoveries to 95 16 percent of the total difference that was established in the last rate case. Carrying costs on energy costs deferred as part of the operation of the FAC are 17 •
- 18 calculated on a monthly basis using Empire's embedded cost of short-term debt, and 19 will be applied during both the accumulation period and the recovery period.

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Q. DOES EMPIRE AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSION TO RELEASE THE LAST FIVE YEARS OF HISTORICAL SURVEILLANCE REPORTS TO THE PARTIES IN THIS CASE?

Empire agrees to release the last five years of historical surveillance information to the 4 Α. 5 Commission Staff and to The Office of the Public Counsel. If other parties to this case desire to receive this information, Empire will provide it subject to the protections to 6 7 confidential information that are afforded by 4 CSR 240-2.135. At this point, we are concerned about other utilities operating in Missouri that compete with Empire, such as 8 9 KCPL and Ameren, gaining unrestricted access to our surveillance information as a result of intervening in this rate case. It would, therefore, be unfair to Empire to require a 10 11 complete release of this information to parties to this case without safeguards as to the 12 access by competitors and the extent to which employees of competitors may view the information. If these concerns can be addressed satisfactorily, Empire is willing to allow a 13 release of five-years of the surveillance information to the parties in this rate case. 14

Q. DOES THE EXISTING FAC TARIFF AND THE RECOVERY/REFUND MECHANISM PROVIDE EMPIRE SUFFICIENT OPPORTUNITY TO EARN A FAIR RETURN ON EQUITY?

A. Yes and no. The existing FAC mechanism is a significant improvement over the recovery
of these costs through base rates. During periods of extreme fuel and energy price
fluctuations, the FAC will recover 95 percent of the changes in energy costs, which means
that the Missouri retail customers will reimburse Empire for a significant portion of its
actual prudently incurred fuel and energy costs. In the event that fuel and energy costs
stabilize at or near the base established in the FAC, which has been the case since the FAC

TODD W. TARTER DIRECT TESTIMONY

was originally implemented, the energy cost changes that pass through to the customer
through the FAC would be minimal. For example, since September of 2008 through
February 2012, Empire has requested to pass on to its Missouri retail customers around
\$15.9 million of increased fuel and energy costs through the FAC. This represents a
change in Missouri jurisdictional energy costs of about 3.5 percent during the past three
and a half years, and an overall change in Missouri jurisdictional retail revenue of about
1.2 percent during the last 42 months.

8 Although, overall, the current FAC is a great improvement over the situation that existed 9 prior to the FAC, any negative adjustment to the 95%/5% sharing mechanism could deprive Empire of a sufficient opportunity to earn a fair return on equity and thereby deny 10 11 the Company one of the major benefits an FAC was supposed to provide. During periods when fuel and purchased power costs increase between rate cases, the sharing mechanism 12 requires Empire to absorb five percent of those costs increases - which directly reduces the 13 14 Company's earnings – even though all those costs were prudently incurred. If, however, 15 the percentage of costs the Company is required to absorb under the FAC's sharing 16 mechanism is increased above the current level, the resulting effect on net income could deprive Empire of an opportunity to earn a fair return on equity. Likewise, if energy costs 17 18 would happen to fall below the FAC base, Empire's customers could be adversely 19 impacted by what I referred to as any negative adjustment to the 95%/5% sharing 20 mechanism.

Q. IS THE FAC DESIGNED TO COMPLY WITH THE PRUDENCE REVIEW PROCEDURES PRESCRIBED BY THE COMMISSION'S RULES?

23 A. Yes. Empire's FAC is flexible and allows the Commission to adjust the amount of FAC

recovery if any cost is disallowed as the result of a prudence review. As I mentioned
 earlier, the accounting procedures used by Empire will involve an audit trail that should
 facilitate the audit process associated with those periodic prudence reviews.

4 Q. DOES THE ACCOUNTING AND BILLING PROCESS IN THE FAC ENABLE 5 EMPIRE TO TRACK FAC REVENUES AS A DISCRETE LINE ITEM ON 6 CUSTOMER'S BILLS?

7 A. Yes. FAC changes/credits have been, and will continue to be, shown as a separate line
8 item on each customer's bill, and the FAC revenue will continue to be segregated on the
9 Empire books and records to facilitate the accounting and audit process.

10 Q. WILL EMPIRE'S CUSTOMERS BE NOTIFIED OF THE REQUEST TO 11 CONTINUE THE FAC?

- A. Yes. In addition, to the normal notice requirements for a general rate filing, Empire has
 prepared a notice that describes the request to continue the existing FAC. I have attached
 an exemplar copy of this notice as Schedule TWT-4.
- 15

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE FAC WORKS.

16 Α. As shown on Schedule TWT-2 (the existing FAC tariff), the application of the tariff involves the accumulation of actual Missouri jurisdictional energy costs over a six-month 17 18 period, comparing that cost accumulation to the base cost of energy built into the Missouri 19 jurisdictional rates, and then determining the amount of over/under recovery of energy 20 Ninety-five percent (95%) of this over/under recovery balance is then costs. 21 billed/credited to Empire's Missouri retail customers over a six-month billing period that 22 immediately follows the six-month accumulation period. In addition, 95 percent of the 23 actual Missouri jurisdictional off-system sales are flowed through the FAC as well as the

3		period associated with this accumulation period is the following June through November.
4		The process in the FAC involves changing the energy cost recovery factor twice each year,
5		once in June and again in December. Empire has filed for energy cost recovery changes
6		under the FAC, in April and October of each year since April of 2009.
7	Q.	DO THE ENERGY COSTS ELIGIBLE FOR RECOVERY THROUGH THE
8		EXISTING FAC INCLUDE THE COSTS AND/OR BENEFITS ASSOCIATED
9		WITH EMPIRE'S FUEL RISK MANAGEMENT (HEDGING) PROGRAM?
10	A.	Yes. As indicated on Schedule TWT-2, the costs eligible for recovery through the tariff
11		include Empire's fuel risk management costs, which are recorded in FERC accounts 501,
12		547 and 555.
13	Q.	WHAT IS THE TIMING OF THE SEMI-ANNUAL FAC FILINGS IN THE FAC
14		TARIFF?
15	A.	The existing tariff incorporates the following timing of actions:
16		• Filing for a change in the cost adjustment factor ("CAF") on April 1 st and October 1 st
17		each year;
18		• Staff recommendation on the filed CAF by May 1 st and November 1 st each year;
19		• Commission Approval of the CAF by June 1 st and December 1 st or CAF as filed is
20		allowed to go into effect on June 1 st and December 1 st each year.

Missouri jurisdictional portion of REC sales. As shown in Schedule TWT-2, the first six-

month accumulation period is September through February and the recovery or billing

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1	Q.	IS THE TIMING OF THESE ACTIONS DESIGNED TO BE IN ACCORDANCE
2		WITH THE COMMISSION'S RULES GOVERNING THE FILING OF PERIODIC
3		ADJUSTMENTS TO THE FAC?

A. Yes. The Staff has thirty days from the date of a CAF filing to make its recommendation
and the Commission has sixty days from the CAF filing date in which it can render a
decision concerning the cost recovery factor or allow it to go into effect by operation of
law.

8 Q. HOW DOES THE TRUE-UP OF ENERGY COST RECOVERY TAKE PLACE
 9 AND HOW ARE PRUDENCE REVIEWS SCHEDULED ACCORDING TO THE
 10 EXISTING FAC TARIFF?

A. The true-up of recovered energy costs takes place every six months. The exact timing of the prudence review has not been explicitly set out in the tariff, but the tariff specifies that prudence reviews will take place no less than every eighteen (18) months. The Commission Staff has completed two prudence reviews of Empire's existing FAC and has recommended no cost disallowances as a result of these reviews.

Q. DOES THE EXISTING FAC INCLUDE ANY RATE VOLATILITY MITIGATION FEATURES?

A. Yes, the energy cost changes that occur during the accumulation period will be spread over
 six months. This feature will fix the FAC component of a customer's bill for six months
 and will tend to smooth out energy price volatility.

Q. HAS EMPIRE CONDUCTED ANY HEAT RATE TESTING ON ITS GENERATION UNITS DURING WITHIN THE PREVIOUS TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS?

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Yes. These are included as Schedule TWT-6.

2 **Q**. ARE YOU PROVIDING ANY OTHER SUPPLY-SIDE AND DEMAND-SIDE **RESOURCE INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF EMPIRE'S REQUEST TO** 3 4 **CONTINUE THE FAC?**

- 5 Based on the Company's most recently approved budget, I am providing the A. Yes. 6 following information as required by the various subparts of 4 CSR 240-3.161(3)(P):
- 7 Schedule TWT-5 page 1, which is a list of the supply-side and demand-side resources 8 that the Company expects to use to meet its load for the next four (4) years;
- 9 Schedule TWT-5 page 2, which shows the expected dispatch (generation levels) of ٠ 10 the supply-side resources that Empire expects to utilize for the next four (4) years and 11 explains why these expected dispatch levels are appropriate;
- 12 Schedule TWT-5 page 3, which shows the expected heat rates for each supply-side ٠ 13 resource that the Company expects to utilize for the next four (4) years; and
- 14 Schedule TWT-5 page 4, which shows the fuel types utilized in each of Empire's ٠ 15 supply-side resources.
- 16 **O**. DO YOUR RESPONSES TO THE INFORMATION REQUIRED BY 4 CSR 240.3.161 (3) FILED IN THIS CASE DIFFER FROM THE INFORMATION FILED 17 18 IN RESPONSE TO THE INFORMATION AND RESPONSES REQUIRED BY 4 19 CSR 240.3.161(2)?
- 20 Α. Not materially. In the initial case authorizing Empire's FAC, which was governed by 4 21 CSR 240-3.161(2), some of the information Empire submitted dealt with the FAC tariff 22 proposed by Empire in Case No. ER-2008-0093. In this case, which is governed by 4 CSR 23 240-3.161(3), the FAC tariff we propose to continue is in existence, so the responses and

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information requirements are tailored to meet the needs of the existing FAC.

2 III. FUEL PLANNING AND PROCUREMENT

3 Q. DOES EMPIRE HAVE PROCEDURES IN PLACE DESIGNED TO ENSURE 4 THAT ITS FUEL PURCHASING IS PRUDENT?

5 A. Yes it does. Empire plans it fuel procurement activity using long-term planning and
6 maintains an active Risk Management Policy ("RMP").

7 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE EMPIRE'S RMP.

A. Empire implemented its RMP in 2001 to manage natural gas price volatility. The RMP
outlines the instruments that may be used to help manage volatility. In general terms,
Empire's RMP allows the use of financial and physical transactions to help manage price
volatility. In addition, the RMP establishes minimum quantities of natural gas in future
calendar years that are required to be price protected by a certain date.

Q. DOES EMPIRE ALSO HAVE ACCESS TO OTHER SOURCES OF ELECTRIC ENERGY THAT CAN BE USED TO OFFSET NATURAL GAS PRICE VOLATILITY?

A. Yes. In addition to its coal fired generating units, Empire also owns and operates the Ozark
Beach hydro facility. It has a capacity of about 16 MW and averages about 64,000 MWh's
of output per year. The output of this unit is limited by the water released from Table
Rock Lake and the level of water maintained on Bull Shoals Lake.

At the end of 2005, Empire began receiving electricity from the Elk River Wind Project owned by PPM Energy. Empire has a contractual commitment to purchase 100% of the output from this project for 20 years. Empire expects to receive about 550,000 MWh's per year from this project or about 10% of its overall energy supply. The energy under this

contract is purchased at a predetermined cost. Empire also entered into an agreement with
 Cloud County Windfarm, LLC, owned by Horizon Wind Energy, to purchase all of the
 output from Meridian Way Wind Farm since late December 2008. Empire anticipates
 purchasing approximately 330,000 megawatt-hours of energy under this contract annually.

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HOW DOES EMPIRE ACQUIRE THE FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER USED TO SUPPLY ELECTRICITY TO ITS CUSTOMERS?

- A. Empire's fuel and purchased power acquisition planning is performed using a three-step
 process. The steps in this process are:
- 9 Long-term Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP");
- An annual and five-year business plan;
- Updates to the annual and five-year business plans as conditions change.
- 12 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE IRP PROCESS.

13 Empire utilizes the IRP process to develop a long-term strategy to reliably serve its A. customers at the lowest possible cost. This planning process uses Empire's entire load in 14 15 all five of its jurisdictions (Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma, and the FERC). This 16 formal IRP process has been in place since the early 1990's when Missouri implemented a 17 formal IRP rule. Since that time Oklahoma and Arkansas also have implemented IRP 18 rules. Empire has thus far been allowed to use the IRP developed for filing in Missouri as 19 the basis for the IRP filings in Oklahoma and Arkansas. The IRP process that Empire uses results in a target list of future resources designed to serve Empire's projected usage and 20 21 customer levels in all jurisdictions. The resource plan selected by Empire as a result of this 22 process includes base load, intermediate, and peaking resources using a mix of fuels from coal to natural gas and renewable resources. Demand-side management programs are also 23

considered as potential resources as part of the IRP process. Empire filed its latest IRP in
 Missouri on September 3, 2010.

3 Q. HOW DOES THE SECOND STEP OF THE PLANNING PROCESS WORK?

4 A. In addition to the long range planning, Empire conducts annual financial and operational 5 planning, which is used to develop a five-year business forecast. This planning process 6 includes detailed load forecast, detailed generation unit modeling, detailed operations and 7 maintenance cost, and capital budget planning, and revenue forecast. This plan is used to 8 assess many things including the ability to raise capital, debt and equity, and the near term 9 impact on the overall cost of service. The detailed generation unit modeling developed in 10 this phase of the planning process is used as the primary source of information for the 11 development of the fuel and purchased power procurement plan.

12 Q. ARE THE ANNUAL AND FIVE-YEAR BUSINESS PLANS ADJUSTED TO 13 REFLECT CHANGES IN THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT?

A. Yes. The annual and five-year business plans are periodically refined to take into account
changes that have occurred since the plans were initially developed. Empire takes into
account changes in such things, as load growth, weather, the number of customers, fuel
prices, purchased power prices, rail transportation delays, and fuel availability. As these
refinements are made to the near term forecasts, Empire adjusts its fuel procurement plans
as necessary.

20 Q. PLEASE PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT DEMONSTRATES 21 THAT EMPIRE HAS A LONG-TERM RESOURCE PLANING PROCESS IN 22 PLACE.

23 A. Empire filed its most recently completed integrated resource plan ("IRP") in Missouri on

TODD W. TARTER DIRECT TESTIMONY

September 3, 2010 in File No. EO-2011-0066. The Commission granted Empire's request 1 2 for waivers related to this IRP in File No. EE-2010-0246 (Empire previously filed a 3 triennial compliance IRP in September 2007 in File No. EO-2008-0069). Empire prepared an IRP Annual Update Report and conducted a Stakeholder Update Session in 4 5 March 2012 in File No. EO-2012-0294 that was designed to provide an IRP update to the 6 September 2010 IRP. Following a nonunanimous stipulation and agreement in File No. 7 EO-2011-0066, Empire has been meeting quarterly with its IRP Stakeholder Advisory 8 This group consists of stakeholders such as the Staff of the Missouri Public Group. 9 Service Commission ("Staff"), the Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC"), the Missouri 10 Department of Natural Resources ("MDNR"), Dogwood Energy, LLC ("Dogwood") and 11 other interested parties. The IRP Stakeholder Advisory Group process is intended to assist 12 Empire in its selection of analytic methods and to facilitate Empire's collection and use of new data for its next IRP filing that is scheduled for April 2013. The periodic IRP analysis 13 14 in conjunction with Empire's normal planning process assists Empire in making decisions 15 concerning the timing and type of system expansion that should occur. In addition to the 16 formal IRP filing, Empire develops annual and five year business plans each year, and 17 updates these plans as conditions change. According to 4 CSR 240-22.010 - Policy 18 Objectives, which was in place during the September 2010 IRP filing, "the fundamental 19 objective of the Missouri resource planning process at electric utilities is to provide the 20 public with energy services that are safe, reliable and efficient, at just and reasonable rates, 21 in a manner that serves the public interest." As stated in Empire's recent IRP filings, 22 integrated resource planning for electric utilities has evolved considerably over the past 23 twenty years and can no longer solely identify the least cost resources; such a plan must

TODD W. TARTER DIRECT TESTIMONY

1		also explicitly consider risks and uncertainties. Empire's objectives in preparing its IRPs
2		reflect its commitment to provide cost-effective, safe, and reliable electric service to its
3		customers:
4		• to provide reliable electricity service while complying with all environmental
5		requirements
6		• to minimize the cost of providing electric service
7		• to achieve and/or maintain investment grade ratings on its debt to provide corporate
8		financial stability and minimize financing costs
9		• to accommodate and manage a broad range of industry uncertainties.
10	Q.	IS THE EXISTING FAC DESIGNED TO PRODUCE A DIFFERENT CAF FOR
11		DIFFERENT VOLTAGE LEVELS?
12	A.	Yes. The FAC includes a feature that reduces the CAF to those customers taking service at
13		primary voltage or higher. The existing expansion factors were based upon the
14		information coming from the periodic line loss studies performed by the Company.
15	Q.	ARE THERE BENEFITS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONTINUED USE OF THE
16		EXISTING EMPIRE FAC?
17	A.	Yes.
18	Q.	PLEASE EXPLAIN.
19	A.	I believe there are significant benefits for all of the Company's stakeholders. First, Empire
20		benefits by being able to recover almost all of its actual fuel and energy costs through the
21		FAC. This strengthens Empire's financial profile and enhances its ability to attract the
22		financing necessary to meet its customers' needs and to obtain that financing at the best
23		rates possible. In addition, the need to file general rate cases for the purpose of recovering

1 ongoing fuel and energy costs in base electric rates has essentially been eliminated. Over 2 time, this may reduce the overall number of electric rate cases in Missouri, and a reduction 3 in the number of general rate cases will ultimately lower Empire's regulatory costs and 4 ultimately the cost to serve Empire's Missouri customers.

5 0. WILL THE COMMISSION BENEFIT FROM THE CONTINUATION OF 6 **EMPIRE'S FAC?**

7 Yes. The Commission benefits from the continuation of Empire's FAC, because the Α. 8 number of required rate cases may be reduced as fuel and energy costs no longer drive the 9 filing of rate cases. In addition, the FAC process produces a result that is ultimately fair to 10 all sides. The utility will collect its actual cost of fuel and energy, and the customer will 11 pay for no more than the actual, prudently incurred fuel and energy cost.

12

Q. **DOES THE FAC BENEFIT THE CUSTOMER?**

13 A. Yes. In the long run, the customer benefits from the implementation and continuation of a 14 properly designed FAC. The customer will only reimburse Empire for the actual cost of 15 fuel and energy, not an estimate of future energy costs. Thus, there is no over or under 16 recovery of cost. Empire also has a stronger financial profile and an enhanced ability to 17 attract the capital necessary to operate its utility system at the best rates possible. Ultimately, this should lower the cost of operations from what it would have been without 18 19 the FAC. In addition, the FAC conveys a more accurate cost of electric energy to Empire's 20 customers. If energy costs increase, the customer will know within six months and will be in a position to make an informed decision concerning any energy efficiency measures that 21 22 could be implemented in an effort to lower consumption. The fixed energy pricing system 23 that Missouri used prior to the FAC tended to shield the customer from the true cost of

electric energy, which may hamper the customers' adoption of or participation in energy
 efficiency programs.

3 <u>IV. REVIEW OF ON-SYSTEM FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER EXPENSE FOR</u> 4 <u>BASE RATES</u>

⁵ Q. WHAT LEVEL OF ON-SYSTEM FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER EXPENSE IS ⁶ EMPIRE PROPOSING IN THIS CASE?

7 Empire has developed an on-system FPP cost level for base rates with a computer Α. production cost model that will be discussed in this testimony. On an average cost basis, 8 9 Empire estimates that ongoing FPP cost is very close to the level currently in base rates. As shown in Schedule TWT-1, the proposed total FPP for Empire FAC base is lower than 10 11 currently in base rates, even with a lower amount of RECs that are used to off set FPP costs. However, the proposed FAC base is based on a lower energy requirement. As a 12 result, the proposed FAC base is slightly higher than the current FAC base on a per unit 13 14 basis.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ON-SYSTEM FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER EXPENSE LEVEL THAT EMPIRE DEVLOPED FOR PURPOSES OF THIS CASE.

A. The FPP cost presented in this testimony is being provided as Empire's review of the
ongoing level of variable on-system FPP expense. The dispatch model run produced a
total company on-system FPP expense, excluding demand charges, natural gas
transportation and natural gas storage fixed costs ("fixed costs") and excluding AQCS
consumables and RECs ("other energy costs"), of \$149,862,710. This is based on a
projected net system energy requirement of 5,319,823 MWh. On an average basis, this

equals an average cost of \$28.17/MWh (excluding fixed costs and other energy costs). A
 cost summary from this model run is provided as Schedule TWT-7.

3 Q. HOW DID YOU ARRIVE AT THE ONGOING LEVEL OF FUEL AND 4 PURCHASED POWER EXPENSES FOR THIS CASE?

A. This ongoing level of FPP expense was developed by running the hourly production cost
 computer model known as PROSYM using normalized sales levels, growth, weather and
 outage data, and projected fuel and purchased power prices.

8 Q. COULD YOU BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE PROSYM MODEL?

A. The PROSYM model is a chronological computer model that dispatches resources to meet
demand requirements on an hourly basis. The model commits resources based on fuel
costs, unit start-up costs, and variable operation and maintenance ("O&M") costs after
accounting for operational characteristics of a utility system that may override economic
dispatch. Empire has been using chronological production costing models for projection
purposes since 1991. Empire has used the PROSYM model in its seven previous rate case
filings in Missouri.

16 V. UNIT DATA USED I

UNIT DATA USED IN THE MODEL

17 Q. ARE THERE ANY SIGNIFICANT GENERATING UNIT CHANGES USED IN 18 YOUR CURRENT MODEL RUN OF ESTIMATED FPP COSTS THAT SHOULD 19 BE NOTED?

A Yes. The Riverton Generation Station includes two small, coal-fired units known as
 Riverton Units 7 and 8. Unit 7, which is rated at 38 MW but operates at a maximum of 24
 MW net on coal, was installed in 1950. Unit 8, which is rated at 54 MW and operates at a
 maximum of 45 MW net on coal, was installed in 1954. Both units can also operate solely

TODD W. TARTER DIRECT TESTIMONY

on natural gas or over-fire with natural gas while burning coal to reach the rated capacity 1 2 levels. As outlined in Empire's most recent IRP annual update (File No. EO-2012-0294), Empire's environmental compliance plan calls for the transition of Riverton Units 7 and 8 3 from operation on coal to full operation on natural gas after the summer of 2013. These 4 units will operate on natural gas from that time and until their retirement upon the 5 6 completion of the Riverton combined cycle project in 2016. Due to the recent decline in 7 natural gas and purchased power prices, Riverton 7 & 8, which are currently 62 and 58 8 years old respectively, have, for the most part, been on economic shutdown since 9 September 2011. Because the rates from this case will likely be in place during the period 10 when these two units are operating only on natural gas, they were modeled for purposes of 11 this case to operate on natural gas and not coal. It should also be noted that there will be no additional costs to transition Riverton Units 7 and 8 to full operation on natural gas. 12 13 Unit operating characteristics such as heat rates, minimum up and down times, etc., and 14 fuel related costs have been adjusted within the model to account for these units operating 15 as natural gas peaking units, rather than base load coal units.

16 Q. PLEASE PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF THE DATA USED FOR MODELING 17 EMPIRE'S GENERATING UNITS.

A. Data used to model Empire's generating units are shown in Schedule TWT-8. These data
include each unit's rated capacity, maximum capacity, minimum capacity, heat rate curve
information, ramp rate, forced outage rate information, mean repair time, minimum down
time, minimum up time, fuel ratio, start-up fuel requirements and associated cost, and
variable O&M. The normalized outage schedule is provided in Schedule TWT-9.

23 <u>VI. FUEL DATA USED IN THE MODEL</u>

1Q.PLEASE EXPLAIN THE BASIS FOR THE COAL COSTS INCLUDED IN2EMPIRE'S PRODUCTION COST MODEL.

A. All coal costs are based on the expected 2013 delivered cost (initial and freight). The
following solid fuel types were modeled: (1) Asbury western coal; (2) Asbury blend coal; (3)
Iatan western coal; and (4) Plum Point western coal.

6 Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THE FUTURE NATURAL GAS PRICES WERE 7 DEVELOPED FOR USE IN THE MODEL.

A. The model includes the assumption that Empire's gas-fired units first burn natural gas from
the Company's natural gas hedging efforts, and secondly from the spot natural gas market, as
needed. All spot market natural gas prices are estimates for delivered prices to the Southern
Star Central Gas Pipeline, where Empire takes natural gas delivery. Both the hedged natural
gas and spot market natural gas data that were utilized in the normalized model run are based
upon the expected natural gas data for calendar year 2013. The 2013 data were taken from
Empire's Natural Gas Position report dated May, 25, 2012.

Q. WHAT WEIGHTED AVERAGE NATURAL GAS COST RESULTED FROM THE MODEL RUN?

A. In the PROSYM run, with the model utilizing a combination of the hedged and spot market natural gas fuel types, the weighted average price of the natural gas consumed by the generating units was about \$4.61 /MMBtu.

20

VII. PURCHASED POWER DATA USED IN THE MODEL

21 Q. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE HOW THE POWER PURCHASES WERE MODELED.

A. In the model, purchased power can be divided into the following categories: (1) 50 MW

23 Plum Point purchased power agreement ("PPA") (a coal-fired contract purchase); (2) 150

- 1 MW Elk River Wind Farm PPA and 105 MW Meridian Way Wind Farm PPA (wind 2 contract purchases); and (3) the wholesale power market, also referred to as spot purchases 3 (non-contract purchases).
- 4

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE PLUM POINT PPA WAS MODELED.

5 Empire has an ownership portion and a PPA portion of the Plum Point coal-fired unit. Α. 6 Both portions were modeled at 50 MW each for a total capacity from this facility of 100 7 MW. Since the ownership portion and PPA portion will both be sourced from the same 8 unit, Plum Point was modeled as 100 MW so the ownership and PPA portions would retain 9 the same random forced outage draws in the model. In the model, half of the energy is 10 assigned to the ownership portion and half to the PPA portion. From the standpoint of on-11 system FPP costs, the 50 MW PPA portion does have some additional costs associated 12 with it. The proportionate share of operating and maintenance costs, unit train costs, and environmental emissions costs were added to the Plum Point 50 MW PPA contract 13 14 purchase for the normalized on-system FPP cost estimate.

15

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE WIND FARM PURCHASES WERE MODELED.

A. The 150 MW Elk River and 105 MW Meridian Way PPAs were modeled as "must take"
purchases with hourly load profiles. Elk River was modeled at around a 42% capacity
factor while Meridian Way was modeled at around a 36% capacity factor. The energy
prices used in the model for both of these contracts were based on contract prices for 2013.

20 Q. WHAT PRICES WERE UTILIZED FOR THE SPOT OR NON-CONTRACT 21 PURCHASED ENERGY?

A. The spot purchase data in the model represent a forecast of the wholesale power market.
The data are comprised of 8,760 hourly prices. The prices used in the model were

1	developed by the consulting firm Ventyx, an ABB Company, using computer models that
2	generate market price estimates for the Southwest Power Pool North region. The power
3	prices used in the dispatch model in this case are those forecasted for year 2013.

4 <u>VIII. OTHER FUEL RELATED COSTS</u>

⁵ Q. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE OTHER FUEL RELATED COSTS THAT ARE ⁶ INCLUDED IN THE ESTIMATE OF TOTAL COMPANY ON-SYSTEM FUEL ⁷ AND PURCHASED POWER EXPENSE OF \$149,862,710 OR \$28.17 /MWH.

A. The other fuel related costs, in addition to the energy costs from the PROSYM model, are:
(1) coal related costs, such as unit train and undistributed and other costs; and (2) natural gas
related costs, such as commodity charges, undistributed and other costs and natural gas
pipeline losses.

12 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY PURCHASED POWER DEMAND CHARGES.

A. Although it is not included in the current base energy cost component for the FAC, there is
a monthly demand charge for the 50 MW Plum Point PPA. The demand charge rate (\$
/KW/month), which is established by contract, escalates at 2% annually for the first several
years of the contract. The annualized value of that has been utilized in this case represents
the expected demand charges for calendar year 2013.

18 Q. PLEASE LIST THE OTHER SOLID FUEL RELATED EXPENSES.

A. The other fuel related expenses include undistributed and other costs at the coal-fired
 facilities, unit train lease, unit train maintenance, unit train depreciation and unit train
 property taxes.

22 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE NATURAL GAS FUEL RELATED EXPENSES.

23 A. The natural gas fuel related expenses include the costs associated with commodity charges,

and natural gas pipeline losses. The commodity charge estimates are based on a rate of
 \$0.02 /MMBtu. The interstate pipeline natural gas losses are based on a natural gas loss
 rate of 2.62%.

4 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY OTHER COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE NATURAL 5 GAS STORAGE AND DELIVERY.

A. Although not included in the current base energy cost component for the FAC, other
natural gas fuel related expenses include the costs associated with firm natural gas
transportation service and natural gas storage fixed costs established by contracts. The
natural gas storage costs represent the annualized cost of a storage contract Empire
recently entered into with the Southern Star Central Pipeline ("Southern Star"). The
annualized value that has been utilized in this case for natural gas storage and natural gas
firm transportation represents the expected costs for calendar year 2013.

13 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE AQCS CONSUMABLES.

14 A. As mentioned previously, the AQCS consumables are a component of Empire's existing FAC. 15 The environmental equipment at the generating stations utilize consumable products in order 16 to perform their air quality control functions. A selective catalytic reduction ("SCR") system, 17 which removes nitrogen oxides ("NOx"), utilize ammonia. A wet scrubber, used for the 18 removal of sulfur oxides ("SOx"), utilizes limestone, while dry scrubbers utilize lime. A 19 powder activated carbon system is used for the removal of mercury. In this testimony, 20 ammonia, lime, limestone, and powder activated carbon are collectively referred to as the 21 AQCS consumables.

Q. PLEASE LIST THE EMPIRE GENERATING UNITS THAT UTILIZE AQCS CONSUMABLES AND DESCRIBE THE LEVEL OF COSTS BEING PROPOSED.

TODD W. TARTER DIRECT TESTIMONY

Ammonia is used by the SCRs at the Asbury coal-fired unit and at the State Line Combined 1 A. 2 Cycle gas-fired unit. Empire also pays for its share of all the aforementioned ACQS consumables used by the jointly-owned latan Unit 1, latan Unit 2 and Plum Point coal-3 4 fired units. The AQCS consumable costs are highly correlated to the amount of fuel 5 consumed and/or electric generation produced by these generating units, and like fuel 6 costs, the prices for the AQCS consumables are subject to variability. The annualized 7 value of consumables that have been utilized in this case represents the expected level for 8 calendar year 2013 based on the generating unit operation in the model run that was 9 described earlier. The ongoing AQCS cost is about 14.6% lower than the level in Empire's 10 existing FAC base.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE REVENUES FROM THE SALE OF RECS AND DESCRIBE THE LEVEL OF REC OFFSET TO FPP THAT IS BEING PROPOSED.

14 Empire currently receives energy from two Kansas wind farms through long-term PPAs. Α. 15 Empire also receives the renewable energy credits or RECs from these resources. Empire 16 currently sells a significant portion of the RECs from these wind farms on the open market, 17 and flows the revenue from the sales of RECs net of sales-related expenses through the 18 FAC as an offset to FPP and energy costs. The annualized value of RECs that have been 19 utilized in this case represents the expected level for calendar year 2013 based on the wind 20 farm production in the model run described earlier. This is about a 63.6% lower offset to 21 FPP costs than the level in Empire's existing FAC base. The primary reason for this 22 expected decline in REC revenue is the expiration of a REC sale contract at the end of 23 2012. Once this contract expires, the average price received per REC sold is expected to

- 1 decline considerably as the current REC market prices are much lower than the prices in
- 2 the expired contract.

3 Q. PLEASE PROVIDE A CHART OF THE ADJUSTMENTS MADE TO FUEL AND 4 PRUCHASE POWER YOU ARE SPONSORING.

5 A.

Fuel & Purchase Power Construction Accounting SWPA Refund	Test Year 173,736,800 2,376,907 (2,146,394)	Pro Forma 166,327,152 (149,423) (2,264,957)	Adjustment (7,409,648) (2,526,330) (118,563)
Total On-System F&PP	173,967,313	163,912,772	(10,054,541)
Consumables	1,965,485	1,626,017	(339,468)
Renewable Energy Credits	(1,472,413)	(552,534)	919,879

6 IX. NORMALIZED COAL INVENTORY BALANCES

7 Q. WHAT ADJUSTMENTS WERE MADE TO NORMALIZE EMPIRE'S RATE BASE 8 FOR COAL INVENTORY?

9 Α. Empire used the results of the fuel model, which was described earlier, to calculate the 10 annual amount of coal on a MMBtu basis for the various types of coal at each generating 11 plant to meet its total company normalized native load. Native load is the kilowatt or 12 megawatt demand placed on Empire's electric system by its regulated customers. As I 13 mentioned, this model run assumes that Riverton Units 7 and 8 will transition to operate 14 solely on natural gas and, therefore, will not maintain a coal inventory. To determine the 15 normalized amount of coal inventory, the average daily burn by generating unit must be 16 calculated. The average daily burn is derived by dividing the annualized MMBtu from the 17 fuel model by the difference between 365 days and the number of annual normalized 18 planned outage days. The average daily burn is then multiplied by the target number of

TODD W. TARTER DIRECT TESTIMONY

days on hand for coal inventory. The target inventory days on hand which Empire expects 1 2 to maintain is 60 days. The result is then multiplied by the cost of fuel on a \$/MMBtu basis 3 to arrive at an annualized dollar value for coal inventory. Also included in inventory balances for the Asbury and Iatan units is an estimated level of basemat coal. The Plum 4 5 Point inventory excludes basemat coal since the basemat coal has been capitalized as part 6 of the plant. Basemat coal is the bottom layer of a coal pile that is not usable as fuel due to 7 contamination by soil, clay, and other contaminants. The normalization of the coal 8 inventory resulted in an adjustment that decreased Missouri jurisdictional coal inventory 9 by \$4,326,193.

10 Х. SUMMARY

11

PLEASE PROVIDE A SUMMARY OF YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY. **Q**.

12 Α. In this case Empire is requesting the continuation of its FAC. One section of this 13 testimony provided the information required for an FAC continuation filing. In conjunction 14 with the continuation of the current FAC, Empire has estimated the level of 2013 on-15 system FPP expenses in order to rebase the FAC as part of this case. Empire has simulated 16 a dispatch of its generation system using the PROSYM production cost model to determine 17 an estimate of annualized and normalized total company FPP expense. Schedule TWT-7 is 18 a summary of the PROSYM model run and Schedule TWT-1 is a comparison of Empire's 19 existing FAC base and the proposed FAC base pending any true up runs in this case.

20 HOW DOES THIS ESTIMATED COST LEVEL COMPARE TO THE AVERAGE **Q**. 21 BASE ENERGY COSTS BUILT INTO EMPIRE'S EXISTING MISSOURI RATES 22 AND EMPIRE'S EXISTING MISSOURI FAC?

23 Α. The average energy costs built into Empire's current base rates (excluding purchase demand

charges, natural gas firm transportation and fixed natural gas storage costs) equals \$28.23
 MWh. The comparable estimate of future average energy costs presented in this testimony
 for the 2013 timeframe equals \$28.37 per MWh, an increase of \$0.15 per MWh or
 approximately 0.5 percent.

5 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?

6 A. Yes, at this time.

SCHEDULE TWT-1

Based on Gas Price of	69	5.65	69	4.61				
FUFI FUFI	Curre Toti	Current FAC Base Total Company	Propo <u>Tot</u>	Proposed FAC Base <u>Total Company</u>		Difference	% Change	
Fuel Gas Transportation - Variable Gas losses (LUF) at Cost of Gas AQCS Consumables (Ammonia, Limestone, PAC)-Variable Total Fuel	ფ ფ ფ <mark>ფ</mark>	100,572,857 100,358 823,712 1,905,037 103,401,964		94,314,546 156,729 946,264 1,626,017 97,043,556	<u> </u>	(6,258,311) 56,372 122,551 (279,020) (6,358,408)	-6.2% 56.2% 14.9% -14.6%	
FUEL RELATED COSTS Total Fuel-Related Costs TOTAL FUEL AND RELATED COSTS	69 69	4,002,880 107,404,844	ся ся	3,693,117 100,736,673	የን የን	(309,763) (6,668,171)	-7.7% -6.2%	
PURCHASED POWER ENERGY CHARGES Purchased power energy 50 MW Plum Point O&M Cost-Variable Purchased power energy	လ လ လ	44,839,700 2,978,039 47,817,739		47,386,230 3,365,823 50,752,053	የ የ የ	2,546,530 387,784 2,934,314	5.7% 13.0% 8.1%	
LESS: Renewable Energy Credits-Variable Benefit of Natural Gas Storage-Variable Totał	ფ. ფ. ფ.	(1,516,715) (1,133,004) (2,649,719)	69 69	(552,534) (552,534)	የ የ የ	964,181 1,133,004 2,097,185	-63.6% - 100.0% - 79.1%	
Fuel and Purchased Power Adjustment for Settlement Purposes	θ	776,200			θ	(776,200)	-100.0%	
TOTAL FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER FOR EMPIRE FAC BASE	Ś	153,349,064	Ś	150,936,193	ŝ	(2,412,871)	-1.6%	
Total kWh's		5,432,910,685		5,319,822,612	·	-113,088,072	-2.1%	
Base Cost per kWh					⇔	0.00015	0.5%	
Base Cost per MWh					в	0.15	0.5%	
Other Energy Related Costs not included in FAC	:							

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\$ 5,948,773 \$ 5,962,452 \$ 9,037,350 \$ 9,370,491 \$ 1,131,500 \$ 1,131,500	67 69	ECs other fixed costs not in FAC) \$ 152,960,742 \$ 149,862,710
Gas Transportation - Fixed Plum Point PPA Demand Charge - Fixed SSCGP Natural Gas Storage - Fixed	TOTAL F&PP WITH FIXED COSTS (excludes consumables and RECs)	ENERGY ONLY (excludes consumables, RECs other

THE EMPIRE DISTRICT EI	ECTRIC COMP	ANY			SCHEDU	DULE TWT-2	
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The two six-month accumulation periods, the two six-month recovery periods and filing dates will be as follows:

	ACCUMULATION	RECOVERY	ACCUMULATION	RECOVERY
	PERIOD	PERIOD	PERIOD	PERIOD
	SEPTEMBER	JUNE	MARCH	DECEMBER
	OCTOBER	JULY	APRIL	JANUARY
	NOVEMBER	AUGUST	MAY	FEBRUARY
	DECEMBER	SEPTEMBER	JUNE	MARCH
	JANUARY	OCTOBER	JULY	APRIL
	FEBRUARY	NOVEMBER	AUGUST	MAY
Filing date:		April 1 st		October 1 st

The Company will make a Cost Adjustment Factor ("CAF") filing by each Filing Date. The new CAF rates for which the filing is made will be applicable starting with the recovery period that begins following the Filing Date. All CAF filings shall be accompanied by detailed workpapers supporting the filing in an electronic format with all formulas intact.

DEFINITIONS

ACCUMULATION PERIOD:

The six calendar months during which the actual costs subject to this rider will be accumulated for purposes of determining the CAF.

RECOVERY PERIOD:

The billing months during which CAF is applied to retail customer billings on a per kilowatt-hour (kWh) basis.

BASE ENERGY COST:

Base Energy Cost in this FAC are calculated using the costs included in the revenue requirement upon which Empire's general rates are set for fuel including the costs associated with the Company's fuel hedging program; purchased power energy charges, including applicable transmission fees; Southwest Power Pool variable costs, Air Quality Control System consumables, such as anhydrous ammonia, limestone, and powder activated carbon, and emission allowance costs, but not purchased power demand costs as off-set by off-system sales revenue, any emission allowance revenues, and renewable energy credit revenues in the accumulation period.

BASE ENERGY COST PER kWh:

Base energy cost per kWh at the generator, established in the most recent base rate case. The base energy cost per kWh is \$0.02823 for each accumulation period.

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For <u>ALL TERRITORY</u>							
FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE SCHEDULE FAC							
		on and after Jun					

APPLICATION

FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE

The average price per kWh of electricity generated or purchased will be adjusted subject to application of the FAC, and approved by the Public Service Commission. The price will reflect 95 percent of the accumulation period costs either above or below base costs specified below for:

- 1. Fuel and AQCS consumables consumed in Company electric generating plants;
- 2. Purchased energy (excluding demand);
- 3. Off-system sales revenue;
- 4. Emission allowance costs and revenues; and
- 5. Renewable energy credit revenues.

It will also include:

- 6. An adjustment for the prior recovery period's over/under recovery of FAC Costs;
- 7. Interest at a rate equal to the Company's short-term interest rate will be applied to the average monthly deferred electric energy costs and will be accumulated during the accumulation period. Deferred electric energy cost shall be determined monthly. The monthly deferred amount may be negative or positive during the accumulation period.

The formula and components are displayed below.

Where:

- F = Actual total cost of fuel FERC Accounts 501 & 547 (excluding fixed pipeline reservation charges and fixed pipeline storage charges), and AQCS consumables FERC Account 506.2.
- P = Actual total system cost of purchased energy FERC Account 555 (excluding purchase power demand charges).
- E = Actual total system net emission allowance cost and revenues FERC Accounts 509 & 254.103.
- O = Actual total system off-system sales revenue.
- B = Base energy cost is calculated as follows:

1. For each accumulation period

B = (NSI kWh * \$0.02823)

NSI = Actual net system input at the generation level for the accumulation period.

THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMP		SCHEDULE TWT-2			
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- R = Renewable energy credit revenues.
- J = Missouri energy ratio calculated as follows:

Missouri energy ratio =<u>Missouri retail kWh sales</u> Total system kWh sales

Where Total system kWh sales excludes off-system sales.

- C = True-up of over/under recovery of FAC balance from prior recovery period as included in the deferred energy cost balancing account. This factor will reflect any modifications made due to prudence reviews.
- I = Interest.

COST ADJUSTMENT FACTOR

The CAF is the result of dividing the FAC by estimated recovery period Missouri net system input (NSI) kWh, rounded to the nearest \$.00000. The CAF shall be adjusted to reflect the differences in line losses that occur at primary and above voltage and secondary voltage by multiplying the average cost at the generator by 1.0502 and 1.0686, respectively. Any CAF authorized by the Commission shall be billed based upon customers' energy usage on and after the authorized effective date of the CAF. The formula and components are displayed below.

Where:

S = Forecasted Missouri NSI kWh for the recovery period. Missouri NSI kWh is calculated as:

Missouri NSI = Forecasted NSI * Forecasted Missouri retail kWh sales Forecasted total system kWh sales

Where Forecasted Total System kWh Sales excludes off-system sales.

PRUDENCE REVIEW

There shall be a periodic review of fuel and energy costs subject to the FAC and a comparison of the FAC revenue collected. Prudence reviews shall occur no less frequently than at eighteen (18) month intervals.

TRUE-UP OF FAC

After completion of each recovery period, the Company will make a true-up filing in conjunction with an adjustment to its FAC on the first Filing Date that occurs after completion of each recovery period. The true-up adjustment shall be the difference between the revenues billed in the recovery period to the costs authorized for collection in the recovery period, i.e. the true-up adjustment. Any true-up adjustments or refunds shall be reflected in item C above and shall include interest calculated as provided for in item I above.

DATE EFFECTIVE June 15, 2011

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ACCUMULATION PERIOD ENDING, (Feb 29, 2012)

1.	Total energy cost (F + P + E – O - R)	\$65,773,548
2.	Base energy cost (B)	\$70.393,679
3.	Missouri energy ratio (J)	0.8188
4.	Fuel cost recovery [(F + P + E – O - R) – B] * J * 0.95	\$(3,608,949)
5.	Adj for over/under recovery for the recovery period ending 11-30-2011 (C)	\$(230,875)
6.	Interest (I)	\$29,016
7.	Fuel Adjustment Clause (FAC)	\$(3,810,809)
8.	Forecasted Missouri NSI for the recovery period (S)	2,230,199,532
9.	Cost Adjustment Factor (CAF) to be applied to bills beginning 06-01-2012	\$(0.00171) / kWh
10.	CAF - Primary and above (Line 9 x Primary Expansion Factor)	\$(0.00180) / kWh
11.	CAF - Secondary (Line 9 x Secondary Expansion Factor)	\$ (0.00183) / kWh
	Primary Expansion Factor = 1.0502 Secondary Expansion Factor = 1.0686	

DATE EFFECTIVE ____June 1, 2012

Example Customer Bill

Account Detail

	re, MO 11111	Rate: RG-Residential
8237 From 06/20/12 to 07/20/12 (30 Day	s), Curr Read - 13701 Prev Read - 12701. To	aling 1.000 KwH
Customer Charge	1 x 12.52	\$12.52
Usage Charge	1000кwн х .107	\$107.00
Fuel Adjust Charge	1000kwh x (.00183)	(\$1.83)
Anywhere County Tax	117,69 x .00875	\$1.03
	Current Months Charges:	\$118.72
APP Installment		
		\$117.00
	Billed Charges:	\$117.00
-		
16 Status before payment is \$1.54, afte	payment in full \$3.26. This account will be re-	evaluated in May.
	8237 From 06/20/12 to 07/20/12 (30 Days Customer Charge Usage Charge Fuel Adjust Charge Anywhere County Tax	Usage Charge 1000kwH x .107 Fuel Adjust Charge 1000kwH x (.00183) Anywhere County Tax 117.69 x .00875 Current Months Charges: APP Installment

- 7) Service address this is important for customers who have multiple accounts with Empire.
- 8) Meter number, previous meter read, current meter read, and usage information.
- 9) Empire service includes a fixed monthly customer charge, no matter how much electricity is used.
- 10) The usage charge is for the kilowatt hours (кwн) used by a customer. The charge for each кwн used by a customer from June 16 through September 16 is \$0.107 per кwн. The charge for electricity for the other eight months of each year is \$0.107 per кwH for the first 600кwH and \$0.0871 for each kwH thereafter.
- 11) The charge for the difference between fuel and purchased power costs established in the current rate structure and the actual fuel and purchased power costs incurred by Empire. This rate changes twice a year. If fuel costs are less than what is established by the current rates, customers will see a credit in the Fuel Charge line. The cost includes no markup or profit for Empire.
- 12) Taxes, fees, and other assessments.
- 13) Total charges for the billing period.
- 14) APP, average payment plan, is a payment contract that calculates a customer's expected annual usage and divides it into 12 equal payments. Each month one payment installment is due from the customer. At the end of 12 months the actual usage is reviewed and a customer's contract and installments are adjusted for the next 12 months.
- 15) The amount due from the customer by the due date.
- 16) Important information about a customer's payment contract.

SCHEDULE TWT-4

EXEMPLARY NOTICE

On July x, 2012 The Empire District Electric Company filed revised electric service tariff sheets with the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) which would increase the Company's Missouri jurisdictional annual gross revenues by \$30.7 million or approximately 7.56 percent. For a residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity a month, the proposed increase would be approximately \$8.70 each month.

The Company is also asking to continue the use of the Fuel Adjustment Clause (FAC) that was approved by the PSC in its last case with an updated base cost of energy. The continuation of the FAC will allow the Company to adjust customers' bills twice each year, on June 1st and December 1st, based on the varying costs of fuel used to generate electricity at the Company's generating units and electric energy the Company purchases on behalf of its customers.

Local public hearings have been set before the PSC as follows:

- At (time), (day of the week), (month) (day), 20xx, at Webster Hall, Missouri Southern State University, 3950 E. Newman Road, Joplin, Missouri.

- At (time), (day of the week), (month) (day), 20xx, at Webster Hall, Missouri Southern State University, 3950 E. Newman Road, Joplin, Missouri.

- At (time) (day of the week), (month) (day), 20xx, at the Tri-Lakes TCRC, University of Missouri Extension at Reeds Spring High School, ITV Room, 20277 State Highway 413 (in the South Wing of Reeds Spring High School), Reeds Spring, Missouri.

*A question-and-answer session will be held one-half hour before the beginning of each hearing.

If you wish to comment or secure information, you may contact the Office of the Public Counsel, P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, telephone (866) 922-2959, email opcservice@ded.mo.gov or the Missouri Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 360 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, telephone 800-392-4211,email pscinfo@psc.mo.gov.

The Commission will also conduct an evidentiary hearing at its offices in Jefferson City during the weeks of (month) (day) through (month) (day), and (month) (day) through (month) (day), beginning at 8:30 a.m.

The hearings and local public hearings will be held in buildings that meet accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. If a customer needs additional accommodations to participate in these hearings, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 prior to the hearing.

Schedule TWT-6

Unit	Date of test	Heat rate (Btu/kWh)
Asbury	6/29/2010	10,817
Riverton 7	7/23/2010-7/26/2010	14,427
Riverton 8	7/19/2010-7/22/2010	13,714
Riverton 9	7/21/2010	16,443
Riverton 10	7/16/2010	15,608
Riverton 11	7/27/2010	15,365
Riverton 12	7/16/2010	10,283
Energy Center 1	8/2/2010	13,547
Energy Center 2	8/3/2010	13,671
Energy Center 3	8/3/2010	10,546
Energy Center 4	8/4/2010	10,578
State Line 1	8/4/2010	11,410
SLCC	6/22/2010	7,080
latan 1	*	*
latan 2	*	*
Plum Point	1/17/2012	9,477

* Please refer to the KCP&L filing

Schedule TWT-8

Thermai Unit Model Inputs

				Heat Ra	Heat Rate Curve								Start		
	Rated	Modeld Max	Modeld Min					Forced	Mean						
	Capacity (MW)	Capacity (MW)	_	Capacity (MW)	Heat Rate (Btu/kWh)	Ramp Rate (MW/hr)	Normalized Outage (Davs)	Cuage Rate	Time Time	Min Down Time	Min Up Time	Fuel Ratio	Fuet	Cost	Variable O&M
Asbury 1	189	181	135	110 140 188 188 189	11485 11230 11135 11180 11210	06	0 B	5.5%	60	06		94% / 6%	1200 (oil)	2500	0.60
Asbury 2	18	16	4	4 18	18300 18200	ω	30	20%	60	60		94% / 6%	0	0	5.00
latan 1	85	82	40	70 85	10100 10025	06	29	8.0%	60	60	168	100%	1200 (oil)	2500	0.60
latan 2	102	100	60	60 102	9200 9200	06	27	8.1%	60	60	168	100%	1200 (oil)	2500	0,60
Plum Point	100	100	60	60 100	9750 9750	06	27	7.0%	60	60	168	100%	1200 (oil)	2500	0.60
Riverton 7 (Gas)	38	35	20	20 27 35	12700 12700 12700	40	12	2.0%	48	6	ω		600 (gas)	300	4.00
Riverton 8 (Gas)	54	50	30	30 46 54	12300 12300 12300	40	12	2%	72	6	ω		600 (gas)	3000	4.00
Riverton 9	12	12	4	4 (18500 17500	9	12	10%	60	24	œ		50 (gas)	1500	3.75
Riverton 10	16	16	9	6 16	18500 17500	8	12	10%	60	24	80		50 (gas)	1500	3.75
Riverton 11	17	17	10	10 16	18500 18000	œ	12	10%	60	24	ω		50 (gas)	1500	3.75
Riverton 12	Summer 142 Winter 160	142	118	90 105 135 142	11774 11106 10604 10230 10230	60	თ	10%	72	10	41		150 (gas)	11,000	3.62
Energy Center 1	82	76	30	30 67 98	19500 16500 14800 13600	60	17	10%	72	24	12		150 (gas)	5000	3.00
Energy Center 2	82	75	30	30 72 95	20200 17200 14500 13900	60	17	10%	72	24	12		150 (gas)	5000	3.00
Energy Center 3	49 Summer 55 Winter		25	30 62	12240 10100	40	15	10%	60	2	2		0	300	3.00
Energy Center 4	49 Summer 55 Winter	49 Summer 55 Winter	25	30 62	12240 10100	40	15	10%	60	2	2	 	0	300	3.00
State Line 1	94	68	80	60 85	14750 13425	60	15	10%	120	24	24		150 (gas)	5000	3.00
SLCC 1x1	Summer 149 Winter 167	149	72	7,801 1900 1900 1900 1900 1900 1900 1900 1	8700 8025 7500 7250 7200	06	26	7%	72	36	72		300 (gas)	13,000	3.50
SLCC 2x1	Summer 149 Winter 167	149	06	90 120 145 149	7075 6900 6875 6875 6875 6875	20	26	14%	72	36	72		300 (gas)	2500	3.00
							-]

Schedule TWT-9

	Annual	Outage 1		Outa	ae 2
Unit	Days	Start Date	Days Out	Start Date	Days Out
ASBURY	30	15-Mar	21	1-Nov	9
IATAN 1	29	5-Apr	29		
IATAN 2	27	4-May	27		
PLUM POINT	27	4-Oct	27		<u> </u>
RIVERTON 7	12	5-Apr	12		
RIVERTON 8	12	26-Apr	12		
RIVERTON 9	12	17-May	12		
RIVERTON 10	12	1-Nov	12		** • • • • •
RIVERTON 11	12	31-May	12		
RIVERTON 12	9	26-Apr	9	f	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
ENERGY CENTER 1	17	30-Mar	10	8-Nov	7
ENERGY CENTER 2	17	12-Apr	10	4-Oct	7
ENERGY CENTER 3	15	10-May	10	18-Oct	5
ENERGY CENTER 4	15	22-May	10	25-Oct	5
STATELINE 1	15	8-Mar	10	15-Nov	5
SLCC 1X1	26	29-Mar	26		
SLCC 2X1	26	11-Oct	26		

Normalized Maintenance Schedule Used for Modelling

THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC C	OMPANY			SCHEDULE IV	VI-10
P.S.C. Mo. No. 5	Sec.	4	1st	Revised Sheet No.	<u> 17h </u>
Canceling P.S.C. Mo. No5	Sec.	4		Original Sheet No.	17h
ForALL TERRITORY					

FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE
SCHEDULE FAC
For service on and after XX-XX-XXXX.

The two six-month accumulation periods, the two six-month recovery periods and filing dates will be as follows:

:	ACCUMULATION	RECOVERY	ACCUMULATION	RECOVERY
	PERIOD	PERIOD	PERIOD	PERIOD
	SEPTEMBER	JUNE	MARCH	DECEMBER
	OCTOBER	JULY	APRIL	JANUARY
	NOVEMBER	AUGUST	MAY	FEBRUARY
	DECEMBER	SEPTEMBER	JUNE	MARCH
	JANUARY	OCTOBER	JULY	APRIL
	FEBRUARY	NOVEMBER	AUGUST	MAY
Filing date:		April 1 st		October 1 st

The Company will make a Cost Adjustment Factor ("CAF") filing by each Filing Date. The new CAF rates for which the filing is made will be applicable starting with the recovery period that begins following the Filing Date. All CAF filings shall be accompanied by detailed workpapers supporting the filing in an electronic format with all formulas intact.

DEFINITIONS

ACCUMULATION PERIOD:

The six calendar months during which the actual costs subject to this rider will be accumulated for purposes of determining the CAF.

RECOVERY PERIOD:

The billing months during which CAF is applied to retail customer billings on a per kilowatt-hour (kWh) basis.

BASE ENERGY COST:

Base Energy Cost in this FAC are calculated using the costs included in the revenue requirement upon which Empire's general rates are set for fuel including the costs associated with the Company's fuel hedging program; purchased power energy charges, including applicable transmission fees; Southwest Power Pool variable costs, Air Quality Control System consumables, such as anhydrous ammonia, limestone, and powder activated carbon, and emission allowance costs, but not purchased power demand costs as off-set by off-system sales revenue, any emission allowance revenues, and renewable energy credit revenues in the accumulation period.

BASE ENERGY COST PER kWh:

Base energy cost per kWh at the generator, established in the most recent base rate case. The base energy cost per kWh is \$0.02837 for each accumulation period.

DATE EFFECTIVE ____ August 5, 2012

THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMP	PANY			SCHEDULE TW	VT-10
P.S.C. Ma. No	Sec.	4	<u>1st</u>	Revised Sheet No.	<u> </u>
Canceling P.S.C. Mo. No5	Sec.	4	<u></u>	Original Sheet No.	17
For ALL TERRITORY					
		USTMENT C HEDULE FAC and after XX	0	, giftingen och förstation strang	

APPLICATION FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE

The average price per kWh of electricity generated or purchased will be adjusted subject to application of the FAC, and approved by the Public Service Commission. The price will reflect 95 percent of the accumulation period costs either above or below base costs specified below for:

- 1. Fuel and AQCS consumables consumed in Company electric generating plants;
- 2. Purchased energy (excluding demand);
- 3. Off-system sales revenue;
- 4. Emission allowance costs and revenues; and
- 5. Renewable energy credit revenues.

It will also include:

- 6. An adjustment for the prior recovery period's over/under recovery of FAC Costs;
- 7. Interest at a rate equal to the Company's short-term interest rate will be applied to the average monthly deferred electric energy costs and will be accumulated during the accumulation period. Deferred electric energy cost shall be determined monthly. The monthly deferred amount may be negative or positive during the accumulation period.

The formula and components are displayed below.

Where:

- F = Actual total cost of fuel FERC Accounts 501 & 547 (excluding fixed pipeline reservation charges and fixed pipeline storage charges), and AQCS consumables FERC Account 506.2.
- P = Actual total system cost of purchased energy FERC Account 555 (excluding purchase power demand charges).
- E = Actual total system net emission allowance cost and revenues FERC Accounts 509 & 254.103.
- O = Actual total system off-system sales revenue.
- B = Base energy cost is calculated as follows:
 - 1. For each accumulation period

B = (NSI kWh * \$0.02837)

NSI = Actual net system input at the generation level for the accumulation period.

THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPA	ANY		SCHEDULE TW	/ T -10
P.S.C. Mo. No5	Sec. <u>4</u>	1st	Revised Sheet No.	<u> </u>
Canceling P.S.C. Mo. No5	Sec. <u>4</u>		Original Sheet No.	<u> </u>
For ALL TERRITORY				
	FUEL ADJUSTME SCHEDUL For service on and at	E FAC	ay na ang ang ang ang ang ang ang ang ang 	

- R = Renewable energy credit revenues.
- J = Missouri energy ratio calculated as follows:

Missouri energy ratio =<u>Missouri retail kWh sales</u> Total system kWh sales

Where Total system kWh sales excludes off-system sales.

- C = True-up of over/under recovery of FAC balance from prior recovery period as included in the deferred energy cost balancing account. This factor will reflect any modifications made due to prudence reviews.
- i = Interest.

COST ADJUSTMENT FACTOR

The CAF is the result of dividing the FAC by estimated recovery period Missouri net system input (NSI) kWh, rounded to the nearest \$.00000. The CAF shall be adjusted to reflect the differences in line losses that occur at primary and above voltage and secondary voltage by multiplying the average cost at the generator by 1.0502 and 1.0686, respectively. Any CAF authorized by the Commission shall be billed based upon customers' energy usage on and after the authorized effective date of the CAF. The formula and components are displayed below.

Where:

S = Forecasted Missouri NSI kWh for the recovery period. Missouri NSI kWh is calculated as:

Missouri NSI = Forecasted NSI * Forecasted Missouri retail kWh sales Forecasted total system kWh sales

Where Forecasted Total System kWh Sales excludes off-system sales.

PRUDENCE REVIEW

There shall be a periodic review of fuel and energy costs subject to the FAC and a comparison of the FAC revenue collected. Prudence reviews shall occur no less frequently than at eighteen (18) month intervals.

TRUE-UP OF FAC

After completion of each recovery period, the Company will make a true-up filing in conjunction with an adjustment to its FAC on the first Filing Date that occurs after completion of each recovery period. The true-up adjustment shall be the difference between the revenues billed in the recovery period to the costs authorized for collection in the recovery period, i.e. the true-up adjustment. Any true-up adjustments or refunds shall be reflected in item C above and shall include interest calculated as provided for in item 1 above.

DATE EFFECTIVE ____ August 5, 2012

THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY				SCHEDULE TW	/T-10
P.S.C. Mo. No. 5	Sec.	4	3rd	Revised Sheet No.	17k
Canceling P.S.C. Mo. No5	Sec.	4	2nd	Revised Sheet No.	<u>17k</u>
For ALL TERRITORY					
Fo	SC	JUSTMENT C CHEDULE FAC	;		

ACCUMULATION PERIOD ENDING, (XX-XX-XXXX)

1.	Total energy cost (F + P + E – O - R)	\$XXXXXXXX
2.	Base energy cost (B)	\$XXXXXXXX
3.	Missouri energy ratio (J)	XXXXX
4.	Fuel cost recovery [(F + P + E - O - R) - B] * J * 0.95	\$XXXXXXX
5.	Adj for over/under recovery for the recovery period ending XX-XX-XXXX (C)	\$XXXXXX
6.	Interest (I)	\$XXXXX
7.	Fuel Adjustment Clause (FAC)	\$XXXXXXX
8 .	Forecasted Missouri NSI for the recovery period (S)	XXXXXXXXXX
9.	Cost Adjustment Factor (CAF) to be applied to bills beginning XX-XX-XXXX	\$XXXXXX / kWh
10.	CAF - Primary and above (Line 9 x Primary Expansion Factor)	\$XXXXXXX / kWh
11.	CAF - Secondary (Line 9 x Secondary Expansion Factor)	\$XXXXXX / kWh
	Primary Expansion Factor = 1.0502 Secondary Expansion Factor = 1.0686	

AFFIDAVIT OF TODD W. TARTER

STATE OF MISSOURI)) ss COUNTY OF JASPER)

On the <u>2nd</u> day of July, 2012, before me appeared Todd W. Tarter, to me personally known, who, being by me first duly sworn, states that he is Manager of Strategic Planning of The Empire District Electric Company and acknowledges that he has read the above and foregoing document and believes that the statements therein are true and correct to the best of his information, knowledge and belief.

Todel h

Todd W. Tarter

Subscribed and sworn to before me this <u>2nd</u> day of July, 2012.

ANGELA M. CLOVEN Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Commissioned for Jasper County My Commission Expires: November 01, 2015 Commission Number: 11262659

Notary Public

My commission expires: ____

11/01/2015.