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**FILED**<sup>3</sup>

DEC 15 1999 *rb*

Missouri Public  
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December 15, 1999

**FILED**<sup>3</sup>

DEC 15 1999

*Missouri Public*  
*Service Commission*

*EM-2000-369*

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

**Re: UtiliCorp United Inc. and The Empire District Electric Company**

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing please find an original and fourteen copies of the Joint Application of UtiliCorp United Inc. and The Empire District Electric Company for authority to merge The Empire District Electric Company with and into UtiliCorp United Inc. and, in connection therewith, certain other related transactions. Included with the Joint Application is the direct testimony and schedules of the following witnesses: Myron W. McKinney, Robert K. Green, John W. McKinney, Robert B. Fancher, Vern J. Siemek, Stephen L. Pella, Vicki M. Heider, Richard C. Kreul, Robert W. Holzwarth, Robert B. Browning, James E. Karlin, and Jerry D. Myers.

Would you please see that this filing is brought to the attention of the appropriate Commission personnel.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C.

By:

*James C. Swearingen*  
James C. Swearingen

JCS/rhg

Enclosures

cc: Office of the Public Counsel