

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

In the Matter of the tariff filing of The )  
Empire District Electric Company )  
to implement a general rate increase for ) Case No. ER-2006-0315  
retail electric service provided to customers )  
in its Missouri service area )

**INFORMATION IN RESPONSE TO COMMISSION REQUEST**

Comes now The Empire District Electric Company (“Empire”), and respectfully provides the following information to the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”) in response to a Commission request:

1. On September 8, 2006, during the hearing of this case, Commissioner Gaw requested information concerning eligibility for the Project Help program. Transcript, p. 507-08. The Empire witness, Ms. McCormack, committed to provide additional information about that program.

2. Attached hereto as **Appendix A** and **Appendix B** are the descriptions of the Project Help program found on the Red Cross and Empire web sites, respectively.

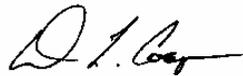
3. These documents provide a description of who is eligible for Project Help support. Specifically, to “be eligible for Project Help applicants must be 55 years of age or older, or be disabled to the extent that they cannot economically self-sufficient and have no other resource available. The Red Cross will verify each applicant's eligibility.” Thus, The Red Cross does consider individual income and expense in making a decision on assistance.

4. Additionally, there is a limit of \$150.00 every six months per family. In 2005, 185 families were assisted, with 80 of those qualifying because of an applicant

that was over 55 years of age and 105 qualifying because of a disabled applicant. The total assistance provided for 2005 was \$26,601.

WHEREFORE, Empire respectfully requests that the Commission consider this information to be responsive to the Commission request.

Respectfully submitted,



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## **Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was electronically transmitted, sent by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, or hand-delivered, on this 29<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2006, to:

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