

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

In the matter of Application for Variances by )	
The Empire District Electric Company and )	<b><u>Case No. EE-2012-0352</u></b>
The Empire District Gas Company to Allow for )	Tariff No. JE-2012-0603
Electronic Billing for Water, Electric, and Gas )	Tariff No. JG-2012-0604
Services. )	Tariff No JW-2012-0605

**RECOMMENDATION TO GRANT VARIANCES AND APPROVE TARIFF SHEETS**

**COMES NOW** the Staff ("Staff") of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"), and for its *Recommendation to Grant Variances and Approve Tariff Sheets* states as follows:

1. On April 17, 2012, The Empire District Gas Company and The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire") jointly asked the Commission for variances from Commission Rules 4 CSR 240-13.015(1)(B) and (T).
2. Empire requested these variances so that they may offer electronic billing to their customers.
3. Empire also filed tariff sheets, effective May 17, 2012, to implement the proposed electronic billing.
4. In the attached Memorandum (Appendix A) Staff recommends that the Commission issue an order that (1) grants to Empire the requested variances from Commission Rules 4 CSR 240-13.015(1)(B) and (T), and (2) approves the following proposed tariff sheets, as filed on April 17, 2012, to go into effect for service on and after May 17, 2012, the requested effective date:

Electric P.S.C. Mo. No. 5, Section 5  
7<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 2 Canceling 6<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 2

Gas     P.S.C. MO. No. 2  
1<sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet No. R-3 Canceling Original Sheet No. R-3  
1<sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet No. R-4 Canceling Original Sheet No. R-4

Water   P.S.C. Mo. No. 4, Section 2  
1<sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet No. 2 Cancelling Original Sheet No. 2  
1<sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet No. 3 Cancelling Original Sheet No. 3 (substituted)

**WHEREFORE,** Staff submits its *Recommendation to Grant Variances and Approve Tariff Sheets.*

Respectfully submitted,

THE STAFF OF THE  
MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

/s/ Sarah Kliethermes  
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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2012.

/s/ Sarah Kliethermes