

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI,

FILED⁴

DEC 12 2005

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of the Empire District)
Electric Company of Joplin, Missouri,)
for Authority to File Tariffs Increasing)
Rates for Water Service Provided)
To Customers in the Missouri)
Service Area of the Company.)

Case No. WR-2006-0215

REQUEST FOR LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING

COMES NOW, the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel), pursuant to 4 CSR 240-3.635(1)(E), and respectfully requests that the Missouri Public Service Commission schedule a local public hearing in this matter. This request is made for the reason that Public Counsel has received numerous letters, emails and telephone calls from Empire District Electric Company of Joplin, Missouri, customers protesting the proposed increased water service rates.

Further, Public Counsel respectfully suggests that the Commission allow customers to file written comments at the hearing in lieu of appearing to testify in person.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

/s/ Mark D. Wheatley

By: _____

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered to the following this 12th day of December 2005:

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/s/ Mark D. Wheatley

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