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March 31, 2017

Morris L. Woodruff
Chief RLJ/Secretary
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Re: *The Empire District Electric Company*

Dear Mr. Woodruff:

In accordance with 4 CSR 240-20.090(4), The Empire District Electric Company (“Empire” or “Company”), hereby submits to the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”), for filing in electronic form, proposed rate schedules to adjust charges related to the Company’s approved Fuel & Purchase Power Adjustment Clause (“FAC”). The proposed rate schedules bear an issue date of March 31, 2017, and an effective date of June 1, 2017, and include the following heading:

Section	Sheet No.	Schedule	Designated	Canceling	Issued.
4	17ac	Fuel Adjustment Clause (FAC)	2nd Revised	1st Revised	September 30, 2016

During the most recent Accumulation Period (September 1, 2016 through February 28, 2017) Empire’s Missouri jurisdictional energy costs eligible for the FAC were higher than the base amount established in rates by approximately \$3.7 million . The reasons for these higher costs are explained in the direct testimony and supporting schedules of Bethany Q. King, Empire’s Manager of Strategic Planning, which is being filed in support of the proposed rate schedules. Therefore, in accordance with the terms of Empire’s approved FAC, the proposed rate schedules are designed to collect from the Missouri retail customers 95 percent of that cost increase, or approximately \$3.5 million.

In a separate filing, Empire is seeking to refund a true-up amount recovered through its approved FAC for the Recovery Period ending November 30, 2016. As explained in that filing, Empire over-collected eligible fuel and purchased power costs during that Recovery Period. Consequently, when a net over-collected amount of approximately \$9 thousand, including

interest, is added to the increased costs related to the Accumulation Period ending February 29, 2017, the proposed FAC-related rate schedules are designed to collect a total of approximately \$3.5 million to the Company's Missouri retail customers.

Also provided in electronic form are schedules containing all of the information required by 4 CSR 240-3.161(7) and all workpapers that support the proposed rate schedules.

Copies of Empire's proposed FAC-related rate schedules and all supporting materials described in this letter will be served electronically, this date, on the Commission's General Counsel, the Office of the Public Counsel, and on each party to the Company's last general rate case.

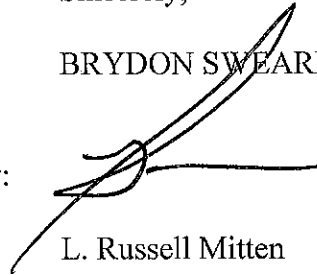
Please bring this filing to the attention of the appropriate Commission personnel and see to it that a copy of all correspondence, notices, orders, and other communications that relate to Empire's filing are furnished to Bethany Q. King, Manager of Strategic Planning, The Empire District Electric Company, 602 South Joplin Avenue, Joplin, Missouri 64802, bking@empiredistrict.com and to L. Russell Mitten, Brydon, Swearengen & England P.C., 312 East Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 456, Jefferson City, Missouri 665102-0456.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

BRYDON SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C.

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Russell Mitten', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large loop and a long horizontal stroke.

L. Russell Mitten

cc: Office of the General Counsel
Office of the Public Counsel