

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Michael and Paula Sexton,)	
)	
Complainants,)	
)	
v.)	<u>Case No. EC-2008-0315</u>
)	
Empire District Electric Co.,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

ORDER DIRECTING STAFF TO INVESTIGATE AND FILE A REPORT

Issue Date: April 7, 2008

Effective Date: April 7, 2008

Michael and Paula Sexton filed a formal complaint against The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire") on April 4, 2008. On April 7, 2008, the Commission notified Empire of the complaint and allowed it thirty days in which to answer as provided by 4 CSR 240-2.070(7).

The Commission would like to have the benefit of an investigation and report by its Staff before it further considers this matter.¹ Given the circumstances described in the complaint, Staff should be able to complete its investigation and prepare a report concerning the results of that investigation no later than two weeks after Empire files its answer, which is due no later than May 7, 2008.

¹ Empire's answer period has just begun. However, 4 CSR 240-2.070(10) states that "[t]he commission may order, at any time after the filing of a complaint, an investigation by its staff as to the cause of the complaint."

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall promptly commence an investigation of Michael and Paula Sexton's formal complaint against The Empire District Electric Company.
2. The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall file a report concerning the results of its investigation no later than two weeks after The Empire District Electric Company files its answer to the complaint.
3. This order shall become effective on April 7, 2008.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen M. Dale', written over a horizontal line.

Colleen M. Dale
Secretary

(S E A L)

Benjamin H. Lane, Regulatory Law
Judge, by delegation of authority
under Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 7th day of April, 2008.