

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

Ralph E. Pridgen, Jr.,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	Case No. EC-2008-0021
)	
The Empire District Electric Company,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

STAFF'S REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

COMES NOW the Staff ("Staff") of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"), and for its Report of Investigation respectfully states as follows:

1. In its July 18, 2007 *Notice of Complaint and Order Directing Staff Investigation*, the Commission, among other things, directed the Staff to file, no later than September 17, 2007, its Report concerning the results of its investigation of Mr. Ralph E. Pridgen's ("Complainant") formal complaint against The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire" or "Company").

2. Attached hereto as Appendix A is the Staff's Report of the results of its investigation. In accordance with Commission Rule 4CSR 240-2.070(10), Staff's Report is marked Highly Confidential ("HC").

3. The Staff has completed its investigation of this matter, and has found no violation by Empire of Commission rules or Company tariffs. The Staff recommends that the Commission deny, as impractical and ultimately unavailing, Complainant's requested relief involving the pulling and testing of other customers' meters.

WHEREFORE, the Staff respectfully submits its Report Of Investigation, as directed.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ **Dennis L. Frey**

Dennis L. Frey

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or e-mailed to all counsel of record this 17th day of September 2007.

/s/ **Dennis L. Frey**