

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

In the Matter of the Application of The Empire)	
District Electric Company for an Accounting Order)	<u>Case No. EO-2009-0233</u>
Concerning Reclassification of Certain Transmission)	
and Distribution Facilities.)	

STAFF'S STATUS REPORT

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) and respectfully states:

1. On December 1, 2008, The Empire District Electric Company (Empire) filed an application with the Commission seeking an order that would 1) grant it accounting authority to make no changes to the current classification of investment in transmission and distribution facilities recorded on Empire's books and records prior to January 1, 2008; 2) accept, as reasonable, Empire's methodology used to determine which of its transmission and distribution assets are Transmission Facilities and the resulting determinations by Empire regarding transmission and distribution assets placed in service prior to January 1, 2008, as described in its application; 3) authorize Empire to utilize the SPP criteria and definition to classify transmission and distribution assets placed in service after January 1, 2008; and 4) grant such further relief as the Commission finds to be reasonable and just.

2. On December 15, 2008, the Commission issued its *Order Directing Filing of Status Reports*. In this Order, the Commission directed the Staff to file by no later than December 31, 2008, a pleading informing the Commission when the Staff will file either a recommendation or a status report informing the Commission of when the Staff will file a recommendation.

3. Due to the analysis required by Empire's application and the demands of other cases pending before the Commission which require the Staff's attention, the Staff advises the Commission that anticipates it will be able to file its recommendation by Friday, February 20, 2009.

WHEREFORE, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission advises the Commission that it plans to file by Friday, February 20, 2009, its recommendation

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Nathan Williams

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or emailed to all counsel of record this 31st day of December 2008.

/s/ Nathan Williams