

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

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric)
Company's Application for Variance From)
Selected Provisions of the Commission's)
Rules to Electric Utility Resource Planning)

File No. EE-2015-0249

**ORDER PROVIDING NOTICE, ESTABLISHING INTERVENTION DEADLINE,
AND DIRECTING RESPONSE**

Issue Date: April 2, 2015

Effective Date: April 2, 2015

On April 1, 2015, The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire") filed an Application for Variance with the Missouri Public Service Commission, requesting that the Commission grant it variances from certain requirements of the Commission's integrated resource planning rule, 4 CSR 240-22. The purpose of the rule is to ensure that investor-owned electric utilities consider all options, including demand side efficiency and energy management measures, to provide safe, reliable, and efficient electric service to the public at reasonable rates, in a manner that serves the public interest.

Since the Commission's decision to grant or deny the requested variances may affect the substance of Empire's integrated resource plan filing, the Commission will provide notice to other potential interested parties and the public, and will establish an intervention deadline. In addition, the Commission will establish a date for its Staff and other interested parties to offer recommendations regarding Empire's request for variances.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Commission's Data Center shall mail a copy of this order to all parties to The Empire District Electric Company's current rate case, ER-2014-0351, and previous integrated resource plan proceeding, EO-2013-0547.
2. The Commission's Public Information Office shall make notice of this order available to the media serving The Empire District Electric Company's service area and to the members of the General Assembly representing The Empire District Electric Company's service area.
3. Any proper person wishing to intervene in this matter shall file an application to do so no later than April 23, 2015.
4. Any party wishing to respond to The Empire District Electric Company's Application for Variance shall do so no later than May 14, 2015.
5. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Michael Bushmann, Senior Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 2nd day of April, 2015.