

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office
in Jefferson City on the 2nd
day of January, 2008.

In the Matter of an Investigation of)	
The Empire District Electric Company's)	<u>Case No. EO-2008-0215</u>
Storm Preparation and Restoration Efforts)	

**ORDER DIRECTING STAFF TO INVESTIGATE THE EMPIRE DISTRICT
ELECTRIC COMPANY'S STORM PREPARATION AND RESTORATION
EFFORTS AND SETTING AN INTERVENTION DEADLINE**

Issue Date: January 2, 2008

Effective Date: January 2, 2008

In December 2007, many electric utility customers in Missouri suffered extended electric power outages as the result of a severe ice storm. The Commission would like to learn more about The Empire District Electric Company's preparations for such storms, as well as its response to this storm. Therefore, the Commission will direct its Staff to investigate the effectiveness of Empire's storm preparation and power restoration efforts and report its findings and recommendations to the Commission.

This is an investigation, not a contested case. However, the Commission will provide notice of this investigation to potentially interested parties and to the public. The Commission will also establish a deadline for the submission of requests to intervene.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Staff of the Commission shall investigate the effectiveness of The Empire District Electric Company's storm preparation and power restoration efforts regarding the ice storms of December 2007.

2. The Staff of the Commission shall file an initial report regarding the results of its investigation no later than April 3, 2008.

3. The Commission's Information Office shall provide notice of Staff's investigation to the members of the General Assembly who represent counties within The Empire District Electric Company's service area, as well as the County Commission's for those counties. The Commission's Information Office shall also notify the newspapers, as listed in the newspaper directory of the current *Official Manual of the State of Missouri*, that serve The Empire District Electric Company's service area.

4. Any interested party wishing to intervene in this case shall file an application to do so no later than January 22, 2008, with:

Secretary of the Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

and:

The Office of the Public Counsel
P.O. Box 2230
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

5. Any member of the public that wishes to submit a written comment to the Commission may do so by mailing their comment to:

Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

The public may also submit comments electronically at: pscinfo@psc.mo.gov ,
or may call 1-800-392-4211.

6. This order shall become effective on January 2, 2008.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen M. Dale', is positioned above the printed name.

Colleen M. Dale
Secretary

(S E A L)

Davis, Chm., Murray, Clayton, Appling
and Jarrett, CC., concur
Davis, Clayton, and Jarrett, separate concurrence to follow

Woodruff, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge