In the Matter of the True-Up of The Empire District ) Electric Company's Fuel Adjustment Clause (FAC) )

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and for its recommendation states as follows:

1. On October 1, 2018, The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire" or "Company") filed its eighteenth (18<sup>th</sup>) fuel adjustment clause true-up filing under the provisions of 4 CSR 240-3.161(8) and 4 CSR 240-20.090(5).

2. In the attached Staff Memorandum, marked as Appendix A, based on its examination and analysis of information filed and submitted by Empire, Staff recommends the Commission approve Empire's true-up filing for Recovery Period 18 ("RP18") (billing months of December 2017 through May 2018), during which Empire over-recovered \$1,224 from its customers. The true-up amount is \$(1,224)<sup>1</sup>.

3. The over-recovered amount of \$1,224 is the true-up amount for RP18, which along with interest for RP18 are both included in the calculation of the Fuel and Purchased Power Adjustment ("FPA") amount included in Empire's Accumulation Period 20 ("AP20") adjustment filing, also filed on October 1, 2018, in File No. ER-2019-0095.

4. Staff has verified that Empire has filed its 2017 annual report and is not delinquent on any assessment. Empire is current on its submission of its Surveillance Monitoring reports as required in 4 CSR 240-20.090(10) and its monthly reports as

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> By accounting convention, an amount shown in brackets indicates an over-recovery that is to flow back to customers.

required by 4 CSR 240-3.161(5). Other than as noted in the attached Staff Memorandum, Staff is not aware of any other matter before the Commission that affects or is affected by Empire's true-up filing.

WHEREFORE, Staff recommends the Commission approve Empire's RP18 true-up filing for the billing months of December 2017 through May 2018, during which period Empire over-recovered \$1,224 from its customers, for inclusion in the calculation of the FPA amount included in the Company's AP20 rate adjustment filing in File No. ER-2019-0095.

Respectfully submitted,

### /s/ Robert S. Berlin

Robert S. Berlin Deputy Staff Counsel Missouri Bar No. 51709 Attorney for the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65012 (573) 526-7779 (Telephone) (573) 751-9285 (Fax) bob.berlin@psc.mo.gov

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to all counsel of record this 31<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2018.

#### /s/ Robert S. Berlin

# **MEMORANDUM**

- **TO:** Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File File No. EO-2019-0096 The Empire District Electric Company
- **FROM:** Lisa Wildhaber, Utility Regulatory Auditor III Brooke Mastrogiannis, Utility Regulatory Auditor IV Kory J. Boustead, Rate and Tariff Examiner II

/s/ John A. Rogers10/31/2018/s/ Robert S. Berlin10/31/2018Energy Resources Department / DateStaff Counsel Department / Date

- **SUBJECT:** Staff's Analysis of and Recommendation Concerning The Empire District Electric Company's Eighteenth Fuel Adjustment Clause True-up Filing Under the Provisions in 4 CSR 240-3.161(8) and 4 CSR 240-20.090(5).
- **DATE:** October 31, 2018

On October 1, 2018, The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire" or "Company") filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") in the form of direct testimony and supporting schedules by witness Leslie Forest, its eighteenth true-up filing under the provisions in 4 CSR 240-3.161(8) and 4 CSR 240-20.090(5).

Accumulation Period 18 ("AP18") includes the time period March 1, 2017 through August 31, 2017 and is followed by Recovery Period 18 ("RP18") which includes the billing months of December 2017 through May 2018. The true-up amount of (\$1,224) identified in this filing is the result of an over-recovery of the Fuel and Purchased Power Adjustment ("FPA") amount for AP18 during RP18.

The true-up amount of (\$1,224) for RP18 is included in the calculation of the Fuel and Purchased Power ("FPA") amount included in the Company's Accumulation Period 20 ("AP20")

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adjustment filing, also filed on October 1, 2018, in File No. ER-2019-0095, which Empire filed in compliance with its FAC.<sup>1</sup>

The Commission's Staff ("Staff") examined the direct testimony of Leslie Forest, the supporting schedules and work papers Empire provided with its application in this case, and the monthly information Empire has submitted to the Commission. Staff also reviewed and agrees with Empire's monthly interest calculations for RP18.

Based on its examination and analysis of information Empire filed and submitted in this case, Staff recommends the Commission approve Empire's RP18 true-up filing for the billing months December 2017 through May 2018 during which Empire over-recovered \$1,224 from its customers for inclusion in the calculation of the FPA amount in the Company's AP20 adjustment filing in File No. ER-2019-0095.

Staff has verified that Empire has filed its 2017 annual report and is not delinquent on any assessment. Empire is current on its submission of its Surveillance Monitoring reports as required in 4 CSR 240-20.090(10) and its monthly reports as required by 4 CSR 240-3.161(5). Staff is not aware of any other matter before the Commission that affects or is affected by this filing, except as noted herein.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Empire District Electric Company's P.S.C. Mo. No. 5, Section 4, Original Sheet No. 17ab tariff sheet: <u>TRUE-UP OF FPA</u>: In conjunction with an adjustment to its FAR, the Company will make a true-up filing with an adjustment to its FAC on the first Filing Date that occurs after completion of each Recovery Period. The true-up adjustment shall be the difference between the FPA revenues billed and the FPA revenues authorized for collection during the true-up recovery period, i.e. the true-up adjustment. Any true-up adjustments or refunds shall be reflected in item T above and shall include interest calculated as provided for in item I above.

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File No. EO-2019-0096

### **AFFIDAVIT OF KORY J. BOUSTEAD**

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STATE OF MISSOURI ) ) ss COUNTY OF COLE )

**COMES NOW**, Kory J. Boustead, and on her oath declares that she is of sound mind and lawful age; that she contributed to the attached *Staff Recommendation* in Memorandum form; and that the same is true and correct according to her best knowledge and belief.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.

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Subscribed and sworn to be this  $3c_{h}$  day of October, 2018.

Dianna L- Vaunt-Notary Publig

DIANNA L. VAUGHT Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Commissioned for Cole County My Commission Expires: June 28, 2019 Commission Number: 15207377

In the Matter of the True-up of the The Empire District Electric Company's Fuel Adjustment Clause (FAC)

File No. EO-2019-0096

#### **AFFIDAVIT OF BROOKE MASTROGIANNIS**

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STATE OF MISSOURI ) ) ss COUNTY OF COLE )

**COMES NOW**, Brooke Mastrogiannis, and on her oath declares that she is of sound mind and lawful age; that she contributed to the attached *Staff Recommendation* in Memorandum form; and that the same is true and correct according to her best knowledge and belief.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.

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Subscribed and sworn to be this 30h day of October, 2018.

Diansa L. Voury Notary Public ()

DIANNA L. VAUGHT Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Commissioned for Cole County My Commission Expires: June 28, 2019 Commission Number: 15207377

In the Matter of the True-up of the The Empire District Electric Company's Fuel Adjustment Clause (FAC)

File No. EO-2019-0096

#### AFFIDAVIT OF LISA WILDHABER

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STATE OF MISSOURI ) ) ss COUNTY OF COLE )

**COMES NOW**, Lisa Wildhaber, and on her oath declares that she is of sound mind and lawful age; that she contributed to the attached *Staff Recommendation* in Memorandum form; and that the same is true and correct according to her best knowledge and belief.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.

Wildhaber

Subscribed and sworn to be this 30 h day of October, 2018.

Dianne L. Vaught Notary Public

DIANNA L. VAUGHT Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Commissioned for Cole County My Commission Expires: June 28, 2019 Commission Number: 15207377