

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

Sherry Veach,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	<u>File No. EC-2012-0406</u>
)	
The Empire District Electric Company,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

**ORDER SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE AND
DIRECTING FILING OF PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

Issue Date: August 15, 2012

Effective Date: August 15, 2012

On June 4, 2012, Sherry Veach filed a complaint with the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") against The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire"). Empire filed an answer denying Ms. Veach's allegations that Empire violated its tariffs. On August 1, 2012, the Commission's Staff filed a *Staff Report* describing its investigation into the allegations of the complaint and concluding that Empire did not violate any statute, rule or tariff in providing electric service to Ms. Veach.

The Commission finds that a prehearing conference is now appropriate. The parties or their representatives shall appear in person, or by telephone, at the conference. Parties wishing to appear by telephone will be provided with a telephone conference number prior to the prehearing conference. At the conference, parties should be prepared to discuss the nature of any discovery each will conduct and the time necessary to complete discovery and prepare for hearing. The parties should also be prepared to name the witnesses each expects to call at hearing, the number and

nature of any exhibits each expects to offer at hearing, and the anticipated length of the hearing. Also, the parties should be prepared to discuss the elements of a joint procedural schedule, including the dates for an evidentiary hearing and post-hearing briefs.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. A prehearing conference shall be held on August 29, 2012, beginning at 2:00 p.m., in Room 305 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. This meeting will be held in a building that meets accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Anyone needing additional accommodations to participate shall call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the conference.
2. The parties shall file a joint proposed procedural schedule no later than September 6, 2012.
3. This order is effective immediately on issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION



Steven C. Reed
Secretary

(S E A L)

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

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri
on this 15th day of August, 2012.