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April 1, 2016

***VIA ELECTRONIC FILING***

Mr. Morris Woodruff, Secretary  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

***Re: The Empire District Electric Company's 2016 Utility Resource Filing pursuant to 4 CSR 240 – Chapter 22 in File No. EO-2016-0223***

Dear Judge Woodruff:

Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Missouri Public Service Commission's (Commission) Rules (4 CSR 240-22.010 through 4 CSR 240-22.080) and the Commission's Order Granting Application for Variance in File No. EE-2015-0249, The Empire District Electric Company (Empire or Company) hereby submits information in compliance with the Commission's Electric Utility Resource Planning report requirements (sometimes referred to as the "integrated resource plan" or "IRP").

This IRP filing contains eight (8) volumes in total. This includes an executive summary volume; a volume dedicated to the Missouri IRP filing requirements and an Index of Rule Compliance; and, six (6) technical volumes. The ordering and subject matter of the IRP volumes closely correspond to the IRP Rule sections. The technical volumes contain the rule reference and the Company's response as appropriate. The responses to Special Contemporary Issues can be found in Volume 6: Integrated Resource Plan and Risk Analysis. The eight (8) volumes that comprise the IRP filing can be summarized as follows:

1. Volume 1: Executive Summary
2. Volume 2: Missouri Filing Requirements and an Index of Rule Compliance
3. Volume 3: Load Analysis and Load Forecasting (4 CSR 240-22.030)
4. Volume 4: Supply-Side Resource Analysis (4 CSR 240-22.040)
5. Volume 4.5: Transmission and Distribution Analysis (4 CSR 240-22.045)
6. Volume 5: Demand-Side Resource Analysis (4 CSR 240-22.050)
7. Volume 6: Integrated Resource Plan and Risk Analysis (4 CSR 240-22.060)

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8. Volume 7: Resource Acquisition Strategy Selection (4 CSR 240-22.070)

Please note that portions of this filing have been designated as Highly Confidential in accordance with Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.135.

Moreover, in accordance with Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-22.080(2)(A), attached hereto is a document expressing commitment to the approved preferred resource plan and resource acquisition strategy signed by Ms. Kelly Walters, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of The Empire District Electric Company. This document is also found in IRP Volume 7.

Please direct communications concerning this filing to myself and to:

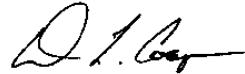
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Phone: (417) 625-6533  
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Please bring this filing to the attention of the appropriate Commission personnel.

Sincerely,

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C.

By:



Dean L. Cooper

Enclosures

Cc: Office of the General Counsel  
Office of the Public Counsel  
Alex Antal  
Carl Lumley  
Stuart Conrad  
Doug Healy  
Andrew Linhares


**THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY  
2016 INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN**

**COMMITMENT TO THE  
APPROVED PREFERRED RESOURCE PLAN**

FILE NO. EO-2016-0223

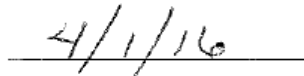
In accordance with Missouri Public Service Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-22, The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire") developed, described and documented, and now officially adopts for implementation the preferred resource plan and resource acquisition strategy contained in this filing.

As required, the adopted resource acquisition strategy consists of a preferred resource plan; an implementation plan; and a set of contingency resource plans. I hereby further commit to provide the notice called for by Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-22.080(12), if Empire should, between triennial compliance filings, decide to take actions materially inconsistent with the preferred resource plan.



Kelly S. Walters

Vice President and Chief Operating Officer – Electric



Dated