

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric Company)
of Joplin, Missouri for Authority to File Tariffs Increasing) **File No. ER-2011-0004**
Rates for Electric Service Provided to Customers in the) **Tariff No. YE-2011-0154**
Missouri Service Area of the Company)

ORDER SUSPENDING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE AND ALL FILING DEADLINES

Issue Date: May 23, 2011

Effective Date: May 23, 2011

Based upon Staff's representations in its motion to further suspend the procedural schedule, the Commission will grant that request. The Commission will cancel the procedural schedule once it has an opportunity to review the proposed settlement agreement, which is expected to be filed on May 27, 2011.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The current deadlines for all outstanding prehearing filings are suspended.
2. The evidentiary hearing is suspended.
3. Because Staff has represented that the anticipated filing date for the proposed settlement agreement is May 27, 2011, the Commission sets that date as the deadline for filing the agreement. If the parties require additional time to complete their proposed settlement agreement, they shall file a request no later than May 26, 2011.

4. This order shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION



Steven C. Reed
Secretary

(S E A L)

Harold Stearley, Senior Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority under
Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 23rd day of May, 2011.