

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

In the Matter of The Empire )  
District Electric Company for Authority ) **File No. ER-2014-0351**  
to File Tariffs Increasing Rates for ) Tracking No. YE-2015-0074  
Electric Service Provided to Customers )  
in the Company's Missouri Service Area )

**ORDER SCHEDULING LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS, GRANTING MOTION  
FOR LEAVE TO FILE SUPPLEMENTAL DIRECT TESTIMONY AND REVISING  
PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

Issue Date: December 10, 2014

Effective Date: December 10, 2014

On November 19, 2014, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission filed *Comments and Recommendation Regarding Local Public Hearing Dates*, recommending the Commission schedule local public hearings in this matter for February 17 and 18, 2015. Staff recommends revising the current procedural schedule to re-set the Technical Conference dates, originally scheduled for February 17<sup>th</sup> through February 19<sup>th</sup>, to February 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Staff states that all parties were consulted on this matter and no parties objected to Staff's recommendation. Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.080(13) allows parties ten days from the date of filing in which to respond to any pleading unless the Commission orders otherwise. More than ten days have passed, and no objections to Staff's recommendations were filed. The Commission will re-set the Technical Conference dates and schedule three local public hearings.

On November 19, 2014, The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire") filed a motion for leave to file supplemental direct testimony. Empire seeks to admit the Supplemental Direct Testimony of Todd W. Tarter in order to address concerns raised by the Office of the Public Counsel on issues related to Empire's requested continuation of its

Fuel Adjustment Clause (“FAC”). In addition, Empire seeks to admit the Supplemental Direct Testimony of Dr. James H. Vander Weide on the subjects of Empire’s cost of equity and recommended range of return on equity. The Office of the Public Counsel filed a timely response stating it has no objections to Empire’s motion. No other responses were filed.

The Commission will grant *Empire’s Motion for Leave to File Supplemental Direct Testimony*.

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. The Empire District Electric Company is granted leave to file the Supplemental Direct Testimony of Todd W. Tarter and the Supplemental Direct Testimony of Dr. James H. Vander Weide.

2. The Technical Conference dates set for February 17-19, 2015 are re-set for February 19 and 20, 2015.

3. An afternoon and evening local public hearing will be held on February 17, 2015 in Joplin, Missouri, at Missouri Southern State University at:

Plaster Hall Building, Cornell Auditorium  
3950 East Newman Road  
Joplin, Missouri 64801

4. Information sessions will begin in Joplin, Missouri, at 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

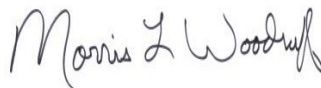
5. The Commission will take on-the-record testimony from customers beginning at the conclusion of the 12:00 p.m. information session and after the 5:30 p.m. information session.

6. A local public hearing will be held on February 18, 2015 in Reeds Springs, Missouri, in the City Hall at:

22601 Main Street  
Reeds Springs, Missouri 65737

7. An information session in Reeds Spring, Missouri, will begin at 12:00 p.m.
8. The Commission will take on-the-record testimony from customers beginning at the conclusion of the 12:00 p.m. information session.
9. The Empire District Electric Company shall notify its customers of these hearings before February 7, 2015.
10. The Public Information Office of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall notify members of the Missouri General Assembly representing the residents in the service area of the company and shall notify the news media serving the residents in the service area of The Empire District Electric Company.
11. The Data Center of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall notify the county commissioners of all counties in which The Empire District Electric Company provides service.
12. This order shall be effective when issued.

**BY THE COMMISSION**



Morris L. Woodruff  
Secretary



Kim S. Burton, Regulatory Law Judge,  
by delegation of authority  
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2014.