BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric) Company's Request for Authority to File Tariffs) Increasing Rates for Electric Service Provided) To Customers in its Missouri Service Area)

Case No. ER-2019-0374

STAFF'S RESPONSE TO RECONCILIATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and for its *Response to Reconciliation* in this matter hereby states:

1. The Empire District Electric Company filed a reconciliation in compliance with its compliance tariffs, which were permitted to take effect on September 16, 2020, by the Commission's *Order* of September 9, 2020; and the Commission's *Amended Report and Order* issued July 23, 2020.

2. Staff reviewed the reconciliation and made recommendations to Empire based on its interpretation of the Commission's *Amended Report and Order*. Empire filed an *Amended Reconciliation* on September 24, 2020. Staff recommends that this *Amended Reconciliation* be approved as in compliance with the Commission's *Amended Report and Order* and Section 386.420, RSMo.

WHEREFORE, Staff prays that the Commission will accept Staff's *Response*; approve Empire's reconciliation; and grant such other and further relief as the Commission considers just in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Whitney Payne</u>

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail, or First Class United States Postal Mail, postage prepaid, on this 25th day of September, 2020, to all counsel of record.

/s/Whitney Payne