

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

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric)
Company's Application for Variance) **File No. EE-2012-0095**
Concerning Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-22.080)

PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff") and on behalf of the parties to this matter respectfully states as follows:

1. At the November 1, 2011, conference convened in this matter, the Regulatory Law Judge directed that the parties make a filing indicating:

- a. Whether any disputes exist.
- b. Whether any factual disputes exist necessitating a hearing.
- c. How the parties suggest proceeding.

2. The parties have determined that it is likely that a dispute exists, though it is not a factual dispute necessitating a hearing.

3. The parties request that the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") enter an order adopting the following procedural schedule:

Nonutility parties file recommendations:	December 7, 2011
Empire files response to recommendations:	December 16, 2011
Joint issues list:	January 9, 2012
Position statements:	January 11, 2012
Oral argument:	January 12, 2012

4. The parties are continuing their discussions and will notify the Commission upon agreement resolving this matter.

WHEREFORE, Staff, on behalf of the parties, respectfully requests that the Commission enter an order adopting the procedural schedule discussed here-in.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sarah L. Kliethermes

Sarah L. Kliethermes
Senior Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 60024

Attorney for the Staff of the
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 751-6726 (Telephone)
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)
sarah.kliethermes@psc.mo.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 17th day of November, 2011.

/s/ Sarah L. Kliethermes