

**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

RESPONSE TO COMPANY PROPOSED CUSTOMER NOTICE

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

The Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) filed a *Suggested Local Public Hearings Notice* on December 6, 2019, which the Commission granted in an Order issued December 11, 2019. The Commission reserved ruling on OPC's proposed customer notice filed in conjunction with its pleading for a later date. The Empire District Electric Company filed an alternative proposed customer notice in its *Response to Public Counsel's Suggested Local Public Hearing Notice* on December 16, 2019. Staff now states that it supports the proposed customer notice filed by Empire on December 16, 2019.

WHEREFORE, Staff prays that the Commission will accept the proposed customer notice filed by The Empire District Electric Company; and grant such other and further relief as the Commission considers just in the circumstances.

/s/ Whitney Payne

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Senior Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 64078

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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 20th day of December, 2019, to all counsel of record.

/s/ Whitney Payne