

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 9th day of September, 2008.

In the Matter of an Investigation of)
The Empire District Electric Company's)
Storm Preparation and Restoration Efforts)

Case No. EO-2008-0215

ORDER DIRECTING FURTHER RESPONSE TO STAFF'S FINAL REPORT

Issue Date: September 9, 2008

Effective Date: September 9, 2008

On January 2, 2008, the Commission directed its Staff to investigate The Empire District Electric Company's response to the severe ice storm of December 2007. Staff filed an initial report on April 3, followed by a final report on June 17. Staff's report offered a detailed analysis of Empire's preparation and restoration efforts following the December ice storm, and offered various recommendations on how Empire could improve its response to future storm outages.

On June 18, the Commission ordered that any party wishing to respond to Staff's report do so no later than August 15. Empire filed its response on August 13. No other response was filed.

Empire's response indicated a general acceptance of Staff's recommendations and a willingness to take the steps needed to ensure a prompt and effective response to future storm outages. However, some of the company's responses indicate an intention to undertake reviews or develop further policies, without providing specific details about what

the company will actually do. The Commission would like to be kept abreast of these further developments.

To that end, the Commission will direct Empire to participate in the Commission sponsored storm restoration workshop described by Staff in Recommendation 3 of its Report. The Commission will also direct Empire to provide Staff with additional information regarding its progress in complying with Staff's recommendations. Thereafter, Staff shall file a supplemental report briefly describing Empire's compliance with Staff's recommendations.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Empire District Electric Company shall participate in a Commission sponsored storm restoration workshop to discuss Staff's report of its investigation of Empire's storm preparation and restoration efforts and Staff's concurrent reports for other electric utilities.

2. No later than November 10, 2008, The Empire District Electric Company shall provided Staff with additional information specifying its progress in complying with, or explaining its non-compliance with, the recommendations set forth in Staff's investigative report.

3. No later than January 9, 2009, Staff shall file a supplemental report briefly describing The Empire District Electric Company's compliance with Staff's recommendations.

4. This order shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen M. Dale', written over a horizontal line.

Colleen M. Dale
Secretary

(S E A L)

Davis, Chm., Murray, Clayton, Jarrett,
and Gunn, CC., concur.

Woodruff, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge