

**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)	<u>File No. ER-2019-0374</u>
Service Provided to Customers in its)	
Missouri Service Area)	

ORDER DIRECTING PUBLIC COUNSEL TO RESPOND

Issue Date: December 20, 2019

Effective Date: December 20, 2019

On December 9, 2019, the Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) filed a motion to modify the test year to include adjustments for the retirement of Asbury. OPC asks the Commission to modify the ordered test year to include isolated adjustments for Asbury's retirement. In support of its motion, OPC notes that on August 9, 2019, The Empire District Electric Company (Empire) filed notice that it anticipated retiring Asbury near June 2020, but in November updated that date to before March 2020.

On December 19, 2019, Empire filed a response stating that OPC's motion was insufficiently definitive for Empire to respond adequately. Empire requested that the Commission order OPC to file a more definitive request about the isolated adjustments. Empire also asks for 20 days for it and other parties to respond to any OPC clarification. The Commission will order OPC to respond, and will allow time for responses to OPC's clarification.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Office of the Public Counsel shall file a pleading no later than December 26, 2019, addressing the issues raised by Empire in its response to the Office of the

Public Counsel's request to modify the test year.

2. Any party wishing to respond to the Office of the Public Counsel's clarification shall file a response no later than January 3, 2020.

3. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

John T. Clark, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 20th day of December, 2019.

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 20th day of December 2019.





Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

December 20, 2019

File/Case No. ER-2019-0374

Missouri Public Service Commission

Staff Counsel Department
200 Madison Street, Suite 800
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
staffcounsel@psc.mo.gov

Office of the Public Counsel

Marc Poston
200 Madison Street, Suite 650
P.O. Box 2230
Jefferson City, MO 65102
opc@psc.mo.gov

Empire District Electric Company, The

Diana C Carter
428 E. Capitol Avenue, Suite 303
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Diana.Carter@LibertyUtilities.com

Empire District Retired Members & Spouses Association, LLC

Douglas Healy
3010 E. Battlefield, Suite A
Springfield, MO 65804
doug@healylawoffices.com

Empire District Retired Members & Spouses Association, LLC

Terry M Jarrett
514 E. High Street, Suite 22
Jefferson City, MO 65101
terry@healylawoffices.com

IBEW Local Union 1464

Michael E Amash
753 State Ave, Suite 475
Kansas City, KS 66101
mea@blake-uhlig.com

IBEW Local Union 1474

Michael E Amash
753 State Ave, Suite 475
Kansas City, KS 66101
mea@blake-uhlig.com

Midwest Energy Consumers Group

David Woodsmall
308 E. High Street, Suite 204
Jefferson City, MO 65101
david.woodsmall@woodsmalllaw.com

Missouri Division of Energy

Jacob Westen
1101 Riverside Drive
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176
Jacob.Westen@dnr.mo.gov

Missouri Public Service Commission

Whitney Payne
200 Madison Street, Suite 800
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
whitney.payne@psc.mo.gov

National Housing Trust

Andrew J Linhares
3115 S. Grand Ave
Suite 600
St. Louis, MO 63118
Andrew@renewmo.org

Natural Resources Defense Council

Henry B Robertson
319 N. Fourth St., Suite 800
St. Louis, MO 63102
hrobertson@greatriverslaw.org

Renew Missouri

Tim Opitz
409 Vandiver Dr Building 5, Suite 205
Columbia, MO 65202
tim@renewmo.org

Sierra Club

Henry B Robertson
319 N. Fourth St., Suite 800
St. Louis, MO 63102
hrobertson@greatriverslaw.org

The Empire District Electric Company SERP Retirees, LLC

David Woodsmall
308 E. High Street, Suite 204
Jefferson City, MO 65101
david.woodsmall@woodsmalllaw.com

Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "M" and "W".

**Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary**

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.