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July 22, 2002

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts  
Executive Secretary  
Public Service Commission  
P. O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

**FILED**<sup>4</sup>  
JUL 22 2002  
Missouri Public  
Service Commission

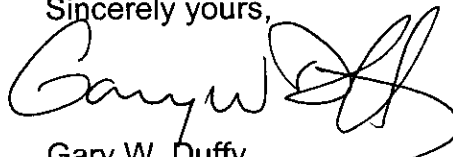
**RE:** Empire District Case No. ER-2002-424

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced proceeding please find an original and eight copies of a Motion to Extend Time for Response.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Sincerely yours,

  
Gary W. Duffy

Enclosures  
cc w/encl:

John Coffman, Office of Public Counsel  
Denny Frey, Office of the General Counsel  
Stuart W. Conrad  
Mike Palmer

FILED<sup>4</sup>

JUL 22 2002

Missouri Public  
Service Commission

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

In the Matter of The Empire District Electric )  
Company of Joplin, Missouri, for authority to ) Case No. ER-2002-424  
file tariffs increasing rates for electric service )  
provided to customers in the Missouri service )  
area of the Company. )

**MOTION TO EXTEND TIME FOR RESPONSE**

Comes now The Empire District Electric Company ("Empire"), by and through its counsel, and for its motion respectfully states as follows:

1. On June 4, 2002, the Commission issued an "Order Granting Extension of Time to File Response." It moved the deadline for a response to the Staff's motion to consolidate this case with Case No. ET-2002-1058 from May 23, 2002 to July 22, 2002. Empire made the original motion because the parties were exploring settlement possibilities regarding the wording of the tariff sheets at issue in Case No. ET-2002-1058.

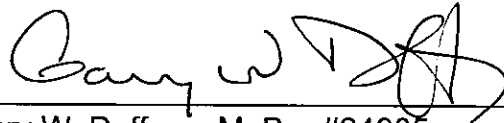
2. This motion asks the Commission to extend the deadline for another 30 days. Both the Office of the Public Counsel and the Staff have been consulted regarding the filing of this motion and have indicated no opposition.

3. Empire has been meeting with representatives of the Staff and the Public Counsel during the previous extension regarding changes to the wording of the tariff sheets regarding extensions and draft proposals have been provided for the consideration of the Staff and Public Counsel. Empire believes that progress has been made and that the additional time will be useful and is needed to determine if a final

resolution can be reached.

WHEREFORE, Empire requests that the deadline for responses to Staff's motion to consolidate be moved from July 22, 2002 to August 21, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

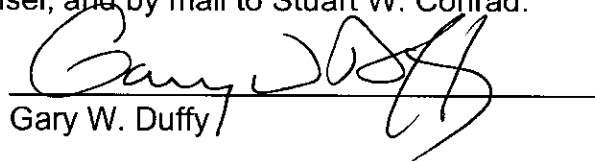


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ATTORNEYS FOR THE  
EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY

#### Certificate of Service

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing motion was served by hand delivery this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2002 upon the Office of the Public Counsel, the Office of the General Counsel, and by mail to Stuart W. Conrad.



Gary W. Duffy