

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

In the Matter of The Empire)	
District Electric Company's Request)	<u>File No. ER-2016-0023</u>
For Authority to Implement a General)	Tracking No.: YE-2016-0104
Rate Increase for Electric Service)	

**ORDER SETTING LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS AND DISCOVERY
CONFERENCES**

Issue Date: February 3, 2016

Effective Date: February 3, 2016

On December 16, 2015, the Commission issued an Order Setting Procedural Schedule that set April 13 and 14, 2016, as dates for local public hearings in this case. The Commission will set the specific locations and times for those hearings. The Commission will also schedule discovery conferences.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Commission's Public Policy and Outreach Department shall make an informal presentation and conduct a question-and-answer session for the public at the beginning of each local public hearing.
2. The Empire District Electric Company, the Staff of the Commission and the Office of the Public Counsel shall make a representative available to address substantive issues during the question-and-answer session. Any other party may also make a representative available.
3. Between 45 to 10 days before the local public hearings, The Empire District Electric Company shall provide written notice of the hearings to each of its customers.

4. The Commission's Public Policy and Outreach Department shall make notice of this order available to the members of the General Assembly representing The Empire District Electric Company's service area, as well as the news media for the service area.

5. Local public hearings shall be held as follows:

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

Joplin, Missouri

Question and Answer: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Hearing: 12:00 p.m.

Question and Answer: 5:00 p.m. – 6.p.m.

Hearing: 6:00 p.m.

Missouri Southern State University

Plaster Hall Building

Cornell Auditorium – 2nd Floor

3950 East Newman Road

Joplin, Missouri 64801

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Reeds Spring, Missouri

Question and Answer: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Hearing: 12:00 p.m.

Reeds Spring City Hall

22601 Main Street

Reeds Spring, Missouri 65737

6. The local public hearings shall be held in facilities that meet the accessibility requirements of the American with Disabilities Act. Any person who needs additional accommodation to participate in the hearings should call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the hearings.

7. The Commission's Data Center shall serve a copy of this order upon the county commission of each county in The Empire District Electric Company's service area.

8. Discovery conferences are set for the following days: February 25, March 23, April 12, and May 4, 2016. All discovery conferences shall be held in Room 305 at the Commission's office at the Governor's Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. Each discovery conference will begin at 10:00 a.m. If no party submits a brief statement of a discovery disagreement at least two days before the scheduled discovery conference, the regulatory law judge may cancel the scheduled discovery conference.

9. The discovery conferences shall be held in facilities that meet the accessibility requirements of the American with Disabilities Act. Any person who needs additional accommodation to participate in the hearings should call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the hearings.

10. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Kim S. Burton, Senior Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 3rd day of February, 2016.