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July 6, 2012

Mr. Steven Reed  
Secretary/General Counsel  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

**Re: The Empire District Electric Company  
Case No. ER-2012-0345**

Dear Mr. Reed:

On behalf of The Empire District Electric Company (“Empire”), I am providing herewith to the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”) for filing, in electronic form, certain tariff sheets consisting of revised rate schedules which are designed to increase Empire’s gross annual electric revenues by approximately \$30.7 million, exclusive of applicable gross receipts, sales, franchise or occupational fees or taxes. Included are tariff sheets with rate schedules designed to implement on an interim basis approximately \$6.2 million of the \$30.7 million request. All of the rate schedules bear a date of issue of July 6, 2012 and an effective date of August 5, 2012.

Also provided, in electronic form, is a letter from Kelly S. Walters which sets forth a list of the rate schedules being provided, explains the purpose of the filing, and transmits certain information including that required by 4 CSR 240-3.030(3)(B).

Also provided in electronic form is a Motion Requesting that the Commission Exercise its Discretion and Allow Empire’s Interim Rate Filing to take Effect without Suspension and by Operation of Law.

Also provided in electronic form in accordance with 4 CSR 240-2.065(1) is the verified direct testimonies and schedules of Empire witnesses Brent A. Baker, Brad P. Beecher, L. Patrick Bourne, Aaron J. Doll, Jayna R. Long, W. Scott Keith, Joan E. Land, Jeffery P. Lee, Blake A. Mertens (HC & NP), Samuel S. McGarrah, Martin O. Penning, Robert W. Sager, Todd

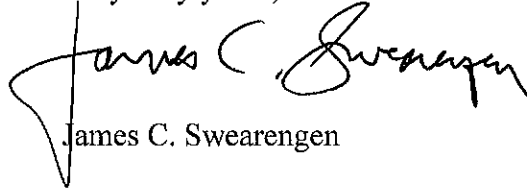
W. Tarter (HC & NP), James I. Warren, James H. Vander Weide, L. Jay Williams, and Kelly S. Walters.

A copy of this entire filing will be provided to the Commission's Chief Staff Counsel, and to the Office of the Public Counsel.

Would you please bring this filing to the attention of the appropriate Commission personnel and see that a copy of all correspondence, notices, orders and other communications in connection with this matter and proceeding are furnished to Kelly S. Walters, The Empire District Electric Company, 602 S. Joplin Street, Joplin, MO 64802, [kwalters@empiredistrict.com](mailto:kwalters@empiredistrict.com), as well as to the undersigned.

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James C. Swearngen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

James C. Swearngen

JCS/lar

Enclosures

cc: Kevin Thompson  
Lewis Mills