Empire District Electric Company  
Docket No. 10-EPDE-314-RTS

**Background**

On November 4, 2009, Empire District Electric Company (Empire) filed an application with the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) requesting a rate increase of $5.2 million.

The increase would involve all of Empire’s approximately 10,102 retail customers in Kansas, of which 8,643 are residential, 1,229 are commercial and small industrial, 50 are large industrial, and 180 are public authority.

This includes the communities of Baxter Springs, Columbus, Galena, West Mineral, Roseland, Scammon, Treece, Weir, Camp 42, Carona, Hallowell, Lowell, Melrose, and Riverton in Cherokee and Labette Counties.

If approved, base rates would increase by 40% for all classes of customers. Beginning this summer, the average residential customer would see their bill increase by $25.18 a month and the average commercial customer would see their bill increase by $87.13 a month.

Empire’s last rate increase was in 2005, when the Commission approved a $2.15 million (14%) increase. Since that time, Empire has invested in new generation (at Riverton, Iatan, and Plum Point), installed new pollution control equipment (at Iatan and Asbury), and seen an increase in annual operating costs.

**More Information**


**About the Commission**

The KCC regulates public utilities including home telephone, natural gas, electric and water companies as well as motor carriers, oil and gas pipeline, and oil and gas producers. The KCC does not regulate most electric and water cooperatives, municipalities, wireless or long distance telephone service providers, cable companies, or the internet. The KCC’s regulatory oversight of a public utility primarily pertains to rates and terms of service. In order to ensure that customers of regulated utilities are provided sufficient and efficient service at just and reasonable rates; utilities may not change their rates without KCC approval.
Part One: During the informational session, representatives will make short presentations regarding the proposed rate increase and members of the public will have the opportunity to ask questions.

7:00 pm Welcome
Dana Bradbury, Litigation Counsel, KCC

7:05 pm Remarks
Jim Flaherty, Attorney, Empire District Electric Company

7:10 pm Remarks
Dana Bradbury, Litigation Counsel, KCC

7:15 pm Remarks
Niki Christopher, Attorney, Citizens’ Utility Ratepayer Board

7:20 pm Questions

7:50 pm Conclude the Information Session

Break: 7:50 pm - 8:00 pm

Part Two: During the public hearing before a member of the Commission, members of the public are invited to make statements. A court reporter will be present to record the comments as part of the official record.

8:00 pm Comments

9:00 pm Conclusion