

Empire Electric Association, Inc.

801 N. Broadway P.O. Box K Cortez, CO 81321-0676 Phone (970) 565-4444 www.eea.coop

November 22, 2013

Gary Widerburg, Commission Secretary Public Service Commission of Utah Heber M. Wells Building 160 East 300 South, Fourth Floor P. O. Box 45585 Salt Lake City, Utah 84145

Dear Mr. Widerburg:

Empire Electric Association, Inc. (Empire) is enclosing herewith an original and two (2) copies of the following documents as a filing for changes in Empire's Overhead Street Lighting tariff, without formal Commission hearing, as authorized under Section 54-7-12, Utah Code. Please stamp one copy "filed" and return to us for our files in the enclosed envelope. A copy is being sent to the Division of Public Utilities. We have also sent a copy of the tariffs electronically to <u>tbehr@utah.gov</u>. Should you need any additional information, contact our Executive Secretary Denise Rosenbaugh at <u>denise.rosenbaugh@eea.coop</u>.

- Copy of a public notice to be published in the San Juan Record the first week in December 2013.
- Copy of the Notice to the Rural Utilities Service and National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation of the proposed rate change.
- A copy of the following proposed rate schedule:
 24th Revised CO-UT No. 3 Sheet 80verhead Street Lighting

The rate change is effective January 1, 2014.

This rate change was approved at Empire's November 8, 2013 board meeting in conjunction with the 2014 budget. The purpose for the rate change is to recover costs to operate and maintain the overhead street lighting systems within the five municipals Empire serves in both Utah and in Colorado. Over the last ten year period or so, Empire has replaced all of the overhead street light heads with heads designed to minimize light pollution.

In addition, Empire has to recover the cost of electricity to light the system. Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association (Tri-State) notified Empire that they will raise rates about 1.6 percent effective January 1, 2014.

By municipal ordinance, Empire's rate increase is capped at a value not to exceed the Consumer Price Index. Empire does not fully recover all of its expenses to operate and maintain the overhead street lighting systems in the five municipals, even when the 2.5% increase is applied.

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To answer questions about the rate change, a public meeting is scheduled at 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at: City of Monticello, 17 North 100 East, Monticello, Utah 84535

Copies of all rate tariffs are on file at Empire's headquarters at 801 North Broadway, Cortez, Colorado, and are available for inspection during regular business hours. Any customer who desires to complain about the proposed changes may file a written complaint at 801 North Broadway, P.O. Box K, Cortez, Colorado, 81321, at least 10 days before the proposed effective date.

Empire may hold a hearing to determine what final changes will be authorized. The changes ultimately authorized may or may not be the same as those proposed and may include changes different than those tariffs proposed or currently in effect. Any customerwho desires to receive notice of the hearing, if any, is required to make a written request at the above address, at least 10 days before the proposed effective date of the rate increase.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me anytime during business hours.

Respectfully, EMPIRE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

Neal E. Stephens General Manager

cc: Division of Public Utilities