



State of Utah  
Department of Commerce  
Division of Public Utilities

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## ACTION REQUEST RESPONSE

**To: Public Service Commission**

From: Division of Public Utilities  
Chris Parker, Director  
Energy Section  
Artie Powell, Manager  
Doug Wheelwright, Technical Consultant  
Eric Orton, Utility Analyst

Date: December 13, 2013

**Subject:** Empire Electric Association, Inc. Docket No. 13-025-T01

### ISSUE:

On December 2, 2013, Empire Electric Association, Inc. (Empire), in accordance with Section 54-7-12-7(a), (b), (c), (d), of the Utah Code, filed with the Utah Public Service Commission (Commission) Revised Tariff Sheet No. 8, which is applicable to municipal overhead street lighting.

### RECOMMEND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

The Utah Division of Public Utilities (Division) recommends the Commission acknowledge Empires' revised tariff sheet with an effective date of January 1, 2014, and make it available for public inspection.

### DISCUSSION:

Empire is organized for the purpose of distributing electricity to its members and the public at cost (54-7-12-7(a)). The filing indicates that this revised tariff reflects an increase in rates of 2.5% for the five municipalities Empire serves in Utah and Colorado.

The requested increase is due to a 1.6% increase in wholesale power costs from Empire's wholesale electric supplier, Tri-State Generation and Transmission, Inc. as well as an increase of .9% to recover increased cost associated with upgrading, operating and maintaining the overhead street lighting systems. Within the past ten years or so Empire has replaced the old overhead streetlight heads with heads designed to minimize light pollution.

Empire's Board of Directors approved this increase in a board meeting held on November 8, 2013 and the tariff revisions reflecting the increased rate (54-7-12-7(b)).

A public meeting was noticed and held at: City of Monticello, 17 North 100 East Monticello, Utah on December 11, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. The affected members and customers were given notice of the meeting on or before November 22, 2013, which was not less than 10 days prior to the date that the meeting was held (54-7-12-7(c)).

The following summarizes the dollar and percent changes for the effected rate schedule.

Empire Electric Association, Inc.				
Overhead Street Lighting				
<u>Rate Category</u>		<u>Old Rate</u>	<u>New Rate</u>	<u>% Change</u>
175 Watt	Mercury vapor unit, per lamp per month @	\$ 15.62	\$ 16.01	2.5%
400 Watt	Mercury vapor unit, per lamp per month @	\$ 31.82	\$ 32.62	2.5%
100 Watt	High-pressure sodium unit, per lamp per month @	\$ 11.91	\$ 12.21	2.5%
250 Watt	High-pressure sodium unit, per lamp per month @	\$ 23.65	\$ 24.24	2.5%
175 watt and 400 watt mercury vapor lights are not available for new installations.				

The Division recommends the Commission acknowledge the revised tariff sheet and make it available for public inspection. . (54-7-12-7(d))

Cc: Neal E. Stephens, General Manager, Empire Electric Association, Inc.  
 Maria Martinez, DPU Customer Service  
 Michele Beck, OCS  
 Mike Peterson, Director, Utah REA