

## **PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

Contact:

MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS:

Amy Bass
Director of Corporate Communications
417 625-5114

abass@empiredistrict.com

**INVESTOR RELATIONS:** 

Janet S. Watson Secretary - Treasurer 417 625-5108

jwatson@empiredistrict.com

Empire District Electric Schedules Conference Call to Discuss First Quarter and Twelve Months Ended March 31, 2013 Financial Results

JOPLIN, MO-(BUSINESS WIRE)—April 11, 2013 – The Empire District Electric Company (NYSE:EDE) will hold its quarterly conference call to discuss the results for the first quarter and twelve months ended March 31, 2013 on Friday, April 26, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time (12:00 p.m. Central). The conference call will follow the Company's earnings news release, which will be available on Thursday, April 25, 2013.

Participants in the call should dial 800-762-8779, no passcode required. A replay of the call will be available for two weeks by dialing 800-406-7325 and entering the passcode 4614060#.

A live webcast of the call can be accessed via the Internet on Empire's web site at www.empiredistrict.com. The webcast will be available for replay for one year.

Based in Joplin, Missouri, The Empire District Electric Company (NYSE: EDE) is an investor-owned, regulated utility providing electricity, natural gas (through its wholly owned subsidiary The Empire District Gas Company), and water service, with approximately 216,000 customers in Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. A subsidiary of the Company also provides fiber optic services. For more information regarding Empire, visit www.empiredistrict.com.

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