

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## THE EMPIRE DISTRICT GAS COMPANY ANNOUNCES GAS LINE CONSTRUCTION INTO CHILLICOTHE

JOPLIN, MO – July 25, 2013 – The Empire District Gas Company announced today that crews will be completing work to install an additional gas supply into the City of Chillicothe. With obvious growth at the north end of the City, an additional supply to that area was warranted. According to Randy Lee, Chillicothe service center manager for Empire District Gas, construction should be complete in the next few weeks.

In making the announcement, Lee stated, "Our crew recently installed a new supply main along County Road, Liv 230, from our existing distribution system at Litton Road going east about two miles to our cross country main gas line. The final steps remaining in the project are to install a pressure reduction station at the main line and open the valve. The additional supply will assure an ample gas supply to businesses and residents of Chillicothe well into the future."

Based in Joplin, Missouri, The Empire District Electric Company (NYSE: EDE) is an investor-owned, regulated utility providing electric, 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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