

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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

JOPLIN, MO-(BUSINESSWIRE)—January 20, 2014 – The Empire District Electric Company (NYSE:EDE) will hold its quarterly conference call to discuss the results for the fourth quarter and twelve months ended December 31, 2013 on Friday, February 7, 2014, 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, February 6, 2014.

Participants in the call should dial 877-941-8609, no passcode required.

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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