

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Robin McAlester  
Corporate Communications  
417-625-5180  
[rmcalester@empiredistrict.com](mailto:rmcalester@empiredistrict.com)

### **THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT OF TOM DIETZ**



JOPLIN, MO – June 8, 2015 – Mr. Tom Dietz retired from The Empire District Electric Company on May 31, following 12 years of service.

Mr. Dietz joined the Company on March 31, 2003, as a Laborer at Asbury. In December 2003, he advanced to Laborer Semi-Skilled, and in December 2003, he transferred to Riverton as a Mechanical Maintenance 4th Class. From July 2004 through June 2006, he advanced to Mechanical Maintenance 1st Class. In August 2009, he was promoted to Mechanical Maintenance 1st Class-Machinist. In October 2012, he transferred to Asbury as a Mechanical Maintenance 2nd Class. In December 2012, he advanced to Mechanical Maintenance 1st Class-Machinist, the position he held at retirement.

(more)

He is a graduate of Columbus (Kansas) Unified High School. Prior to joining Empire, Mr. Dietz worked as a machinist at Cardinal Scales for two years and McNally Manufacturing for 28 years. He also served four years in the United States Navy. During his service he was an Aviation Hydraulic Mechanic 2nd Class aboard the USS Enterprise (CVAN 65) based at the North Island Naval Station in San Diego.

Based in Joplin, Missouri, The Empire District Electric Company (NYSE:EDE) is an investor-owned utility providing electric, natural gas (through its wholly owned subsidiary The Empire District Gas Company), and water service, with approximately 218,000 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](http://www.empiredistrict.com).

###