

## **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, 2015 Financial Results

JOPLIN, MO-(BUSINESS WIRE)—January 21, 2016 – 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, 2015 on Friday, February 5, 2016, 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 4, 2016.

Participants in the call should dial 1-888-243-4451 (U.S. and Canada) and ask to be joined to The Empire District Electric Company conference call. A live webcast of the call can be accessed via the Internet on Empire's web site at <a href="https://www.empiredistrict.com">www.empiredistrict.com</a>.

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 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 <a href="https://www.empiredistrict.com">www.empiredistrict.com</a>.

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