



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EMPIRE ANNOUNCES SCHEDULED SERVICE INTERRUPTION IN GRAVETTE, ARKANSAS

JOPLIN, MO – November 28, 2016 – The Empire District Electric Company has scheduled a service interruption in the Gravette, Arkansas area on Saturday, December 3, at approximately 7:00 a.m. lasting until 12:00 p.m. Customers should be aware the outage could be postponed or extended due to weather or equipment issues.

The impacted area includes about 50 customers beginning at the intersection of 1st and 2nd Avenues and continuing north along Highway 59 for approximately three-quarters of a mile in the Gravette, Arkansas area. Please use caution if traveling in the impacted area as there will be a large number of Empire crews and trucks concentrated along 59 Highway during this period.

This scheduled outage is necessary to allow crews to safely modify pole structures as part of an ongoing initiative to strengthen the delivery system and enhance reliability for customers.

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 218,000 customers in Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. A subsidiary of the company provides fiber optic services. For more information regarding Empire, visit www.empiredistrict.com.

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