



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY ENCOURAGES
CUSTOMERS TO PREPARE FOR COLDER TEMPERATURES**

JOPLIN, MO – December 7, 2017 – The Empire District Electric Company encourages customers to prepare for colder temperatures. Cooler weather results in higher energy usage which leads to visible changes on customer's energy bills.

Mild temperatures through October and November have kept home energy usage lower for customers, but winter weather typically causes a dramatic shift in usage. Customers can prepare for these changes by following the cold-weather energy efficiency and bill management tips below.

- Register for the Average Payment Plan (APP) - weather **will** impact energy use, but you can avoid surprises in your monthly bill by registering for APP.
- Heating/space conditioning is your home's largest energy user, so take extra steps to maximize its efficiency.
- Set the heating thermostat as low as comfort permits. Each degree above 68°F can add 3 percent to the amount of energy needed for heating.
- Raise shades and open curtains during the day. Close shades and curtains at night and turn down your thermostat 5 to 10 degrees at bedtime.
- Weather strip and caulk around all entrance doors and windows to limit air leaks.

For more energy efficiency tips and helpful energy calculators, visit empiredistrict.com/energy.

Based in Joplin, Missouri, The Empire District Electric Company is a subsidiary of Liberty Utilities Co. and headquarters for the Liberty Utilities Central Region, providing electric, natural gas, water, and wastewater service to nearly 320,000 customers across six states. A subsidiary of the company provides fiber optic services. For more information regarding Empire, visit www.empiredistrict.com. For more information about Liberty Utilities, visit www.libertyutilities.com

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