



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT OF MARSHA WALLACE



JOPLIN, MO – September 28, 2016 – Ms. Marsha Wallace will retire from The Empire District Electric Company on September 30, 2016, following 36 years of service.

Ms. Wallace joined the Company in 1980 as a Systems Administrator. Three years later, in May 1983, she was promoted to Public Information Assistant. In October 1995, Ms. Wallace began working as an Economic Development Manager, and in July 2013 she was promoted to Business and Community Development Manager, the position she holds at retirement.

Ms. Wallace graduated from Pittsburg State University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and then with a Master of Business Administration degree. She also received certification in Economic Development from the University of Oklahoma.

She and her husband, Ralph “Rack” Wallace, have two children and two grandchildren.

Ms. Wallace currently serves as Board Member-at-Large for Community Support Services, Prosperity Foundation, Neosho Area Business & Industry Foundation, and Pittsburg Little Balkans Days. She is Immediate Past President of the Workforce Investment Board of Southwest Missouri, Secretary for the Joplin Regional Partnership, and Vice President of SEK Incorporated.

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.

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