

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of The Empire District Gas)
Company's d/b/a Liberty Request to File Tariffs) **File No. GR-2021-0320**
to Change its Rates for Natural Gas Service) Tracking No.: YG-2022-0040

ORDER GIVING NOTICE, SETTING A DEADLINE TO INTERVENE, SETTING A DEADLINE TO RESPOND TO THE TEST YEAR, AND DIRECTING A PROPOSED SCHEDULE

Issue Date: August 24, 2021

Effective Date: August 24, 2021

On August 23, 2021, The Empire District Gas Company d/b/a Liberty ("Empire Gas" or the "Company") filed tariff sheets designed to increase the Company's annual base distribution gas revenues by approximately \$1.36 million, exclusive of applicable gross receipts, sales, franchise, or occupational fees or taxes. Empire Gas proposes a test year of the twelve months ending December 31, 2020, with a proposed true up through September 30, 2021.

The Commission will provide notice of the Empire Gas application, provide time for intervention, and set a deadline to respond to the proposed test year. The Commission will also order a joint proposed procedural schedule that includes the following:

- Submission of a Joint Stipulation of Facts;
- Submission of a List of Issues and Order of Hearing Components, and Position Statements at least ten days in advance of the hearing;
- At least one settlement conference;
- Cut-off dates for service of discovery requests and responses;
- Dates for discovery conferences;
- Allowance for ten business days for transcript preparation; and
- Local and evidentiary hearings held via WebEx.¹

¹ Hearings may be conducted in-person depending upon future COVID19 pandemic developments.

Any request for expedited hearing transcripts must be made before the procedural schedule is established.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Commission's Data Center shall serve a copy of this order upon the county commission of each county within Empire Gas' service area.
2. The Commission's Public Policy and Outreach Department shall make notice of this order available to the members of the General Assembly representing Empire Gas' service area and to the news media serving therein.
3. Applications to intervene shall be filed no later than September 27, 2021, with the Secretary of the Missouri Public Service Commission or in the Commission's Electronic Filing and Information System.
4. Any party wishing to respond to Empire Gas' proposed test year shall do so no later than October 4, 2021.
5. No later than October 12, 2021, the parties shall submit a joint proposed procedural schedule as described in this order. The Staff of the Commission shall coordinate and file the joint proposed procedural schedule.
6. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Paul T. Graham, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 24th day of August, 2021.


STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 24th day of August, 2021.




Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

August 24, 2021

File/Case No. GR-2021-0320

Missouri Public Service Commission

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Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,



**Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary**

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.