

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of Liberty Utilities (Midstates	)	<b><u>File No. GT-2022-0233</u></b>
Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (MNG),	)	Tracking No. JG-2022-0230
Filing of its Revised Weather	)	
Normalization Adjustment Rider Tariff	)	

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL OF TARIFF SHEETS TO ADJUST  
THE WEATHER NORMALIZATION ADJUSTMENT RIDER RATES OF  
LIBERTY NORTHWEST, LIBERTY WEST AND LIBERTY SOUTHEAST**

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and respectfully states as follows:

1. On March 2, 2022, Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (Liberty) filed four tariff sheets to revise its weather normalization adjustment rider (WNAR) rates for Liberty Northeast, Liberty West, and Liberty Southeast Districts to go into effect April 1, 2022. On March 4<sup>th</sup>, the Commission issued its *Order Directing Staff Recommendation and Setting Time for Responses* (Order) ordering Staff to file its Recommendation no later than March 16, 2022. These tariff sheets have issue dates of March 2, 2022 and effective dates of April 1, 2022.

2. Liberty filed four substitute tariff sheets on March 14, 2022, to incorporate errors in its summation of the rate components.

3. On March 15, 2022, Liberty filed a second set of substitute tariff sheets to address two minor errors in the substitutes for Sheet Nos. 67.3 and 67.4.

3. Accompanying this pleading, and incorporated herein by reference, is Staff’s Memorandum recommending Commission approval of the WNAR rates Liberty filed in its March 15, 2022 substituted tariff sheets.

4. The effect of Liberty's WNAR tariff sheet filings means that residential customers of Liberty's Northeast and West Districts who used 100 Ccf of natural gas in a given billing month would see a \$5.00 bill increase from current effective rates. The effect on Liberty's residential customers of its Southeast District who used 100 Ccf of natural gas would see a \$3.58 bill increase from current effective rates. Staff notes that Liberty experienced warmer than normal weather in three of the rate districts, thus causing the WNAR rates to be positive toward the company when compared to the WNAR rates approved in Liberty's previous WNAR filing.

**WHEREFORE**, as set forth in Staff's Recommendation memorandum, Staff recommends the Commission issue an order approving the Liberty WNAR tariff sheets, as substituted March 15, 2022:

P.S.C. MO. No. 2

Eighth Revised Sheet No. 67.2 Cancelling Seventh Revised Sheet No. 67.2

P.S.C. MO. No. 2

Eighth Revised Sheet No. 67.3 Cancelling Seventh Revised Sheet No. 67.3

P.S.C. MO. No. 2

Eighth Revised Sheet No. 67.4 Cancelling Seventh Revised Sheet No. 67.4

P.S.C. MO. No. 2

Eighth Revised Sheet No. 67.5 Cancelling Seventh Revised Sheet No. 67.5

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ J. Scott Stacey**

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been transmitted by electronic mail to counsel of record this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022.

**/s/ J. Scott Stacey**

## M E M O R A N D U M

**TO:** Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File  
File No. GT-2022-0233, Tariff Tracking No. JG-2022-0230  
Liberty Utilities

**FROM:** Hari Poudel, PhD, Economist, Tariff/Rate Design Department

/s/ Hari Poudel, PhD 3/16/2022  
Tariff/Rate Design / Date

/s/ Scott Stacey 3/16/2022  
Staff Counsel Division / Date

**SUBJECT:** Staff Recommendation for the **Approval** of the Tariff Sheets Filed by Liberty Utilities to adjust its Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider to go into effect on April 1, 2022.

**DATE:** March 16, 2022

On March 2, 2022, Liberty Utilities filed four tariff sheets to adjust its weather normalization adjustment rider (WNAR) rates with a requested effective date of April 1, 2022. On March 4, 2022, the Commission directed Staff to file a recommendation regarding Weather Normalization Adjustment Rider (WNAR) tariff sheets in Tariff Tracking No. JG-2022-0230 no later than March 16, 2022. On March 14, 2022 Liberty filed its first set of substitute tariff sheets to address errors in the summation of the rate components. On March 15, 2022 Liberty filed a second set of substitute tariff sheets to address two minor errors in the substitutes for Sheet Nos. 67.3 and 67.4. Staff's Recommendation is based on the second set of substituted tariff sheets and the accuracy presumed therein.

Liberty's WNAR became effective on July 1, 2018. The purpose of the tariff is to adjust revenues for differences between actual heating degree days (AHDD) and normal heating degree days (NHDD). This is Liberty's eighth WNAR filing. Liberty's current and proposed rates are included in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Current and Proposed WNAR Rates by District and Class.

District	Current		Proposed	
	Residential	SGS	Residential	SGS
Northeast and West	-0.00321	-0.00068	0.04679	0.02220
Southeast	0.00889	0.00253	0.04472	0.01108

Liberty's service areas experienced warmer weather than normal. Therefore, proposed rates have more positive numbers in the Northeast, West, and Southeast rate districts. This means a residential customer that used 100 Ccf of natural gas in a given billing month would see an approximate \$5.00 increase in their bill from the currently effective WNAR rate if located in the

Northeast or West rate districts. Likewise, a residential customer in the Southeast rate district using 100 Ccf of gas would see an approximate \$3.58 increase in their bill from the currently effective WNAR rate.

**Staff Recommendation**

Staff has reviewed the following tariff sheets, and recommends approval of the following tariff sheets, as substituted on March 15, 2022, to go into effect for service on and after April 1, 2022, the requested effective date:

P.S.C. MO. No. 2

8<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 67.2 Cancelling 7<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 67.2

8<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 67.3 Cancelling 7<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 67.3

8<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 67.4 Cancelling 7<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 67.4

8<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 67.5 Cancelling 7<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 67.5

Staff has verified that Liberty Utilities has filed its Annual Report. Staff is not aware of any other matter pending before the Commission that affects or is affected by this tariff filing.

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Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty (MNG), )  
Filing of its Revised Weather Normalization ) Tariff No. JG-2022-0230  
Adjustment Rider Tariff )

**AFFIDAVIT OF HARI POUDEL, PhD**

STATE OF MISSOURI )  
 ) ss  
COUNTY OF COLE )

**COMES NOW**, Hari Poudel, PhD, and on his oath declares that he is of sound mind and lawful age; that he contributed to the attached *Staff Recommendation in Memorandum form*; and that the same is true and correct according to his best knowledge and belief.

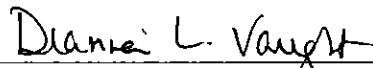
Further the Affiant sayeth not.



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Hari Poudel, PhD

**JURAT**

Subscribed and sworn before me, a duly constituted and authorized Notary Public, in and for the County of Cole, State of Missouri, at my office in Jefferson City, on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022.

  
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Notary Public